

PINE LODGE CEMETERY MASTER PLAN (DRAFT)

FOR THE GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY COUNCIL

06 MAY 2015



PREPARED FOR
THE GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY COUNCIL

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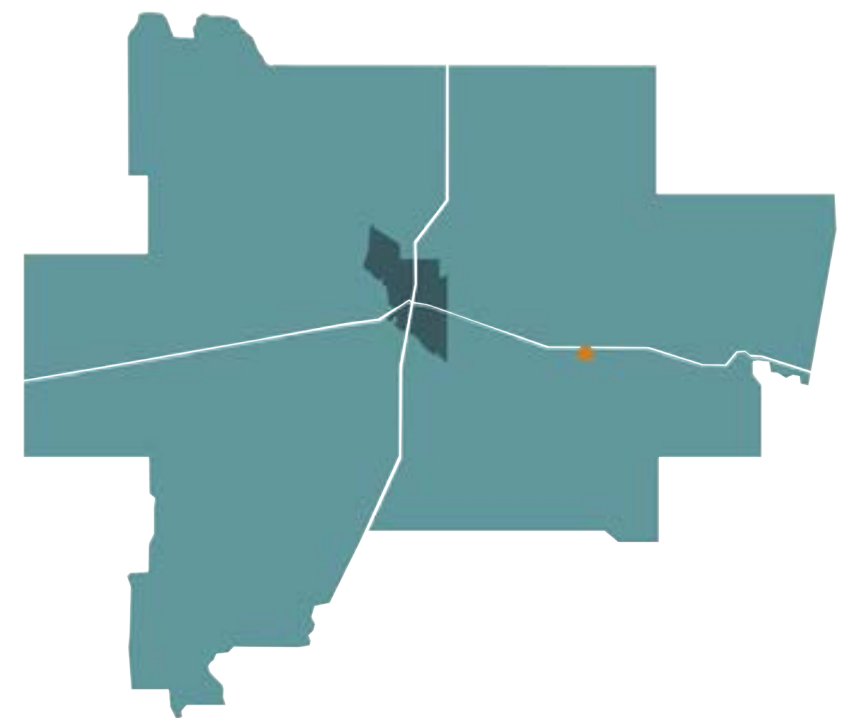




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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The aim of this project is to develop a master plan for the Pine Lodge Cemetery expansion site to guide a planned approach to its ongoing growth and operations. This master plan will form part of a wider strategic plan that will provide a framework for the future planning, development and management of the cemeteries that the Greater Shepparton City Council is Trust.

The master plan for the Pine Lodge Cemetery is intended to meet the changing needs and expectations of the local community and relevant stakeholders, and as such, a consultation program was undertaken along with a background review of these and current trends in burial. This report provides a summary of the findings from this review and the consultation program.

The consultation program also provided the impetus for a set of themes and key principles to guide development and priorities for implementation. These include:

- > Amenity
- > History
- > Diversity
- > Environment
- > Facilities
- > Recreation
- > Access

These themes and principles provide the bridge from community and stakeholder consultation to design outcomes. The various aspects of how the cemetery is used and valued have been incorporated into the design ideas and proposals for the future expansion of the Pine Lodge Cemetery.

The master plan provides an overview of the general layout of the cemetery extension. It is based on a series of sections set out on a regular grid pattern around a central access loop road. This layout will enable the staged development of the cemetery over time as demand requires and as budget is available to implement the supporting infrastructure. Each section provides opportunities for a range of burial options: lawn burial, natural burial, ashes interment

and ashes scatterings. The layout of each section allows for great flexibility to alter the amount of each burial type dependant on demand at the time of development.

The layout also acknowledges the existing cemetery's character and set out, but alters this to enable greater efficiencies of operations and maintenance. A review of a master plan prepared in 1998 indicated several elements that provided strong amenity value for the cemetery, and modified versions of these have been incorporated into the current master plan. These include a feature pedestrian axis linking the existing cemetery to the new, an ornamental wetland, a landscaped buffer to the site boundaries and to the Broken River interface and a looped access road.

The various components of the master plan are described to provide an overview of the general aesthetics and functioning of the cemetery extension area:

- > Vegetation in the cemetery extension considers sustainable approach to ongoing management. Tree species suited for the climate conditions and hot weather are proposed to provide shelter and shade along with feature amenity to the remembrance and memorial of loved ones.
- > Facilities such as toilets, car parking, and a multi-purpose pavilion for services and memorial wakes are described and will add value to the current operation of the cemetery.
- > A consistent approach to the materials and furniture palette will ensure a strong identity for the landscape character, and also for asset management efficiencies.
- > A connected and legible pedestrian circulation network overlays the overall cemetery layout, and provides for a range of experiences through the various sections and the burial sites.
- > Vehicular access to the new cemetery areas will be provided by an extension of the existing entry road. This curves towards the centre of the site and traverses some sculptured earth mounds to provide a strong sense of arrival. A simple looped access road provides efficient access to each section, and this can be developed in a staged manner over time.

- > Water is a significant aspect of the cemetery's operation and management. Sustainable water use is proposed to ensure the efficient use of available water supply from the Broken River and ground water allocations. This includes specifying drought tolerant grass mix to the lawn burial areas, planting tree species that can tolerate hot weather and low watering and reducing the amount of irrigated areas as a proportion of the cemetery as it is developed over time.
- > The general area has been known to flood, so design measures have been incorporated into the layout patterns to ensure effective drainage.

The implementation of the master plan is described with particular reference to Stage 1, which is required to satisfy immediate demand for new burial plots. The implementation plan considers functional requirements, the available budget and establishing the framework for future development and amenity.

The efficient operation and maintenance of the cemetery is a central requirement of the master plan proposals and discussions with operations staff have indicated several aspects that are to be included in the new sections. These include: access to and set out of burial plots, irrigation, set out of trees in lawn areas, parking and pedestrian access.

Recommendations for future detailed investigations are set out to ensure the planning, design and construction of the future stages of the cemetery are well founded on realistic and achievable objectives.

“The Pine Lodge Cemetery Master plan project is an important opportunity for the Shepparton community to reflect upon its **current attitude** to dying and memorial services...

Through working with the Pine Lodge Cemetery stakeholders, ... a **sustainable** and **widely valued vision** for the site will emerge.

As the project site is currently a ‘blank canvas’, the opportunity exists to **explore emerging trends** for cemetery design and management, and also attend to the various expectations and needs of the **variety of cultures** that exist within the local community.

Maintenance, sustainability and the **ongoing management** of the expansion represent important aspects of this project”

Pine Lodge Cemetery Project Brief

1. INTRODUCTION

The preparation of a landscape master plan for the Pine Lodge Cemetery forms part of a wider strategic planning process that will guide the Pine Lodge and Kialla West Cemetery Trust's (Greater Shepparton City Council is the Trustee) planning, management and operational responsibilities.

The aim of this specific project is to prepare a master plan for the future expansion of the Pine Lodge Cemetery. This master plan is to provide a vision for the green field site adjoining the existing cemetery to ensure its appropriate integration, and a sustainable future for the Pine Lodge Cemetery through improved operational and maintenance efficiencies.

The master plan should consider how a staged development approach can occur over time, and be conscious of budgetary commitments and resources for its realistic development.

Pine Lodge Cemetery is one of four cemeteries in the Shepparton City area, and there are other smaller cemeteries located in surrounding districts. Each has their own character, and they cater for specific burial practices and options.

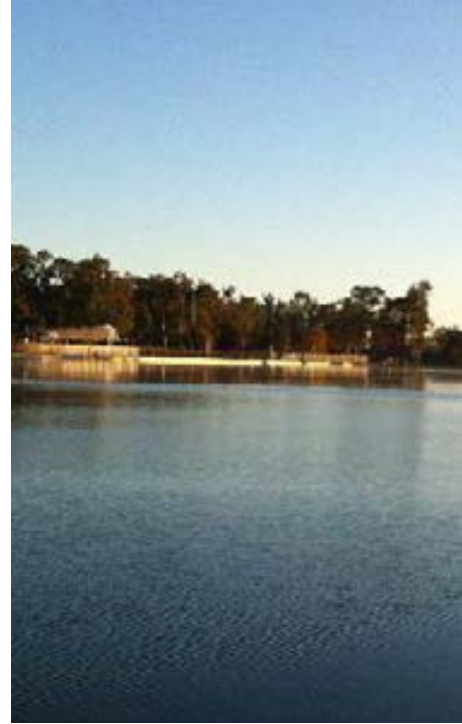
Pine Lodge Cemetery provides for burial and ashes interments and has primarily been developed as a lawn cemetery. This overall character should be the predominant theme of the cemetery expansion.

A thorough community and stakeholder engagement program has yielded a range of preferences and objectives for the future development of the Pine Lodge Cemetery. These include a preference for the current character (a lawn cemetery), an appreciation of the well maintained appearance, a review of the options for ashes

interment, the provision of improved amenity (shade, shelter, seating), general maintenance operations and the adoption of sustainable practices (e.g. water use).

In addition, a review of current trends and practices for cemetery design and burial practices has indicated a preference for a wider range of choices. This refers particularly to allowing and providing for more informal options such as 'natural burials' and the scattering of ashes.

It is acknowledged that this approach needs to be balanced against the overall objectives for the Pine Lodge Cemetery. An objective of the master plan is to incorporate flexible choice and options within an overarching framework that maintains the inherent character of the existing cemetery, enables the efficient operation and maintenance of the cemetery, and ensures a sustainable future. Environmental considerations such as efficient water use, appropriate vegetation for the site and conditions, drought tolerant grass species mix and the incorporation of overland flood ways will address these objectives by providing improved amenity and operations. A re-vegetation program to the cemetery extension boundaries will also provide habitat and recreational opportunities.



2. BACKGROUND REVIEW

As part of the preparation of the Pine Lodge Cemetery Master Plan, a review of a range of relevant aspects was undertaken. This included a literature review to gain an understanding of:

- > Current burial trends (nationally and internationally)
 - > Religious requirements for burial
 - > Best practice design principles
 - > Emergence of natural burial trend
- > Demographics in the Shepparton area
- > Local context analysis (ecology, hydraulic parameters)
- > Legal obligations (Coroners Act 2008, Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003, Vic)

The information gained from this review has been supplemented by discussions with various Council officers as part of the consultation program.

All of the background information reviewed has been considered in the proposed master plan to provide flexible, realistic and sustainable outcomes.

In addition, relevant Council policies and strategies were reviewed to ensure compliance with these and integration of the various requirements into the proposals. These included:

- > Heritage Citation Report 18.07.2013
- > Greater Shepparton Council Plan 2013-2017
- > Greater Shepparton Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2014-2030
- > Greater Shepparton Universal Access and Inclusion Plan 2013-2017
- > Department of Health Manual for Victorian Class B Cemetery Trusts Revised April 2013
- > City of Greater Shepparton 2011 Census result- Community Profile



Memorial Garden



Memorial tree and plaque



Wall of remembrance



Lawn cemetery



Monumental headstone graves



Natural bural (Green burial)



Dedication Seat



Dedication Wall

2.1 CURRENT TRENDS

Different trends have evolved in cemeteries with the mixing of cultures and religions, as well as the social function of cemeteries. Outlining the current trends in burials, ashes and memorial options allows us to gain a better understanding of what todays society is looking for.

MEMORIAL GARDEN

- > Ashes in garden beds - buried or scattered
- > A plaque in front of garden beds
- > Interment of ashes and a plaque is placed on rocks in the garden bed nearby

MEMORIAL TREE AND PLAQUE

- > Memorial plaques are places at the base of each tree.

WALL OF REMEMBRANCE

- > A wall structure with ashes placed within and covered with a plaque

LAWN CEMETERY

- > Lawn area with plaques or plinth

HEADSTONE GRAVES

- > Traditional and monumental graves
- > Full cover memorial

NATURAL BURIAL

- > Locally made natural casket
- > Native landscape
- > Option of a plaque
- > GPS tracking system

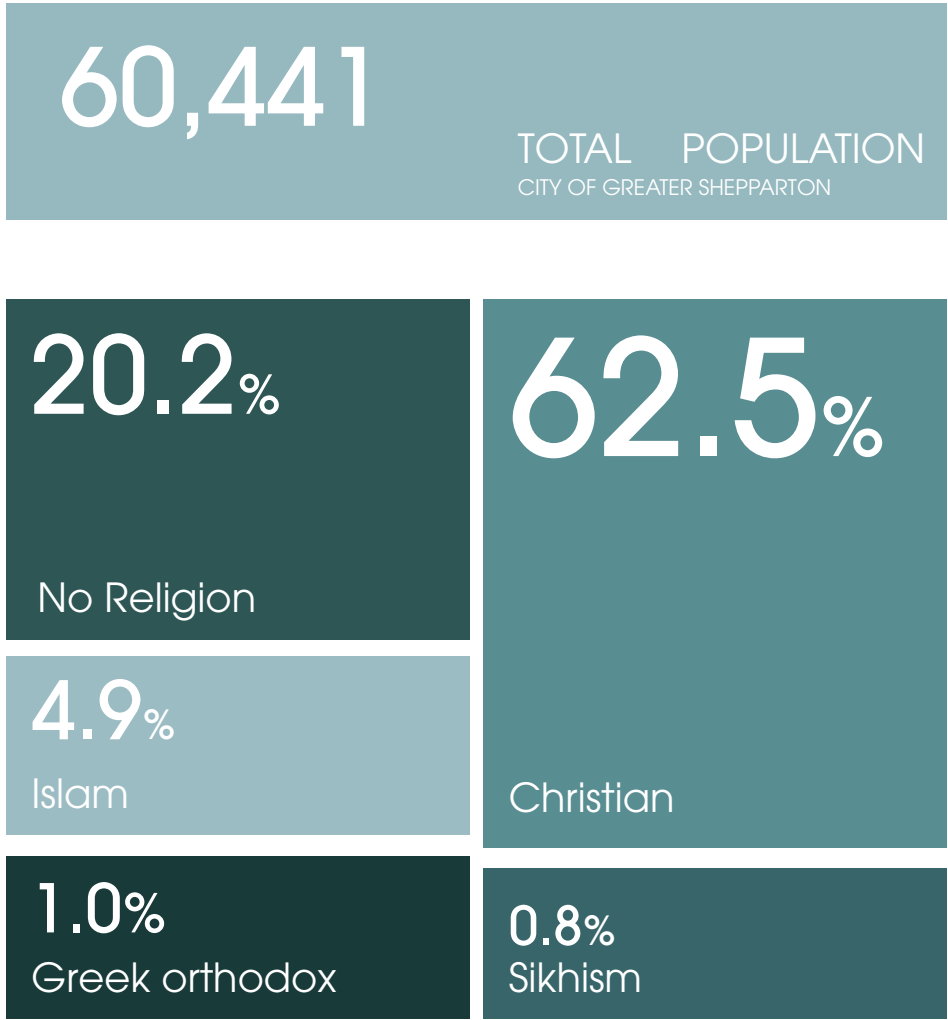
DEDICATION SEAT

- > Personalised plaques on each bench
- > Benches are positioned throughout the cemetery in sheltered positions
- > Remembrance for many generations

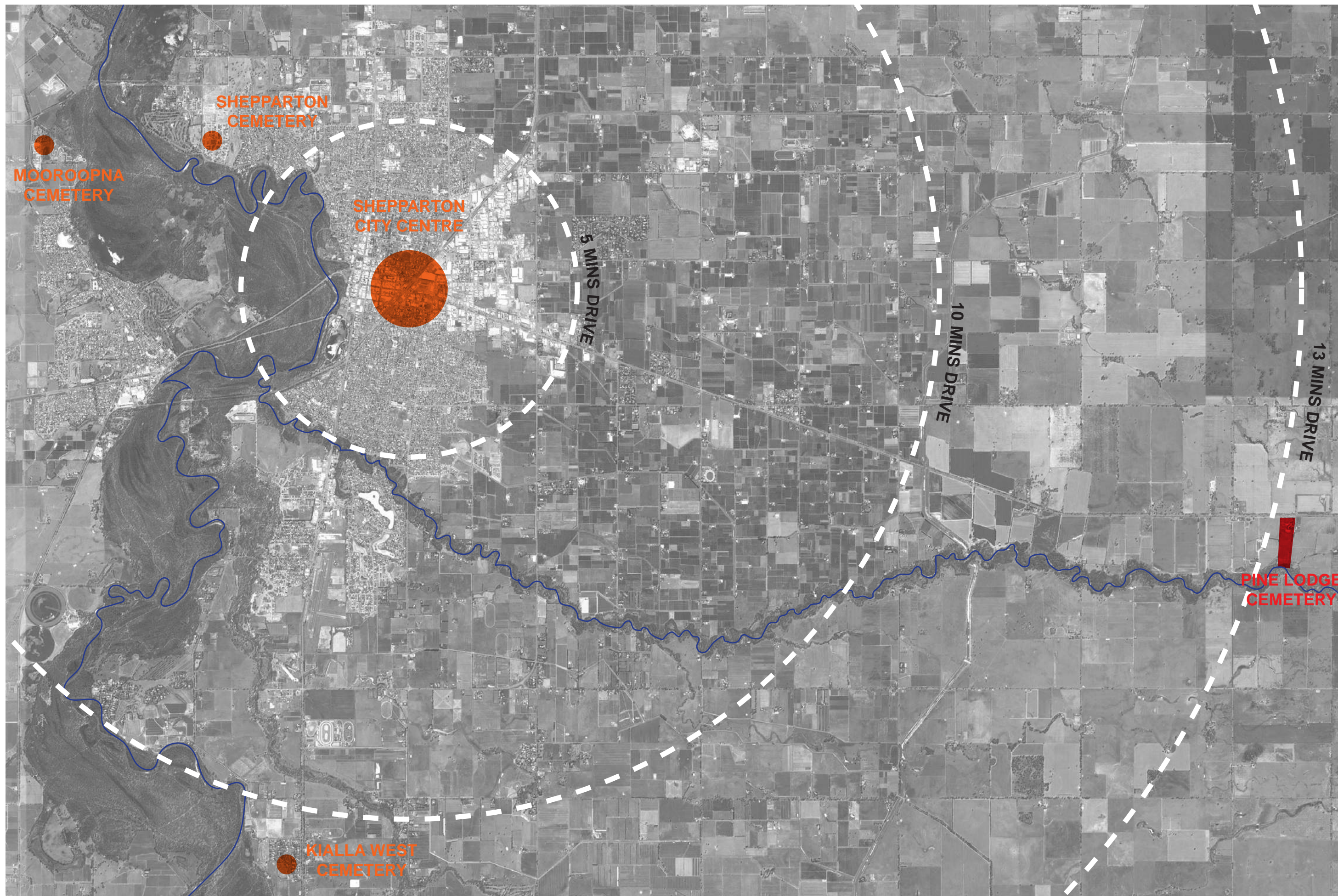
2.2 REGIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

The demographics of the City of Shepparton are important to identify the variety in religion and therefore expectations in a cemetery.

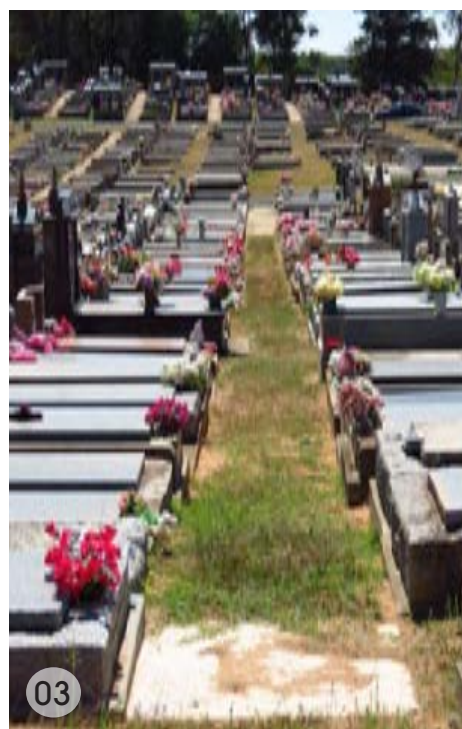
As the Census of 2011 shows Shepparton has a mix of Christian, Islam, Greek Orthodox and Sikhism religions. Each of the cultural practices and religious beliefs have to be considered in the expansion of the cemetery.



Source: city of greater Shepparton 2011 census result community profile



LOCATION MAP



2.3 CONTEXT ANALYSIS

Pine Lodge Cemetery is located sixteen (16) km East of Shepparton City Centre on the Midland Highway heading towards Benalla. There are four main cemeteries surrounding Shepparton, each with a different focus and character. Identifying their differences helps to determine additional requirements for Pine Lodge Cemetery.

01 KIALLA WEST CEMETERY

- > 10km South of Shepparton on the Goulburn Valley Highway, Kialla
- > Monumental graves

02 MOOROOPNA CEMETERY

- > 10km North West of Shepparton on Echuca Road, Mooroopna
- > Monumental graves
- > Lawn cemetery
- > Internment Wall

03 SHEPPARTON PUBLIC CEMETERY

- > 5km North West of Shepparton on Rudd Road, Shepparton
- > Monumental graves
- > Mausoleum

04 PINE LODGE CEMETERY

- > 16km East of Shepparton City Centre on the Midland Highway heading towards Benalla.
- > Lawn cemetery

SHEPPARTON CHARACTER

- > The predominant landscape character of the Shepparton region is a relatively geometric grid pattern bisected by meandering waterway corridors (e.g., the Broken River and Goulburn River).

EXISTING CEMETERIES NEAR PINE LODGE CEMETERY



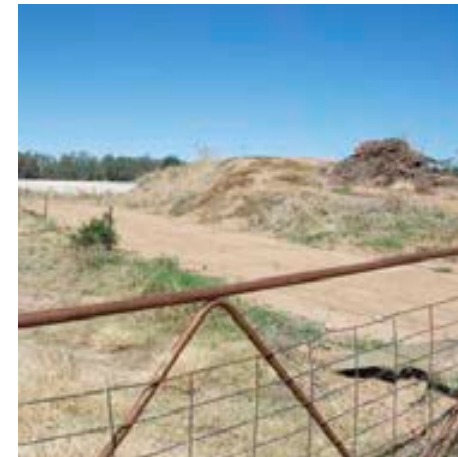
Feature trees



Entry/ Gateway



Irrigation dam



Excess soil stock pile

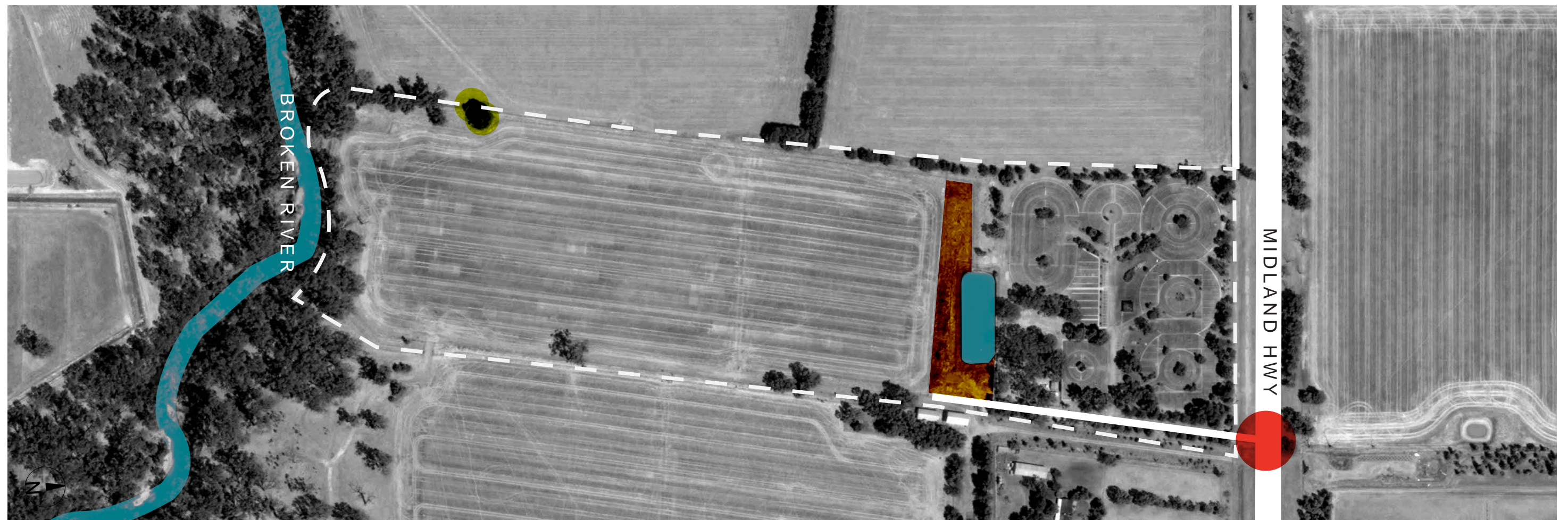


Existing cemetery layout pattern

MIDLAND HWY

KEY

- EXCESS SOIL STOCK PILE
- IRRIGATION DAM
- FEATURE TREES
- ENTRY / GATEWAY



EXISTING SITE ANALYSIS



EXISTING CEMETERY LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

2.4 REVIEW OF EXISTING CEMETERY

01 EXISTING PATTERN AND LOOK

The existing cemetery is essentially a neat lawn cemetery with scattered copses of trees and a landscaped buffer of native trees.

The entry off the Midland Highway is characterised by a brick pier and ornate steel fence framing a 'chalet' style portico. It has been noted the entry off the Midland Highway is dangerous, and measures should be implemented to improve the safety of access and egress. The main access driveway into the cemetery is a tree lined avenue, with parallel car parking bays along the western edge (exit lane). The trees are a species of Sheoak (*Allocasuarina*), an Australian native. The character of this avenue is different to the rest of the cemetery, in the sense it is not consistent with the overall lawn cemetery aesthetic.

Within the lawn areas of the cemetery, the burial sites are defined by simple concrete plinths and plaques set out within circles, either in concentric rows or linear rows. Within each circular section, there is a copse of trees sited within a central garden bed and scattered groups of trees. These provide places for ashes scattering and interment, along with memorial plaques.

Coloured artificial flowers are a dominant feature of the lawn cemetery burial sites. These provide permanent splashes of colour across the lawn areas and are definitely a feature of the cemetery.

This juxtaposition of the orderly yet simple lawn sections with the native vegetation buffer around the edges and the Sheoak entry avenue creates a unique character that provides Pine Lodge with its identity.

02 THE FUTURE EXPANSION AREA

To the south of the existing cemetery towards the Broken River, Council has purchased a 10.9 hectare site for expansion of the cemetery's operation. It is a slightly skewed rectangular paddock, approximately 210 wide x 565 metres long that is currently being used for agricultural cultivation. A large earth mound and an irrigation dam are sited to the immediate south of the existing cemetery and will need to be addressed as part of the master plan for the expansion site.

In the south west corner of the future expansion area, there is a dried dam bed and an irrigation run-off channel. These historic remnants point to the past irrigation practice of flooding the paddock and collecting the runoff in the dam. Associated with these elements are two large specimen trees, an English Oak and a Fig, along with a loose row of Peppercorn Trees and Eucalypts. These historical features provide an opportunity for the implementation of a supplementary bush walk that can also take in views across the Broken River corridor.

The characteristics of the expansion area will enable the efficient implementation of an overall design that can address the future requirements of the cemetery.



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2.5 REVIEW OF PINE LODGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN 1998

A Concept Development Plan for the Pine Lodge Cemetery Stage 2 was prepared in 1998. This proposal essentially continued the layout and character of the existing lawn cemetery. A series of circular lawn areas characterised the expansion stages and these included some double circles within a rectangular development area (as is seen in the latter section of the existing cemetery area).

An extension of the access road along the eastern boundary provided access to the various stages of the cemetery expansion area and looped around within the centre of the site to provide a circuit. Two permanent car parking areas are located in the centre of the cemetery adjacent to the ornamental lake, with additional temporary car parking areas sited along the loop road.

A large ornamental lake separated the existing cemetery from Stage 2, and featured a fountain jet and specific plantings to create a particular landscape character. A pergola walk linked the existing cemetery to the new, with a pedestrian bridge across the ornamental lake and a gazebo as focal feature points along the axis.

Screen planting is proposed along the western boundary and to the southern limit of the cemetery expansion area. A large area to the Broken River boundary is shown as being fenced off for re-vegetation or grazing.

A review of the 1998 master plan highlighted the following points for consideration in the current master plan development:

- > The current consultation program highlighted some issues with the circular layout pattern of burial sites, with a linear layout preferred.

- > The loop road network was considered desirable to provide ease of access and circulation, so this configuration is maintained in the current master plan.

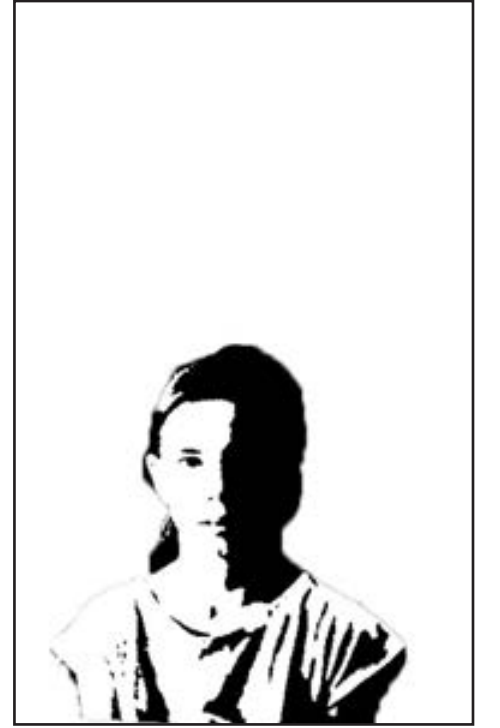
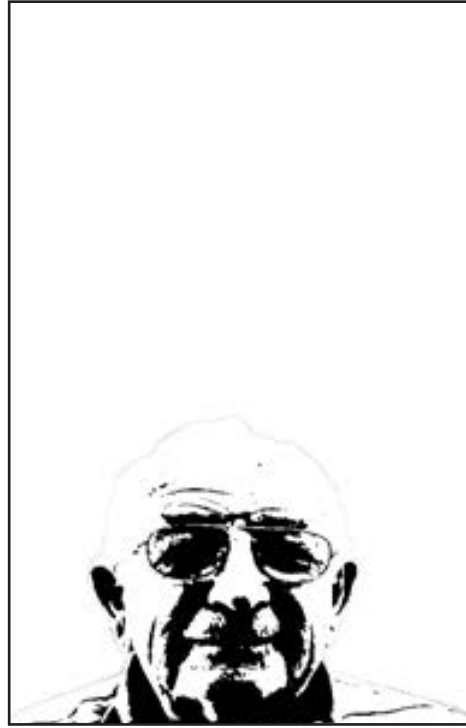
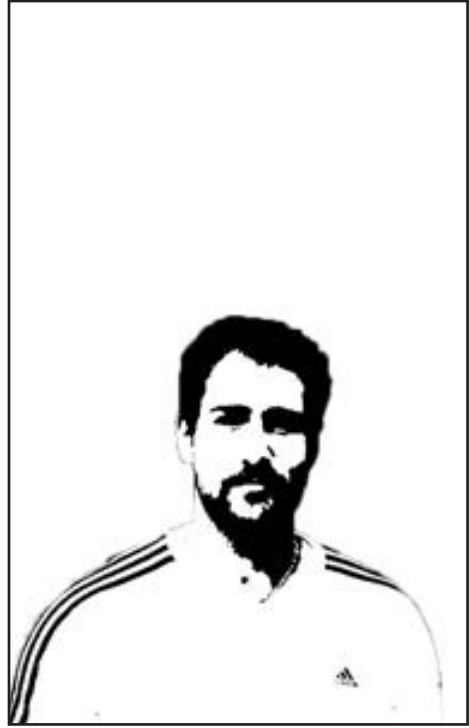
- > The ornamental lake is seen as a desirable feature to provide a link between the existing and the new areas of the cemetery, and to provide a central focal point. However, comment was made about the recent works carried out for a dam that provides water for irrigation of the lawn areas, and the costs of these.

As such, a smaller ornamental lake has been proposed that is sited over the current rectangular form of the irrigation dam, but the proposed changes to its shape are considered for a later stage of development when budget permits.

- > The strong pedestrian walkway between the existing and the new sections is an effective element to link the two parts of the cemetery, so this is included in the current master plan proposal.

- > Buffer planting along the cemetery site boundaries is considered a good idea to provide screen planting to adjoining agricultural activities and residences. In addition, these vegetated areas provide opportunities for ecological values to be enhanced.

- > An area to the southern part of the cemetery is designated as a burial site in the event of a pandemic. This general area is proposed as a re-vegetation site to strengthen the Broken River buffer edge, and should the need arise, an emergency burial area can be prepared here.



3. COMMUNITY + STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

3.1 OVERVIEW

Community engagement on the cemetery extension was seen to require close collaboration and consultation with stakeholders and local community. The subject of the community engagement was sensitive, as it involved:

- > A community asset with strong values and feelings associated with it
- > Addressing broader community attitudes to dying and funerals.

The expectations of current and future users of the cemetery, from diverse backgrounds was seen as key to the development of the master plan, to ensure community buy-in.

The design and consultation team decided to break new ground on engagement on the development of the cemetery and take it into the realm of community asset development. Rather than shy away from the sensitive issues, the project set out to engage users and the broader community in a respectful, open and direct way. This was employed as a way of inviting ideas, values and interpretations from the broadest perspectives in the Shepparton community.

3.2 OBJECTIVES

1. Understand and identify values, issues, opportunities and constraints relating to the cemetery
2. Build a shared understanding between diverse current and future users, and improve knowledge of the facility, its future plans and the potential of optimising use of the asset
3. Improving the Shepparton public's awareness of the master planning process through effective communication, particularly with near neighbours

The community engagement in the development of the plan was book-ended by stakeholder meetings held on 19 January 2015 and 1st April 2015. Stakeholders included: The Pine Lodge Cemetery Advisory Committee, Funeral Directors, Indigenous representative, Council directors, managers and officers, Goulburn Broken CMA and Shepparton Villages.



Stakeholder Meeting



Public Launch



Pine Lodge Cemetery Masterplan Project Survey

Questions

Have you ever been to Pine Lodge Cemetery? Yes No

Have you ever been involved in a service at Pine Lodge Cemetery? Yes No

Please tell us the main thing about the cemetery that you appreciate/like/love?
Please answer as briefly or in as much detail as you wish.

Please tell us the main thing about the cemetery that you don't appreciate/like?
Please answer as briefly or in as much detail as you wish.

Survey



Citizen Journalism



Pop ups



Vox pop

3.3 ENGAGEMENT DETAILS

STAKEHOLDER MEETING: January 19th 2015

Total Numbers: 22 people

Representation: City Greater Shepparton, Goulburn River CMA, Pine Lodge Cemetery Advisory Committee, Public Launch & Media Coverage. January 28th 2015.

PUBLIC LAUNCH & MEDIA COVERAGE: January 28th 2015.

Media release sent out to radio and print press partners in Shepparton. (see Appendix)

- > Shepparton News. Editorial piece. 'Finding more resting places'
- > Shepparton Advisor. Editorial piece. Title unknown.
- > Week Nights television interview with Steve Bowmaker, Manager Infrastructure. CGS
- > ABC local radio. Presenter and date unknown.

WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA. January 28th - Present, 2015.

Twitter and Facebook posts, plus a permanent web page were created and managed for the project through a collaboration between the consultant team and City of Greater Shepparton communications staff.

PINE LODGE MASTER PLAN PROJECT SURVEY: February - March 2015

A simple one page survey was created to measure interest in the project and assess first impressions regarding what people value at the Pine Lodge site, and what is missing, or seen as an opportunity, given the resources directed towards the expansion. The survey also

requested respondents leave contact details if they wanted to stay up to date with the project. Over 100 surveys were filled during the design engagement period. (See Appendix).

DIRECT STAKEHOLDER CONTACT: January - April 2015.

Via emails and telephone key stakeholders were contacted to understand their perspectives and illicit comments for data collection. The organisations contacted included the following; Shepparton Villages, Owen Mohan, Merritt Funerals, Clive Coventry, Kittle Bros, Valley Funerals, The Pine Lodge Advisory Committee, The GMBC, Shepparton Ethnic Communities Council, Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Council, and the neighbours on either side of the site.

CITIZEN JOURNALISM: February - April 2015.

By carefully selecting 10 participants through the Pop Ups, stakeholder discussion and surveys, video and stills were collected that represented a diverse and detailed picture of attitudes and ideas for the cemetery expansion. Citizen Journalism participants were asked to give their impressions about landscape and cemetery design ideas that they valued. They were also encouraged to seek video interviews with neighbours, Pine Lodge Cemetery users, and other people with a stake in the project. Over 170 images were collected and 58 minutes of video.

Rich engagement value has been realised from this part of the project, and all raw materials have been provided to Greater Shepparton City Council for future use.

POP UPS: 27th-28th February 2015

During the weekend of the Summer Markets 27th-28th February 2015, the full consultant team of David Dreadon, Julie Gavelle, Hugh Adamson, Madeleine Menca and Annie Bolitho spent over 8 hours engaging with passers by. These engagements were widely publicised via email, Facebook and through the website, and as a result the team engaged with a full spectrum of the public, from

people who had no knowledge of the project, through to people there specifically to offer their opinion and register interest. 73 Surveys, and 63 Design Voting Activities were filled out, and in addition to this 11 'Vox Pop' interviews were recorded.

The conversations and personal stories from these engagements have added lasting impact on the master plan design.

COUNCILLOR BRIEFING AND CAC MEETING: March 10th 2015.

Following the Pop Ups significant design work was undertaken to integrate the data collected from stakeholders and the public. The Design Principles are a critical aspect of the design engagement as they set the direction for the rest of the master planning process. With these drafted, a session in the regular schedule of Greater Shepparton City Councillor briefings, and a one-on-one meeting with the Cemetery Advisory Committee was arranged. On March 10th 2015, a presentation outlining design themes and the draft principles was presented to Councillors, and approval to move ahead on those principles was sought by the attending Councillors. Positive feedback, and no negative feedback was recorded in the briefing. The CAC provided detailed feedback via email in the following days.

STAKEHOLDER FORUM: April 1st 2015

On April 1, 2015 the consultants team invited all the project stakeholders and the members of the community who had registered their interest to attend a presentation of the findings from the Survey, the Design Voting Activity, and the Vox Pops and Citizen Journalism engagements. Following this Design Themes, and Design Principles and finally early site layouts were presented. A Design Principles Feedback form was provided, which attendees were invited to fill out and leave with us, or send after further consideration. (See Appendix).

3.4 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The community engagement revealed that the Shepparton community has a strong interest in the development of Pine Lodge. Funeral directors, Indigenous people, neighbours, and those with family and friends at Pine Lodge provided views. People with a broad interest in cemeteries and Pine Lodge as a community asset also became involved. Data from the community engagement is comprehensive and detailed. Refer to the Appendix for a list of source documents and aggregated data from the community engagement phase of the project.

It is important to realise that in a conventional approach where a focus group is set up to discuss the development, the themes would have been waited very heavily toward the practical. The randomness achieved through the summer market engagement and the citizen journalism brought the project into contact with a diverse range of aspirations for the cemetery.

While current needs and future aspirations showed up though the consultation as substantially different the planning for both in the Master Plan would be required.

- > The next wave of burials and interments will come from people who are mainly born during or before WWII and in their 70's or 80's. These members of the community will appreciate the strong link with the linear lawn burial model proposed in Phase 1.
- > Members of the Shepparton community who were born after WWII (the 'baby boomers') show an attitude that shifted the design focus towards more contemporary themes, and this is where the opportunity exists for Pine Lodge to cater for an emerging attitude towards death and burial.

- > People who are in aged care showed a consistent desire for a neat and tidy extension, and to keep the cemetery largely as it is.
- > People of non Anglo-Saxon white cultural backgrounds expressed the opinion that diversity might allow for broader community appeal of the facilities at Pine Lodge.
- > People who had been involved in using the cemetery brought varied practical concerns to the design engagement, with the need for shade, water, and seating a recurrent theme.
- > People who hold a more strategic or professional opinion favoured water sensitivity, and diversity in the cemetery landscape design.

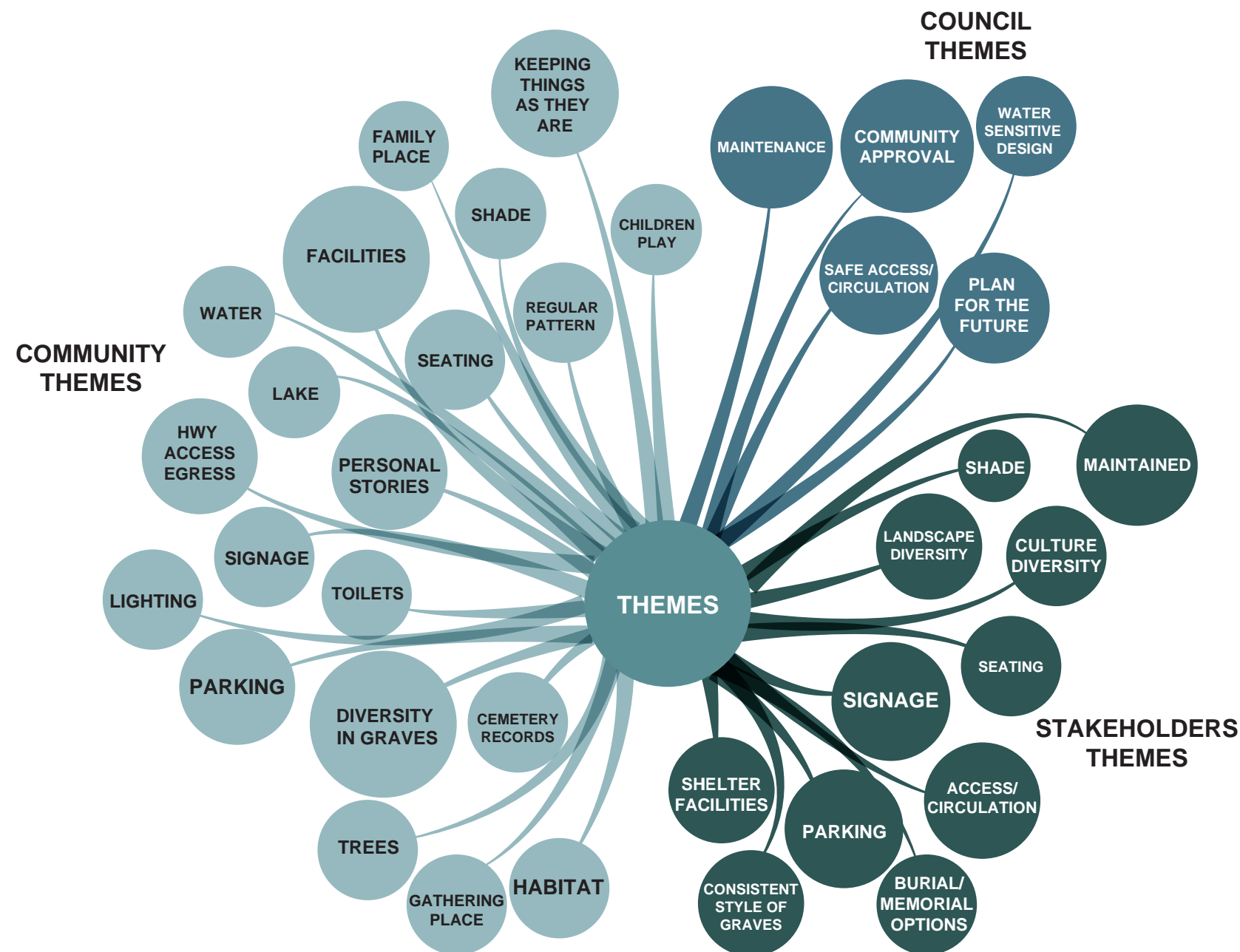
4. THEMES AND KEY PRINCIPLES

4.1 THEMES FROM THE MASTER PLAN ENGAGEMENT

At the point that the community engagement started to reach conclusion a set of Pine Lodge Cemetery Development Themes were formulated from all of the consultation materials collected. These were then refined internally into a set of Design Principles to direct master plan design development.

Creating Design Principles allows the current and also future development of the Pine Lodge Cemetery to stay true to the community and stakeholder engagements results. The Principles are also valuable as they allow anyone who has an interest in the project, regardless of their background and experience an understanding what has been decided about the future development of the site.

The Key Themes and 7 Principles were presented to the Councillors and Community Stakeholders during between March 10th and April 1st 2015.



4.2 THE 7 PRINCIPLES



AMENITY

To expand the service that the Pine Lodge Cemetery offers the Shepparton community improvements in shade, seating, lighting and gathering places are accommodated. Across a range of users the experience while at the cemetery is comfortable and easy.



HISTORY

Pine Lodge cemetery is understood as a key element of the history of the Pine Lodge district, with reference to existing natural heritage (SW Moreton Bay Fig and Oak) and significant early gravestones. Through way-finding and interpretive signage it recognises the importance of broader Shepparton family and community historical records which are embedded in memorials.



DIVERSITY

Pine Lodge provides a variety of places from ordered to more natural spaces. It is responsive to the requirements of its current generation of users, and recognises changing trends, including wall interment of ashes, landscaping for water sensitivity and natural burial. It provides a regular 'neat' aesthetic that is enhanced and offset by green values.

Pine Lodge caters for the range of cultural groups that choose to use it, for locational, aesthetic or other reasons into the coming decades.





ENVIRONMENT

Pine Lodge is able to meet the requirements of a 21st century climate. It is **water and climate sensitive**, and its green look is achieved through use of resilient species. It is designed to enhance the site as an environmental asset, with **revegetated zones**, wildlife corridors to increase bird and animal life, and attention to natural heritage.




FACILITY

A new range of **bereavement services** and options is accommodated by the open and **simple structure** at the heart of Pine Lodge Cemetery. The **shelter** provides shade and **basic amenity** during **wakes and celebrations**, and allows for new uses for the cemetery to emerge over the coming years.




RECREATION

The Pine Lodge Cemetery welcomes family and friends into the cemetery at all times, and supports a variety of visit types. Our ongoing celebration and remembering of the deceased is supported at the Pine Lodge Cemetery where the old and young alike are accommodated through **places and facilities for sitting, picnicking, contemplation and play** (for distracted children!).




ACCESS

Access in and around the cemetery is of real importance in Pine Lodge. We understand that a wide variety of visitors, many with mobility concerns, are visiting and searching for their site of importance on a weekly basis. Through **signage, pedestrian and vehicle planning**, surface design and general layout Pine Lodge should feel comfortable and amenable to access and navigate



4.3 FROM CONSULTATION TO DESIGN OUTCOMES

While the community and stakeholder consultation revealed important aspects of how the cemetery is used and valued, many emergent themes and thus design ideas have also come from a broader understanding of the opportunities that the site and the cultural place a cemetery as a community asset can hold. The confluence of these design agendas is evident in the design outcomes above

THE PROJECT HEART

Many comments were made about the need for better shade and seating. Water came up as relevant to services and also to visits in hotter weather. The concept of a project 'heart' where amenity is grouped provides a range of benefits valued by the user community, and also a place to meet and orientate yourself.



DESIGN FEATURE: The shelter, the central grove of trees and associated seating, the ornamental pond, the mounds for landscape and recreation value.

INDIGENOUS TREES AND SITE RE VEGETATION

To allow better protection during windy and hot weather mature trees were widely requested. Privacy from the Midland Hwy and the working farms adjacent to the site, and intimacy in the landscape during services and while reflecting, are accommodated through greater vegetation around and within the new cemetery layout.



Design feature: Re-vegetation zone to the Broken River end of the site, re-vegetation corridors approx 25m wide along the east and west boundaries, early planting of Eucalypts and deciduous species within the lawn burial layout, the natural burial nodes, the central grove of trees.

INTEGRATION OF OLD AND NEW

The existing lawn cemetery is visually ordered, and the cemetery expansion continues this order through the linear burial structure in a lawn setting, particularly at Stage 1 on the western boundary. The project heart within which all the amenities are grouped softens the transition from the existing layout to the area of expansion. Circular nodes at the centre and edges of each Stage repeat the circular paths in the existing cemetery.



Design feature: The linear and adaptive lawn burial layout, the central grove of trees, the allowance for new trees to mature ahead of each stage, and the project heart generally.

A PLACE FOR FAMILIES

Enhanced catering for a full spectrum of the living at Pine Lodge was requested by people who work in the bereavement industry, and also by many people who visit the site for memorials. Children need a place to be actively and safely engaged during services, water and shelter assist the young and elderly to remain comfortable, seating and universal access allow people of all ages to circulate comfortably.



Design feature: The shelter, the ornamental pond, the mounds for landscape and recreation value, the outdoor ceremonial space, the drinking fountain, appropriate roadway and parking provision into the site.

A MEETING AND STARTING PLACE

The need for navigation and orientation during visits to Pine Lodge will increase over time as will the regional and historical significant of the Cemetery.



Design feature: The adaptive lawn burial layout, the new and unified signage, the shelter and the project heart generally.

REFLECTIVE AND PEACEFUL PLACES

From current users of Pine Lodge a strong theme around the lack of an appropriately reflective place in the landscape was repetitively brought up. The allowance for several reflective locations within pleasant environments has been provided.



Design feature: The central grove of trees and associated seating, the natural burial nodes with seating, the outdoor ceremonial space, the ornamental pond and decking.

BURIAL OPTIONS

While a range of options exist across the cemeteries in the region, Pine Lodge in the long term must accommodate for a wide range of preferences. The flexible layout means the growth of new approaches can be accommodated.



Design feature: The linear and adaptive lawn burial layout, The natural burial nodes, the ash interment walls,

KEY

01	ENTRY AVENUE	09	AMENITIES (TOILETS, DRINKING FOUNTAIN)
02	EXISTING CEMETERY	10	ASPHALT ROAD
03	FEATURE CONNECTING PEDESTRAIN AXIS	11	NATIVE BUFFER RE-VEGETATION
04	ORNAMENTAL WETLAND	12	EXISTING DAM
05	DECKING WITH OPPORTUNITY FOR OUTDOOR MEMORIAL SERVICES	13	PEDESTRAIN BRIDGE
06	MULTI PURPOSE PAVILLION	14	EXISTING DEPOT
07	SCULPTURAL MOUNDS	15	MIDLAND HIGHWAY TURNING LANES
08	PERMANENT CAR PARKING	16	OUTDOOR MEMORIAL SERVICE

5. THE MASTER PLAN

5.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE MASTER PLAN

The Pine Lodge Cemetery Master Plan is based upon the inherent landscape character of the area: a regular grid pattern with layers of function and aesthetics to create an attractive and interesting place of memorial and remembrance.

A simple loop road creates the basic structure of the cemetery expansion area, and the various functional areas of the cemetery are sited off this.

The existing access road to the cemetery is extended along the eastern boundary, but then curves into the centre of the site to

create a sense of arrival at a centrally located 'heart' containing a pavilion, an ornamental wetland, and an open grassed area.

The pavilion is intended to be a multi-purpose facility that can cater for services and memorial wakes in a sheltered and shady environment. Ancillary facilities, including toilets and a simple kitchen support these activities.

Taking cues from the existing cemetery, a regular grid pattern of burial sections are provided to allow for a gradual co-ordinated expansion over time.

The adoption of a linear layout pattern (rather than the circular pattern of the existing cemetery) is designed to address various management and maintenance criteria that became apparent during the consultation program.

A pedestrian access walkway network is superimposed over the road loop to provide connections to the various sections of the cemetery and also to provide a range of experiences. A variety of pavement materials are proposed to ensure accessibility for all is provided to the burial areas and cremation gardens.



MASTER PLAN
PINE LODGE CEMETERY MASTER PLAN - DRAFT

0 10 50 100m

5.2 VEGETATION

Vegetation plays an important role in defining landscape character, as well as providing amenity. The existing cemetery is dominated by a range of native trees and by exotic lawn areas. The new cemetery areas will use an expanded list of tree species to create opportunities for the creation of particular character and ambiance. This includes exotic tree species selected for seasonal variation of colour, size and ability to grow in local conditions (including dry and hot summer periods).

The main entry avenue will be an extension of the existing sheoak trees (*Allocasuarina* sp), and will lead visitors along the current entry avenue around the curve to the central 'heart' of the new cemetery. There, the avenue character will change with the introduction of a large canopy tree such as the London Plan (*Platanus acerifolia*) that will be planted around the loop road to provide a shady access environment with dappled light.

The feature pedestrian axis path between the existing and the new cemetery is intended to create a memorable experience, with an avenue of feature trees contributing to the character. Selection of a

tree species such as an ornamental pear cultivar e.g. *Pyrus calleryana* Bradford, or *Gleditsia triacanthus* or *Robinia pseudoacacia* will assist with this objective.

THE MAIN PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS through the new cemetery areas will be planted with a mix of native Australian trees that will form the basis for ashes scattering gardens

THE TRANSVERSE PEDESTRIAN PATHS will be characterised by either feature native or exotic trees

FEATURE TREES to cremation gardens and remembrance gardens will be selected from a range of exotic tree species

SHADE TREES TO LAWN AREAS Scattered amongst the lawn burial areas will be a variety of exotic species to provide shade, shelter and seasonal variation

THE LANDSCAPED BUFFER along the cemetery boundaries and to the Broken River interface will be a mix of Australian native trees and shrubs

KEY

FEATURE TREE
Deciduous tree

NATIVE VEGETATION
Trees and mass planting

EXOTIC TREES

AVENUE TREES
Deciduous trees

BUFFER RE-VEGETATION
Native And Indigenous Planting

LAWN

MASS PLANTING



THE MAIN PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS:



Eucalyptus leucoxylon rosea
'Scarlet'

Pink Flowering Gum



Eucalyptus pauciflora
Snow Gum



Tamarix aphylla
Tamarix



Eucalyptus leucoxylon 'Euky Dwarf'



Eucalyptus leucoxylon
Yellow Gum

THE TRANSVERSE PEDESTRIAN PATHS:



Lophostemon confertus
Brush Box



Brachychiton acerifolius
Illawarra Flame Tree



Acer x freemanii 'Jeffersred'
Autumn Blaze



Pyrus calleryana
Ornamental Pear

FEATURE TREES:



Gleditsia triacanthos
'Sunburst'
Golden Honey Locust



Liquidambar styraciflua
Sweetgum



Robinia pseudoacacia frisia
Golden Robinia



Acer negundo 'sensation'
Box elder Maple

SHADE TREES TO LAWN AREAS:



Parrotia persica
Persian Ironwood



Pistacia chinensis
Chinese Pistache



Albizia julibrissin
Silk Tree



Lagerstroemia Indica
Tuscarora
Crepe Myrtle



Olea europaea
Olive tree



Arbutus unedo
Strawberry Tree

THE LANDSCAPED BUFFER :

List provided by Goulburn Broken Indigenous Seedbank)

<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	<i>Acacia paradoxa</i>
<i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i>	<i>Acacia genistifolia</i>
<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>	<i>Eutaxia diffusa</i>
<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	<i>Poa labillardierei</i>
<i>Acacia implexa</i>	<i>Atriplex semibaccata</i>
<i>Acacia acinacea</i>	<i>Calocephalus citreus</i>
<i>Acacia pycnantha</i>	<i>Pycnosorus globosus</i>
<i>Acacia verniciflua</i>	<i>Banksia marginata</i>

5.3 FACILITIES

The consultation program highlighted the need for some additional facilities to be provided at the Pine Lodge Cemetery to improve the overall amenity and to satisfy visitor requirements. This includes additional car parking, shade and shelter, seating along with general open space amenity and toilets.

Permanent car parking is provided to central locations off the loop access road. The central location will enable access to a number of burial sections and improve the overall efficiency of operation and also development costs. The Master Plan recommends car parking requirements be assessed for the overall functioning of the cemetery to determine the number of permanent car parking space numbers to be provided. Catering for peak demand events (that occur infrequently) with permanent car parking is not recommended.

It is proposed that in Stage 1, a temporary car parking facility be constructed to cater for the first burial sections developed. This will take the form of a compacted gravel surface and asphalt paving for disabled car parking. Once a car parking study has been completed, permanent car parking areas in the locations indicated on the Master Plan can be constructed.

A simple multi-purpose pavilion is proposed to be sited at the end of the feature pedestrian axis that links the existing cemetery with the new. This pavilion should be of an elegant simple design, and include flexible internal spaces to cater for a variety of functional requirements.

During the consultation program, a preference for an ornamental wetland was stated. It is proposed to rework the existing irrigation dam to create an organically shaped water feature that adds amenity to the pavilion and cemetery. A pedestrian bridge across the ornamental wetland will provide a link between the feature pedestrian axis and the new pavilion, and along with a viewing platform overlooking the wetland, these facilities provide a range of options for memorial services and wakes.

As an interim measure until the pavilion and associated facilities are developed, an outdoor ceremony area is proposed along the feature pedestrian axis. This will take advantage of the existing Eucalypts and provide a shaded place for people in an Australian setting

- KEY
- 01

PARKING
- 02

TOILET / DRINKING
FOUNTAIN
- 03

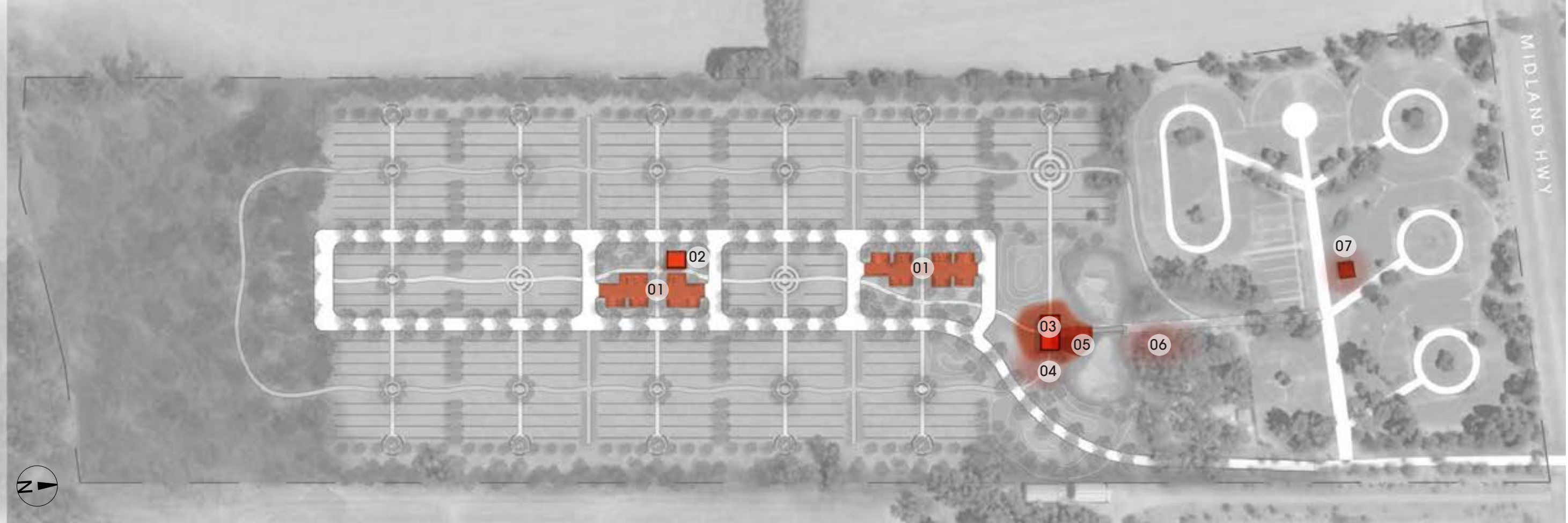
SERVICE PAVILION
- 04

PLAY IN LANDFORMS
- 05

DECKING
- 06

OUTDOOR CEREMONY
- 07

EXISTING TOILETS



FACILITIES



Crushed rock & compacted gravel car parking



Compacted granitic gravel path



Asphalt road with flush concrete kerb



Mulch



Coloured concrete path



Lawn with concrete plinths for plaques



Stone texture for ashes interment wall



Timber decking and bridge crossing of wetland



Bench seat



Drinking Fountain

5.4 MATERIAL / FURNITURE PALETTE

The master plan proposes to maintain the overall feel and character of the existing cemetery, but subtly amend elements to ensure sustainable outcomes that can be maintained efficiently and effectively with available resources. Materials and furniture are selected to ensure they are deferential to the overall landscape and will appear as integrated elements.

- > Road surfaces will be asphalt in keeping with the existing.
- > Car parking will be compacted gravel and crushed rock (in the interim at least, and subject to review)
- > Footpaths will be a combination of concrete and compacted granitic gravel with colour and texture to reduce the overall visual impact of the current light grey concrete paths.
- > Natural materials will be used in the construction of the pavilion, deck, pedestrian bridge, ashes interment walls and seating walls to ensure integration with the landscape and a subdued overall appearance.
- > Outdoor furniture (seats, drinking fountains) are contemporary interpretations of classical designs.
- > There are signs and names for each of the sections in the existing cemetery area. It is proposed to maintain this approach, but review the design of the signage and way finding elements to ensure clarity and legibility.

5.5 PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

A connected and extensive pedestrian network is provided throughout the various sections of the cemetery. This pedestrian network is based on a strong rectilinear grid pattern that reinforces the underlying land use patterns of the area, provides a strong sense of understanding and legibility, and ensures a range of opportunities are provided for discovering and accessing the various components of the new cemetery area.

Connecting the existing cemetery to the new is a strong feature axis that passes by the historical graves of the original cemetery, a grove of mature Eucalypts, crosses the re-shaped ornamental wetland and terminates at a new multi-purpose pavilion. This walkway is intended to be an interesting and inviting landscaped element that provides amenity for visitors. It is to incorporate seating, shade, history and vegetation to strengthen emotions of remembrance and memorial (colour, smells, touch, sound). From the pavilion, the path network can be planned and implemented to provide access to new stages of the cemetery as they are developed over time.

The paths are variously sited in open grass areas, along avenues of feature trees and within informal copse of native tree planting.

A variety of paving materials are proposed for the pedestrian paths to reinforce their purpose and also their character.

- > The main central longitudinal path and six transverse paths to each stage will be constructed of coloured concrete. These provide access for all to each of the stages in the new cemetery.
- > Compacted granitic gravel paths (e.g., Lilydale toppings) are proposed to secondary paths and a meandering loop path around the perimeter of the cemetery. This loop path will also provide access to a re-vegetation and recreational area along the Broken River interface.
- > Some transverse grassed 'paths' are provided as informal connections between the loop road and the natural burial sites that are located to the cemetery perimeter.

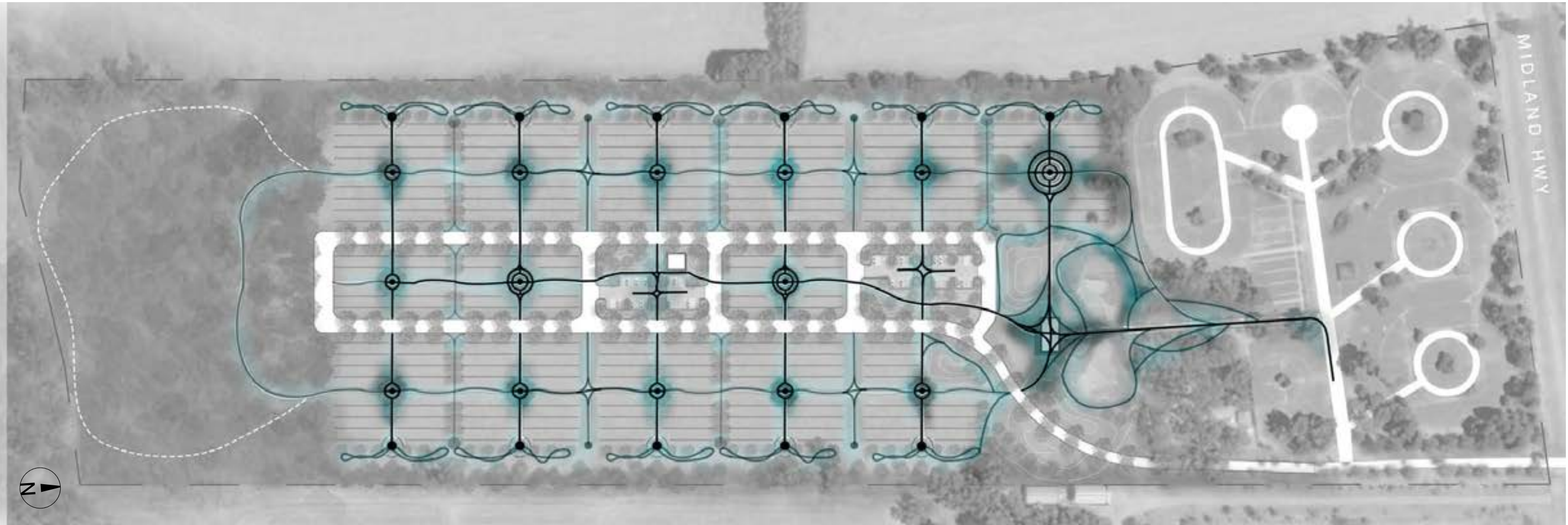
KEY

PRIMARY CIRCULATION

SECONDARY CIRCULATION

TERTIARY CIRCULATION

SUPPLEMENTARY BUSH WALK



PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

5.6 VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

Vehicular access to the new section of the Pine Lodge Cemetery is provided by an extension of the existing avenue. The main access road curves into the centre of the site and passes over and through grass mounds created from the stockpile of existing topsoil. The regular planting of the Sheoaks will be continued into the new section to reinforce the integrity of the cemetery and to strengthen the sense of arrival as the road curves.

A loop road is provided through the centre of the site to provide vehicular access to new sections of the cemetery as they are developed over time. This will be a two way access road, designed for low speeds and to allow temporary parallel car parking – much as a local access street in a residential neighbourhood. This configuration will ensure peak demand is catered for, but generally, the character of the cemetery is not dominated by vehicular infrastructure. Cross links developed in conjunction with the phased development of the cemetery over time (see Section 6. Implementation) allow for the incremental development of the access road and also will enable efficient traffic circulation.

To further minimise the engineered character of the cemetery, the edges of the access road are formed by a concrete edge strip set level with the road pavement and the adjoining grass verge.

Drainage will be catered for by an invert in the road profile and swales in the grass verge that will enable storm water to be evacuated towards the Broken River.

Car parking is catered for in permanent areas located in the central modules and along the loop access road.

The permanent car parking areas are intended to be flexible in size dependant on demand determined by further detailed study. It is proposed that the car parking areas be constructed using a compacted gravel wearing course (with asphalt to the disabled car spaces). This approach will enable the incorporation of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) principles and also be less dominating in an aesthetic sense.

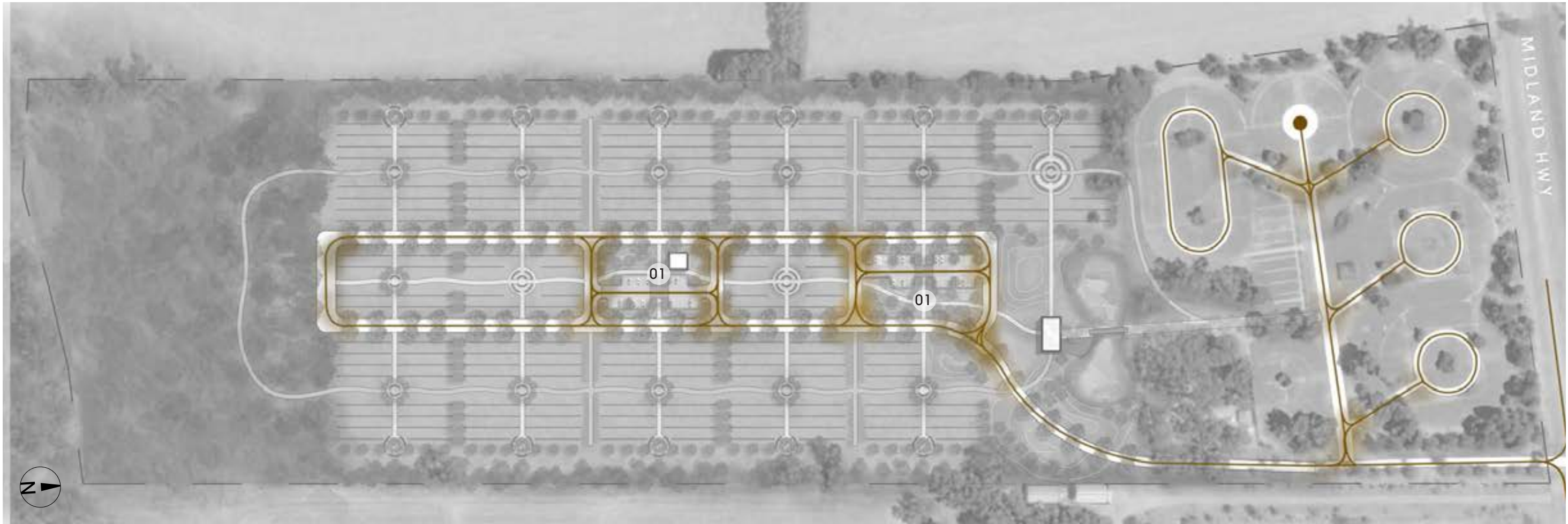
The visual impact of the permanent car parking areas will be further reduced by the formation of grassed mounds around their perimeter, and vegetation (screen and shade).

KEY

01

VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

PERMANENT CAR PARKING



VEHICULAR CIRCULATION
PINE LODGE CEMETERY MASTER PLAN - DRAFT



5.7 WATER

The existing lawn cemetery is irrigated using water stored in a dam located to the immediate south of the Depot. The current storage dam is a utilitarian feature, rectangular in shape with a black polyurethane liner. It was noted during the consultation program that it was expensive to implement and should be maintained so as not waste the expenditure.

The master plan proposes the location be retained to take advantage of the excavations carried out, but a more organic shape be created in the initial stages of the new cemetery development to enhance the aesthetic amenity of this feature located in the proposed 'heart' of the cemetery.

The consultation program highlighted the preference for sustainable water use practices to be employed for the maintenance operation of the cemetery, but the existing green lawn character to be continued into the new sections.

Implied water use for the predominately lawn cemetery is considered to be too high for the coming decades, especially considering forecasted climate variation and global water use.

To this end, it is proposed to plant a drought tolerant warm season grass mix to the new sections of the cemetery and restrict irrigation only to the lawn burial sections. Other grassed areas will not be irrigated. Tree and shrub species to be planted throughout the cemetery will be from a list selected for their ability to tolerate dry conditions and low water requirements.

KEY

IRREGATED LAWN

→

 PUMPED WATER



5.8 DRAINAGE

Discussions with the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and adjoining farmers have highlighted issues associated with flooding. It is noted that the cemetery site is located in a Land Subject to Inundation Overlay and between the 125 and 126 metres AHD flood contours. The site is generally flat with a fall from 125.72 in the top north-east corner to 125.03 in the bottom south-west corner (this is approximately a 0.69m fall across 575 metres: a 0.122% slope)

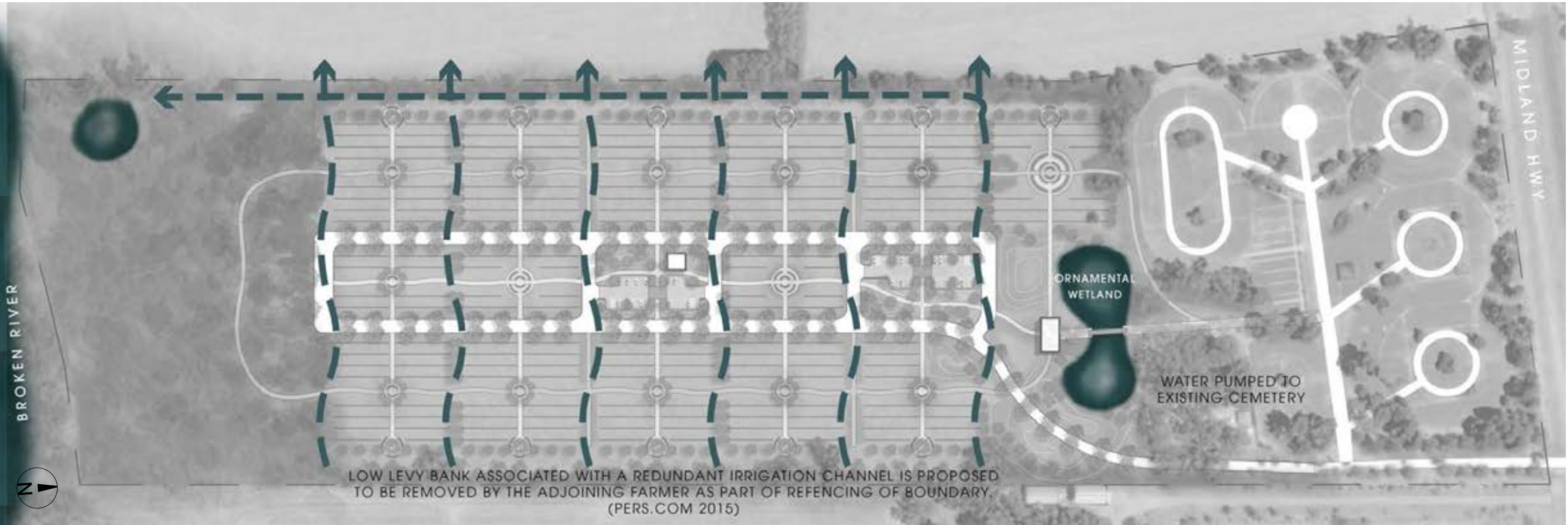
Along with the very flat topography, there are a couple of other existing features that impact on drainage patterns across the site:

- > To the south-west corner and along the western boundary, there are the remnants of a redundant irrigation collection channel and dam. In previous times, the site was flood irrigated and water collected in the channel to run off to the dam, from which it could overflow into the Broken River.

- > Along the adjoining property to the immediate east of the site, a redundant levee bank and irrigation channel forms a barrier to flood waters from the Broken River. Indications are this element may be removed as part of the re-fencing of this boundary, so it's long term impacts cannot be assessed.

Flooding of the area has occurred, and must be considered as likely to occur again in the future. The master plan does make some provision for the evacuation of flood water from the site by providing overland flood paths across the site along designated transverse corridors (see plan). In addition, it is proposed the longitudinal sections of the access loop road have an invert profile to allow water to be channelled towards the Broken River.

KEY
— ➔ OVERLAND FLOODWAY PATHS

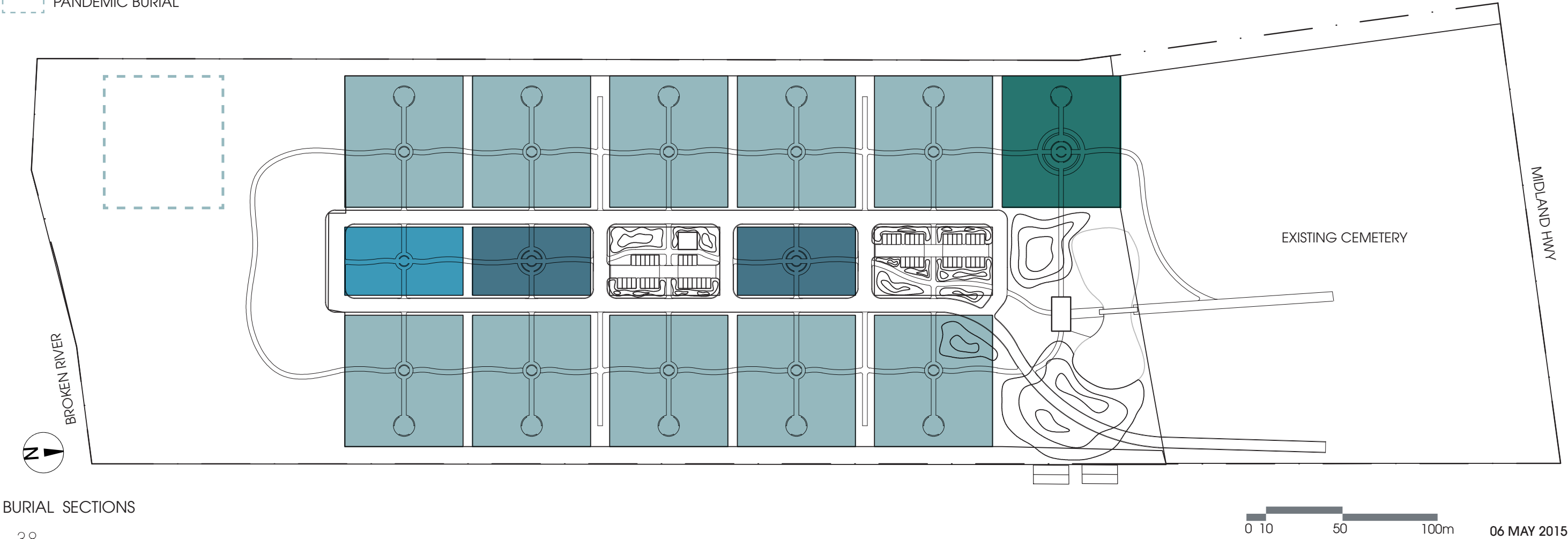


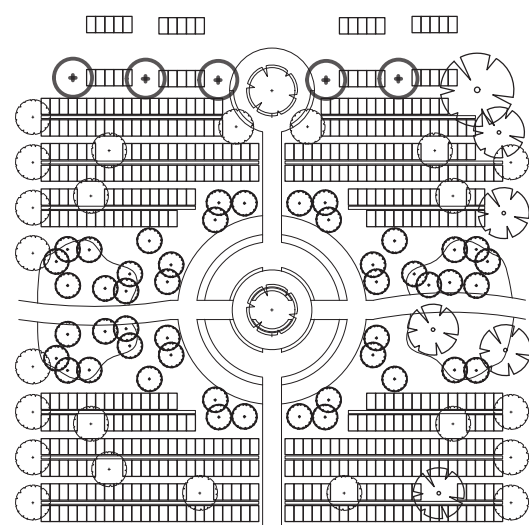
5.9 BURIAL SECTIONS

The master plan proposes a regular pattern of burial sections set out around an access loop road. This pattern provides for great flexibility of burial and ashes interment options, and can be modified over time as burial trends evolve with demographic and cultural change. Each burial section is intended to provide enough burial and interment sites for 5 – 10 years.

An area has been designated to the south west corner of the site for burials during a pandemic, should this eventuality occur.

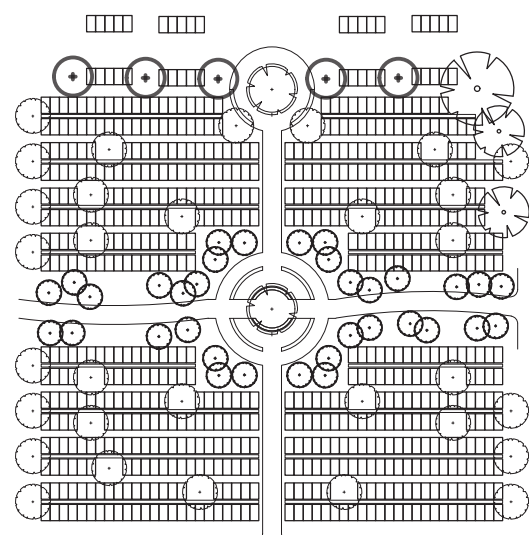
- KEY
- TYPE 1 OPTION A
 - TYPE 1 OPTION A/B/C
DEPENDENT ON DEMAND
 - TYPE 2 OPTION B
 - TYPE 2 OPTION C
 - PANDEMIC BURIAL





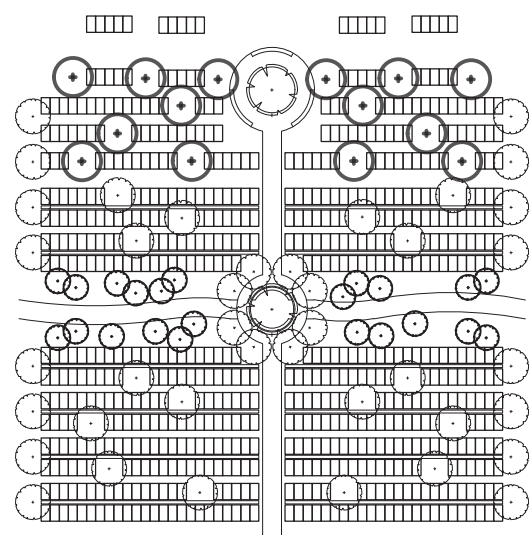
TYPE 1 OPTION A

450 Burial
 1440 Ash interment total
 160 Ash interment (1500h -1 sided) small
 1280 Ash interment -1280h (2 sided) large
 40 Natural burial (option of a plaque)
 Scattering of ashes (option of a plaque)



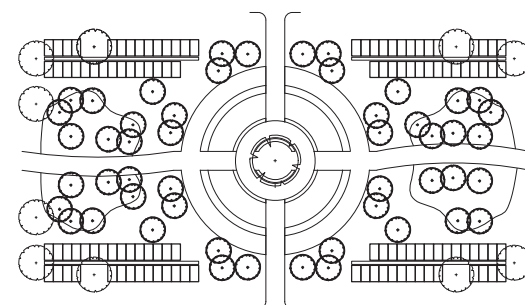
TYPE 1 OPTION B

630 Burial
 160 Ash interment (1500h (1 sided) small
 Or
 320 Ash interment (1280h (2 sided) large
 40 Natural burial (option of a plaque)
 Scattering of ashes (option of a plaque)



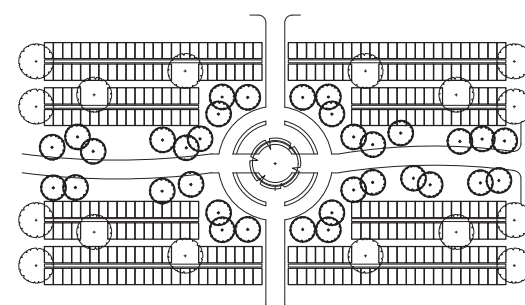
TYPE 1 OPTION C

540 Burial
 150 Natural burial (option of a plaque)
 Scattering of ashes (option of a plaque)



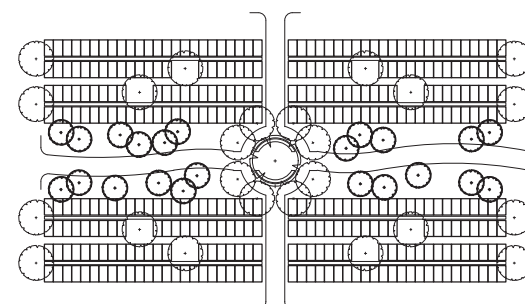
TYPE 2 OPTION A

120 Burial
 1440 Ash interment total
 160 Ash interment (1500h -1 sided) small
 1280 Ash interment -1280h (2 sided) large
 Scattering of ashes (option of a plaque)



TYPE 2 OPTION B

340 Burial
 160 Ash interment (1500h (1 sided) small
 Or
 320 Ash interment (1280h (2 sided) large
 Scattering of ashes (option of a plaque)



TYPE 2 OPTION C

360 Burial
 Scattering of ashes (option of a plaque)

5.10 BURIAL SECTION TYPES + OPTIONS

Two general layouts are proposed within the designated burial sections (see plans);

- > Type 1 layouts are larger and are sited around the perimeter
- > Type 2 layouts are smaller and located within the loop access road to the centre of the site.

Within each type of layout, a variety of burial options are proposed including lawn burial, natural burial, ashes scattering with plaques and ashes interments within walls. Depending on demand, each of these burial options can be increased or decreased without impacting on the overall integrity of the cemetery layout and character.

For each burial option, there will be a standard plinth and plaque design to ensure a consistent approach.

LAWN BURIAL AREA:

A simple low plinth and plaque set out in a regular grid pattern allowing for flowers to each grave

NATURAL BURIAL:

Burial sites within an informal character setting created by native bush and ground covers. The option for a plaque attached to a rock or wood support provides a memorial.

ASHES INTERMENT WALL:

A constructed wall with niches for ashes to be placed and then closed with a memorial plaque.

ASHES SCATTERING:

Ashes are scattered in a native bush garden and a plaque is affixed to a either a memorial wall or rock.



6. IMPLEMENTATION

The current cemetery has limited space for development and is running out of available burial plots. The master plan identifies a first phase for the future expansion of the Pine Lodge Cemetery to cater for the short to medium term operational requirements. This phase provides several stages that can be developed over time as requirements require – see Implementation Phases Plan on the following page.

The existing cemetery has been assessed and along with discussions with operational staff, it is noted a stage provides, in general, for about 5 – 10 years. Stage 1 of Phase 1 will provide in the order of four hundred and fifty burial plots in a lawn setting, forty natural burial sites and up to fourteen hundred and fifty ashes interment plots within a cremation garden incorporating niche walls. In addition, there are an undefinable number of ashes scattering opportunities in garden beds alongside the pedestrian access path. The general design of the stage is intended to be flexible so changes can be implemented if one particular type of burial is more popular than others and more space for this burial type is required.

Along with the immediate priority for additional interment space, associated infrastructure is provided as part of the Stage 1 works to ensure the cemetery remains an attractive and viable choice for residents seeking a memorial place for deceased loved ones. These include;

- > An access road
- > A central pedestrian walkway connecting the existing cemetery to the new sections
- > A car parking area
- > Landscaping to provide an attractive vegetated environment
- > Bulk earthworks to create earth mounds

These infrastructure elements in the first stage of works are intended to provide the framework on which ongoing development can occur as the cemetery expands. These elements include:

- > The construction of a pavilion to provide a sheltered space for on-site services and memorial wakes
- > A reshaped dam to create an attractive ornamental pond, including a pedestrian bridge to provide a linkage to the proposed shelter.
- > Miscellaneous amenity such as toilets, drinking fountains

Once this initial infrastructure is in place, future expansion will simply involve adding to this as needed and as budgets allow.

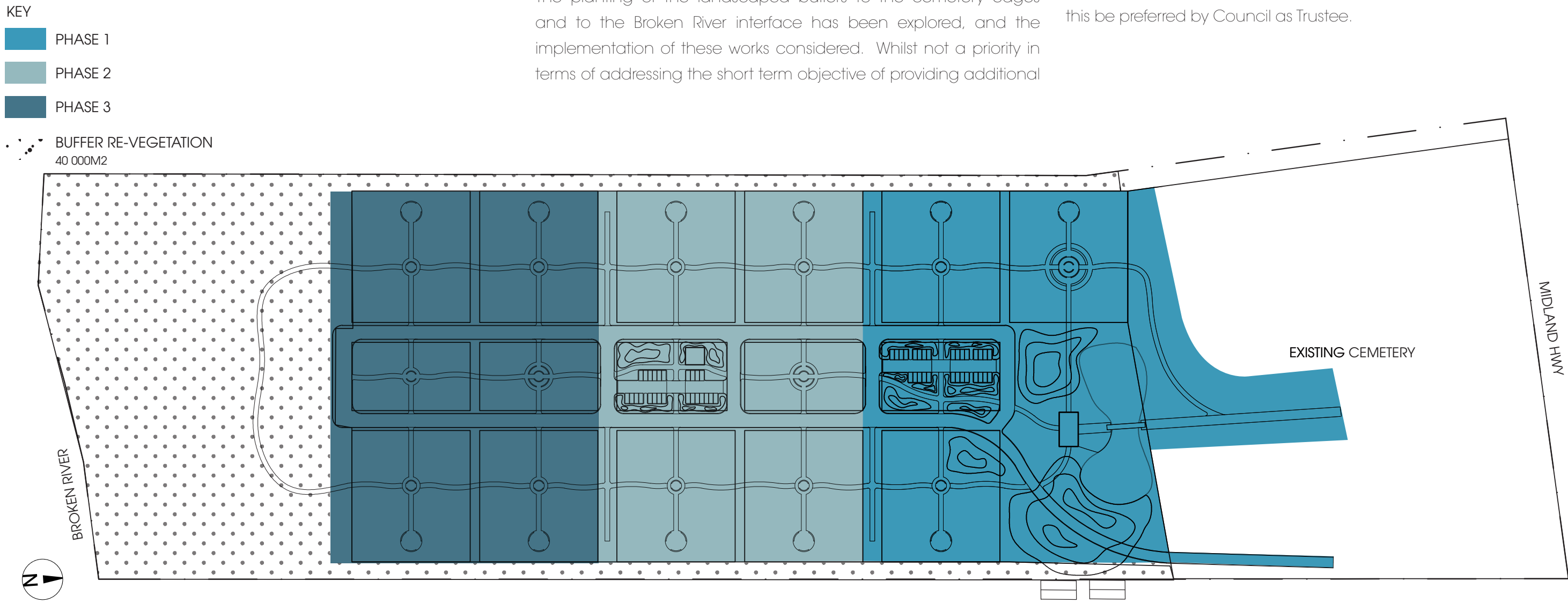
6.1 IMPLEMENTATION PHASES

The layout of the cemetery extension has been designed to be implemented in three phases, with each phase having 3-4 stages. This implementation process will enable budget planning to occur based on demand and ongoing requirements. Generally, it is intended to be simple and straight forward so as to enable the efficient implementation of the burial sections and the additional implementation of amenity as budget permits.

The planting of the landscaped buffers to the cemetery edges and to the Broken River interface has been explored, and the implementation of these works considered. Whilst not a priority in terms of addressing the short term objective of providing additional

burial space, it is considered that the planting of a planted buffer with indigenous and native trees as early as possible would set a framework within which the future development of the cemetery could occur. In addition, it would address ecological and environmental values. Direct seeding of the designated areas is recommended as an effective and efficient method of achieving this objective.

This implementation process also enables the non-developed areas of the site to be fenced off and leased for agricultural activities should this be preferred by Council as Trustee.





Phase 1 Stage 1A



Phase 1 Stage 1B



Phase 1 Stage 2



Phase 1 Stage 3



Phase 2 Stage 4



Phase 3 Stage 5



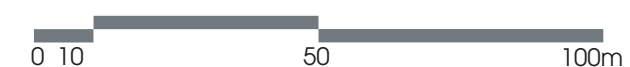
6.2 PHASE 1 STAGE 1A

This initial stage will involve implementation of elements that form the basis for future stages. These works include:

- > An access road
- > A temporary car parking area
- > Shaping of the earth stockpile to create sculptured feature mounds
- > A feature pedestrian axis connecting the existing cemetery with the new section
- > A burial section
- > Tree planting
- > An outdoor memorial space

KEY

- | | |
|----|---|
| 01 | ENTRY AVENUE |
| 02 | FEATURE CONNECTING PEDESTRIAN AXIS |
| 03 | SECTION 1 |
| 04 | MOUNDS |
| 05 | CAR PARKING |
| 06 | OUTDOOR MEMORIAL SPACE WITH OPPORTUNITY MULTI CULTURAL OBJECTIVES |





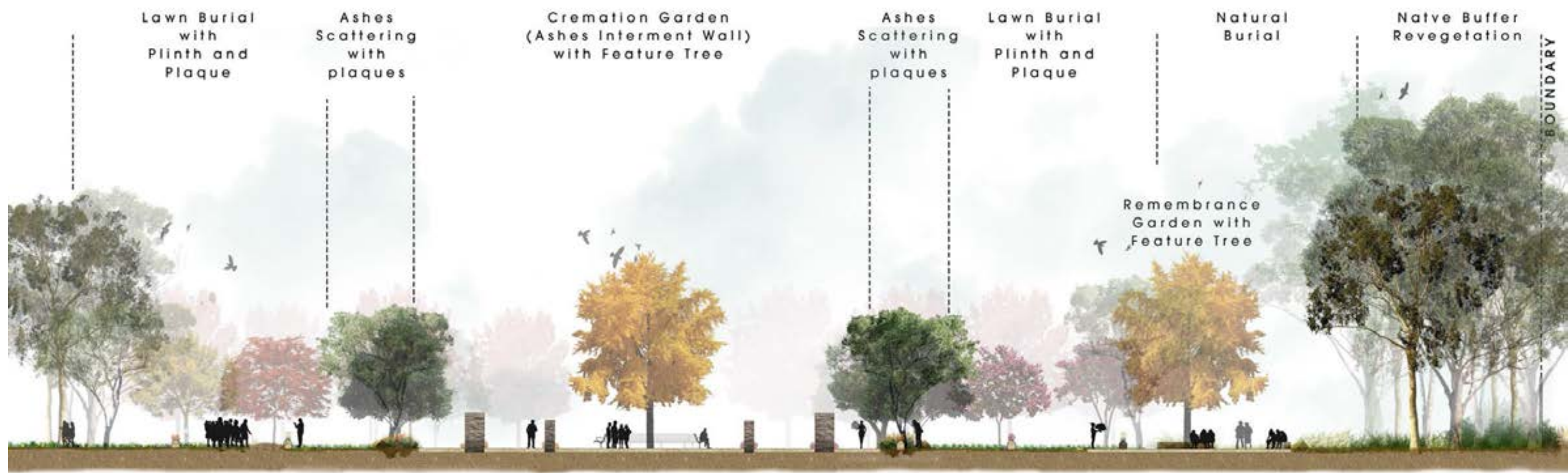
6.3 PHASE 1 STAGE 1B

This stage builds on the initial implementation of improved amenity for the cemetery. These works include:

- > A simple multi-purpose pavilion
- > Re-shaping the dam to create an ornamental wetland, including aquatic and riparian planting
- > A pedestrian bridge across the wetland
- > An outdoor paved area for services and memorial wakes

KEY

- | | |
|----|--|
| 01 | MULTI PURPOSE PAVILION |
| 02 | DECKING WITH OPPORTUNITY FOR OUTDOOR MEMORIAL SERVICES |
| 03 | BRIDGE |
| 04 | ORNAMENTAL WETLAND |



7. STAGE 1A- SECTION 1



KEY

01	NATURAL BURIAL
02	REMEMBRANCE GARDEN WITH FEATURE TREE
03	CREMATION GARDEN (ASHES INTERMENT WALL) WITH FEATURE TREE
04	ASHES SCATTERING WITH PLAQUES
05	LAWN BURIAL WITH PLINTH AND PLAQUE
	COLOURED CONCRETE PATH
	GRANITIC SAND PATH

STAGE 1- SECTION 1
PINE LODGE CEMETERY MASTER PLAN - DRAFT

0 10 50m



8. MAINTENANCE + OPERATION

A number of issues about the maintenance and operation of the existing cemetery were raised as part of the background research and consultation phase of this project. These include:

- > The circular layout of the burial plots makes internal plots difficult to access with mechanical digging equipment
- > The placement of trees along access streets presents difficulties for efficient mowing (time and available equipment)
- > Trees and cremation plots - trees die and there is a wish for replacement with a same size tree, digging of interment plots damages the tree roots.
- > Identification of burial plots within the cemetery
- > Water use.
- > Access from the Midland Highway
- > Parking

A triple bottom line approach has been adopted to consider sustainable social, economic and environmental outcomes. The master plan considers the development of the cemetery in light of improved management, maintenance and operational requirements to make sure available resources, including budgets, are used in an efficient and effective manner. These include:

- > It has been noted the lawn cemetery layout with a homogeneous and consistent plinth and plaque throughout the cemetery ensures an egalitarian outcome for all. This social ideal is appreciated and there is a desire for this to be maintained in the new sections of the Pine Lodge Cemetery.
- > A variety of choice is to be provided to cater for a range of price points, including simple natural burial sites and ashes wall interment.

- > The plots are laid out in a regular linear manner to ensure ease of access, legibility, improved utilisation of space and maintenance efficiencies.
- > Irrigated lawn areas are minimised within the overall layout proposal and confined to the standard burial areas. In addition, a drought tolerant warm season grass species mix is proposed to reduce the reliance on extensive watering.
- > The landscape of the cemetery extension will be a mix of native vegetation species and exotic feature trees that are adapted to the site conditions. This will further reduce the reliance on extensive watering to maintain an improved landscape amenity.
- > The access road is wide enough to allow 'on-street' parking during times of peak demand, but otherwise, pods of landscaped parking areas are provided to satisfy normal visitation requirements.
- > Numerous pedestrian paths provide a variety of access opportunities to the various parts of the cemetery expansion sections, and there is a strong pedestrian link between the existing cemetery sections and proposed extension.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

FACILITIES:

1. Review the current and future operations of the Service Depot in the cemetery, and assess the present location for ongoing improvements, or seek an alternative site located centrally within the cemetery extension area for future development that will meet long term cemetery operational requirements.
2. Prepare a simple, elegant design proposal for a multi-purpose pavilion (incorporating toilet facilities and a basic kitchenette) to cater for memorial services and wakes, and seek partnering or funding opportunities from community groups for its construction.
3. Review the entrance feature to the Pine Lodge Cemetery with particular attention to be paid to the signage on the entry portico.

TRAFFIC:

4. Undertake a feasibility study for improvements to the Midland Highway entry and exit with a focus on safety and turning efficiencies. Use this study to lobby VicRoads for the funding and construction of these works.
5. Investigate car parking requirements for the range of services across the year to determine the number of spaces to be provided in the designated permanent car parking areas.

HYDROLOGY:

6. Undertake a feasibility study by a suitably qualified irrigation and hydraulic engineer that assesses the water requirements for the existing and proposed cemetery, and determines an efficient distribution system for irrigating the existing and new sections of the cemetery

OPERATIONS:

7. Investigate the opportunities for incorporating Global Positioning System (GPS) technology into natural burial options.
8. Undertake a review of existing signs and way finding with the objective of creating a new consistent and legible signage suite.
9. Review the existing plinths and plaques for the lawn burial area and cremation plots and explore opportunities for refined designs for each specific context (lawn burial, natural burial, ashes interment and ashes scattering).
10. Explore funding opportunities with Federal and State Government agencies and programs (e.g. the Silver Banksia Project) to implement protective fencing and direct seeding of native vegetation buffers along the site boundaries and to the Broken River interface.

10. APPENDIX

APPENDIX LIST:

- > Media release from Jan 28th.
- > Pine Lodge Cemetery Master plan Project Survey form.
- > Citizen Journalism Application form.
- > Design Voting Activities Cards.
- > Expression of Interest Community Exchange Survey Form.
- > Cemetery Display Board A1.
- > Vox Populi Summary and Transcript.
- > Citizen Journalism Summary.
- > Citizen Journalism Raw Data DVD No.1-4
- > Design Principles Feedback Form. Scanned All.