5. RECONFIGURE ALEXANDRA AVENUE AS A BOULEVARD

Alexandra Avenue between St Kilda Road and Linlithgow Avenue presents opportunities to improve the connection between two significant gardens and provide an attractive and green gateway to Southbank.

In the short term, it is proposed to introduce a signalised pedestrian crossing to connect Alexandra Gardens to Queen Victoria Gardens. This will greatly improve connections through and usability of these gardens, particularly during events, and increase pedestrian safety.

A longer term opportunity exists to introduce a central tree-lined median into this section of Alexandra Avenue to create a boulevard. The advantage of this proposal is to continue the tree canopy across the road and make it read as a road within a park, encouraging improved driver behaviour.

This more transformative proposal will be explored as part of the Domain Master Plan which is currently underway.

Trade-offs include the loss of some parkland to allow space for the median in order to maintain vehicle capacity. The slip lane at Linlithgow Avenue is being removed as part of another City of Melbourne project.

The existing conditions of Alexandra Avenue encourage high vehicle speeds and do not maximise the potential of pedestrian connections between the gardens and Yarra River.

Figure 3.52: Location of Alexandra Avenue between St Kilda Road and Linlithgow Avenue

A Proposed pedestrian crossing
B Proposed central median
ALEXANDRA AVENUE
Benefits and potential impacts of improvements to Alexandra Parade

The improvements proposed for Alexandra Avenue will deliver the following benefits:

- New pedestrian crossing for safer and more direct pedestrian access
- Central tree-lined median with an additional 11 trees

Consequences of the proposed design include:
- Minor traffic delays from a new pedestrian crossing.
- Redistributing some parkland to accommodate a central median.

Proposed street upgrades for Alexandra Avenue are presented on the following pages.

“It’s so hard to get from Alexandra Gardens to Queen Victoria Gardens. We really need a connection for better usage of both garden spaces.”

Steve, resident
ALEXANDRA AVENUE

Proposed design

The proposed design introduces a new pedestrian crossing and a tree lined central median requiring a widening of the existing carriageway.

Figure 3.53: Proposed upgrades to Alexandra Avenue showing central median (to be considered as part of the Domain Master Plan).
“Anything you can do to provide several links between these two sets of gardens would be great.”

Nathan, resident