



14 December 2023

Major Projects and Asset Coordination  
Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability  
Kingfisher Creek Project Team  
Via Email: [parks@brisbane.qld.gov.au](mailto:parks@brisbane.qld.gov.au)

Dear Project team,

## Re: Kingfisher Creek Corridor Draft Concept Plan

The Queensland Chapter of the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Kingfisher Creek Corridor Draft Concept Plan. Whilst we realise the public submission period has closed, we hope that our comments will support the planning process.

The Australian Institute of Landscape Architecture (AILA) is the peak national body for Landscape Architecture. AILA champions quality design for public open spaces, stronger communities, and greater environmental stewardship. With our members, we anticipate and develop a leading position on issues of concern in the industry.

The Kingfisher Creek Corridor Draft Concept Plan offers significant value to the community through linking the existing open space reserves and providing a wide range of offerings. This proposal demonstrates bold commitment by Brisbane City Council to prioritise pedestrian and active transport connections over vehicular oriented solutions. We appreciate the challenges that changes such as road closures present and applaud BCC on these big moves. The new experiences born from the engagement process will no doubt be a wonderful catalyst for activation and community buy-in of this corridor.

A key area of interest is protecting the existing ecologies of the site, particularly the high value vegetation at Moorhen Flats. We understand that concerns about the conditions and safety (for pedestrians, cyclists and scooter riders) of pathways were raised during the first stage of community engagement and the intent of the proposed separated pathways is to reduce the likelihood of pedestrian and cyclist/scooter conflict. We also understand Council are exploring ways of minimising this impact to the existing vegetation. Co-location of the two paths (where possible) will likely lead to the least disturbance and worth considering.

The story of water is central to Kingfisher Creek, however, note that early studies by BCC have identified that daylighting the creek is not a feasible option due to the stormwater infrastructure and site hydrology. The proposal for possible inclusion of waterbodies in Woolloongabba Rotary Park is an appropriate nod to the history of the site. Through the investigations it would be of interest to know if the proposed waterbody could still interact and engage with the underground section of creek. This may be in the form of:

- Partial daylighting
- A connected wetland system (with the existing stormwater network as the high event bypass)
- A daylighted diversion through Woolloongabba Rotary Park

The key takeaway we would like explored is a solution that restores some of the natural processes and ecologies. This will not only improve the biodiversity of the site, but also hopefully mitigate some of the ongoing maintenance issues that constructed waterbodies can attract. It will also have a genuine authenticity to the site and Kingfisher Creek.

With regards to the overall structure of Woolloongabba Rotary Park, we propose exploring ways of separating the dog park areas from zones that will likely attract wildlife. This may include having the main play/active recreation area central to the site to act as a buffer between the dog off leash areas and more environmentally focused zones.

As part of the sustainability story for the site, it would be ideal to explore ways to re-use site material where possible. A key opportunity may be recycling asphalt and road base from the removed roadways. Site won asphalt millings could provide surfacing to the proposed informal walking tracks in lieu of importing gravel or similar materials. The road base could be used as the base material to new sections of concrete pathway or as the surface material to the bush tracks. This would further justify the removal of these sections of road and support pedestrian/cyclist usage, which guided their removal in the first place.

In conclusion, the Kingfisher Creek Corridor Draft Concept Plan proposed by Brisbane City Council demonstrates a well-considered outcome that successfully links open space areas, prioritises pedestrians/active transport and will ensure a long-term positive impact for Woolloongabba and the wider community. We look forward to witnessing the positive impacts of this project come to fruition and its contribution to creating vibrant and resilient open space.

We would welcome any further opportunities to discuss this project with the Queensland State Government. Please contact Melanie West, AILA Queensland Chapter Manager on 0417 666 622 or [melanie.west@aila.org.au](mailto:melanie.west@aila.org.au)

Yours sincerely,



Tessa Leggo  
Queensland Chapter President  
Australian Institute of Landscape Architects