

# Appendix I

# Function Maps



## Public open space function classifications

Open space classifications are typically defined by *catchment* and *function*. Determining the *function* classification of open space can assist in assessing existing open space, diversity across networks, and the type of experience that can be anticipated at each space. It also guides the types of assets and maintenance required.

The function classifications in the table below were reviewed against state and local examples and represent a common and best practice approach. Where there are multiple uses of one public open space, the most dominant use associated with that space has been applied as the function classification.

FUNCTION CLASSIFICATION	DESCRIPTION
<b>COMMUNITY PARK</b>	Generally open grassy areas that provide for a range of casual and informal activities, such as playgrounds and barbecues. These areas can also have natural values and provide pedestrian and/or bicycle links between streets to connect the open space network.
<b>LANDSCAPE PARK</b>	Informal areas that provide landscape and amenity values (grass, shrubs, and trees). Generally have low level of asset provision (may include benches and shelter) and informal or formal accessways and paths.
<b>NATURE PARK</b>	Areas set aside for the conservation and protection of natural ecosystems, landscape character and/or historical and scenic features. The focus of nature public open spaces is to experience and protect the natural environment. May include facilities for walking, cycling, viewing conservation areas.
<b>LINEAR PARK</b>	Corridors that facilitate the movement of people into and through the open space network, can be associated with waterways. Predominantly catering for walking and cycling activities and linking open spaces. Includes green/blue space, green corridors, paths, trails and links.
<b>SPORTS PARK</b>	Areas primarily used for playing organised / competition sport in an outdoor setting. These places can accommodate multiple uses including informal recreational activities, picnic areas, playgrounds, grassed areas and hard-scaped surfaces.
<b>CIVIC SPACE</b>	Generally sealed or paved areas used for recreation, formal and informal activities, such as community gatherings or markets.

A high-performing public open space network should have a range of functions, responding to community interests and to offer a range of experiences. The maps on the following pages display the types of functions at existing public open spaces in the SRL East Structure Plan Areas. The 400 metre walkable catchments demonstrate how accessible each space is for the surrounding communities. Functions of existing public open spaces within and surrounding the SRL East Structure Plan Areas should be considered during the planning and delivery of new public open spaces to ensure diversity and community needs are met.

# Cheltenham

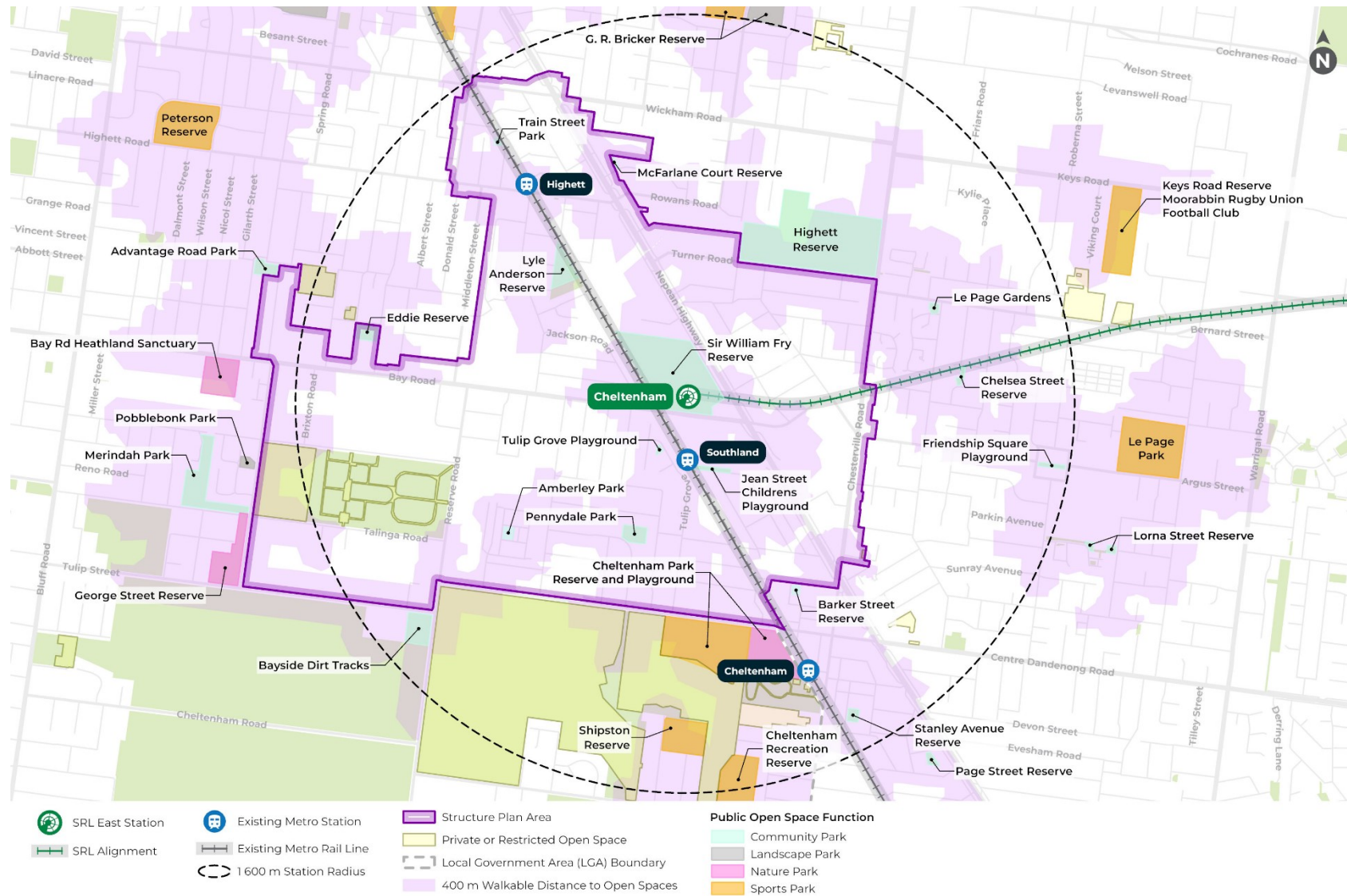
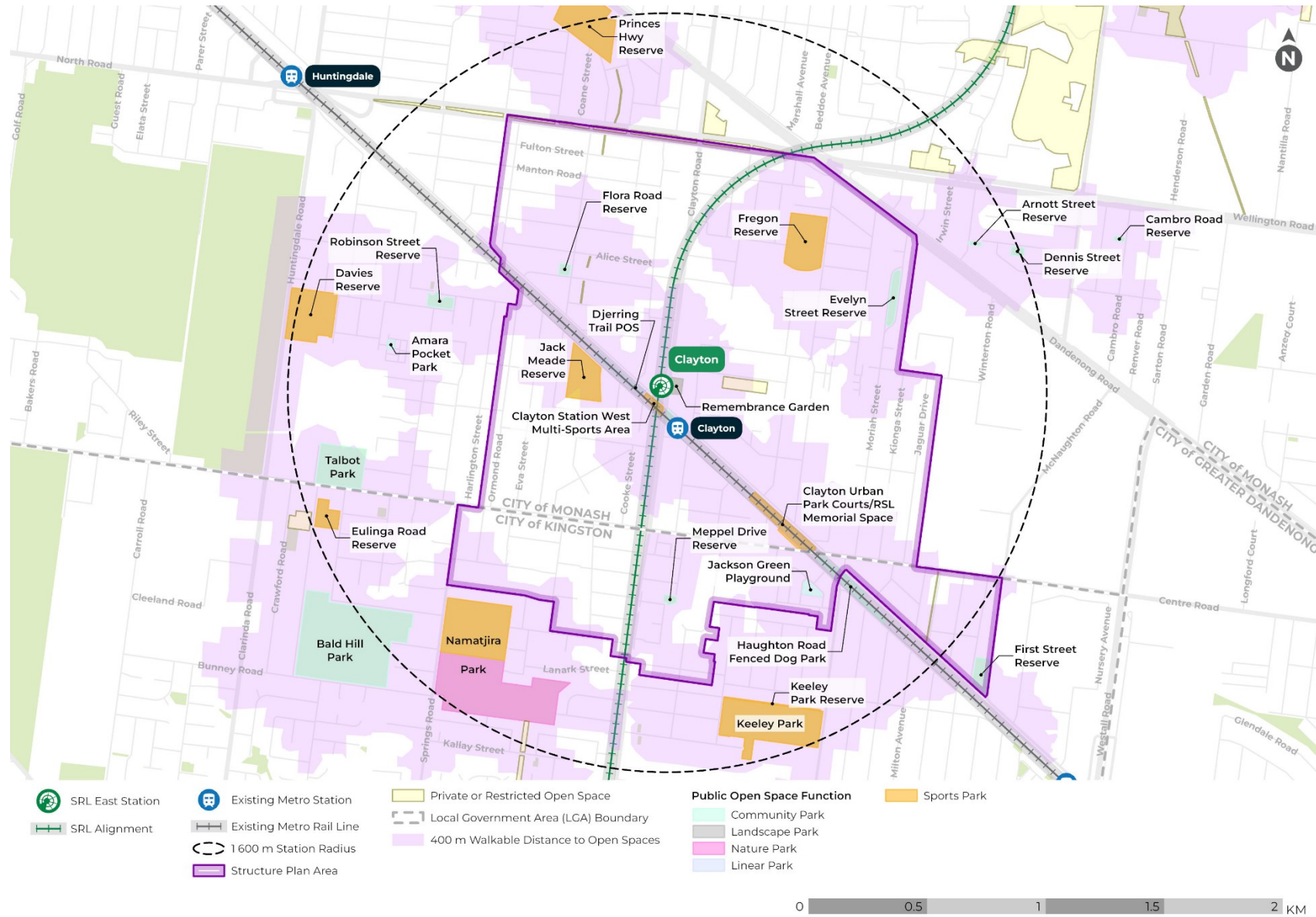


FIGURE I.1 CHELTENHAM - PUBLIC OPEN SPACE BY PRIMARY FUNCTION

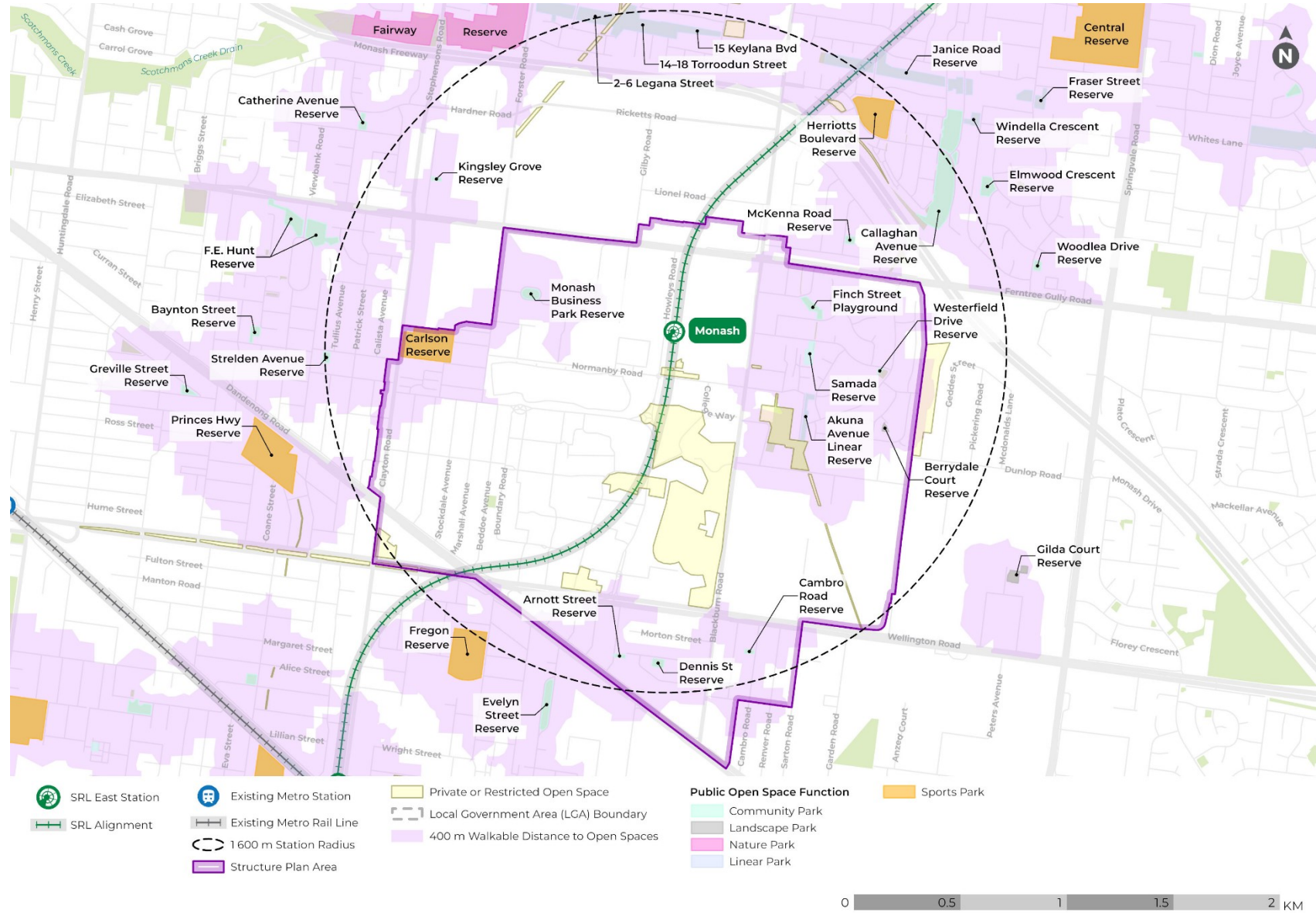
# Clayton



**FIGURE I.2 CLAYTON - PUBLIC OPEN SPACE BY PRIMARY FUNCTION**

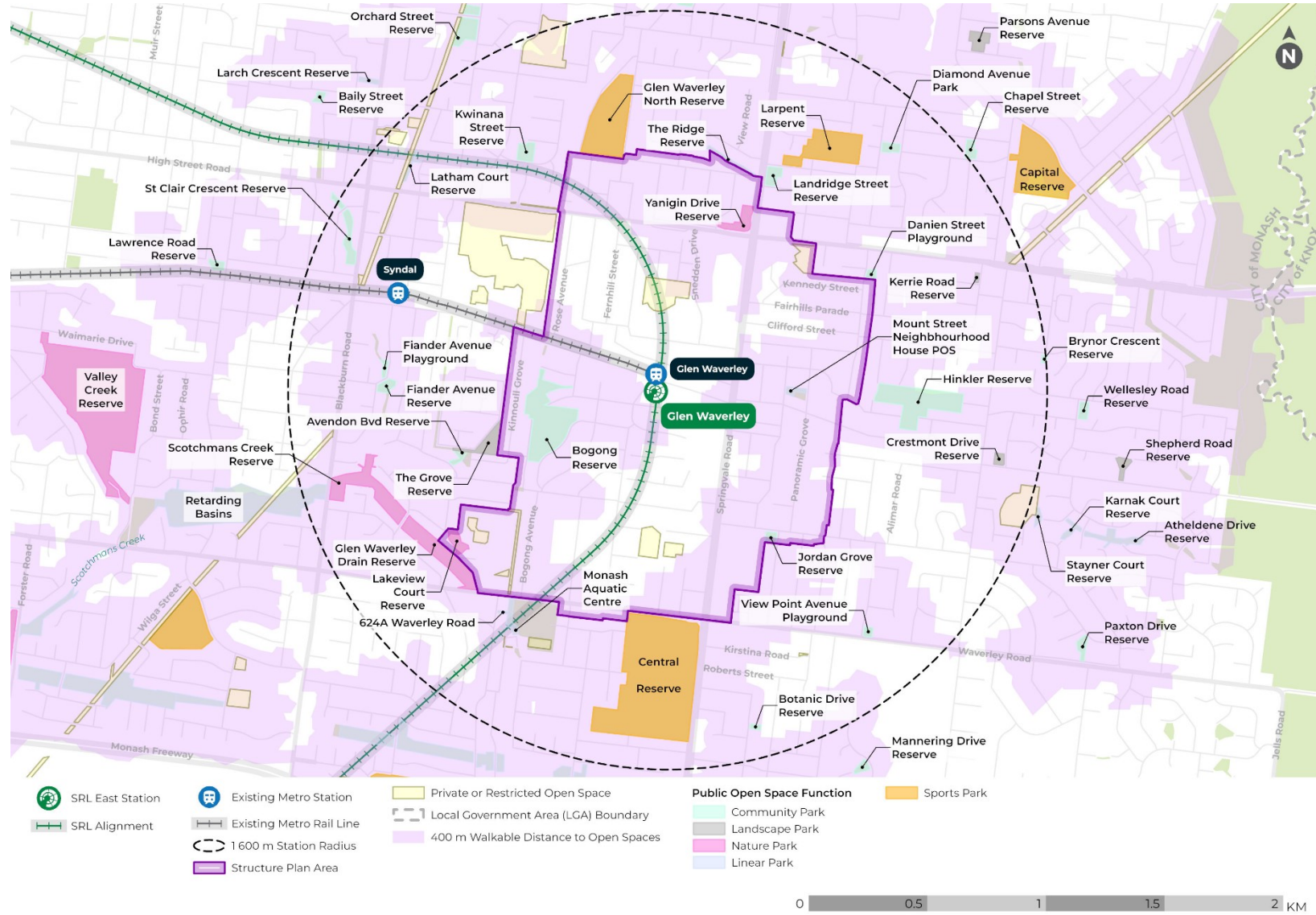


# Monash



**FIGURE I.3 MONASH - PUBLIC OPEN SPACE BY PRIMARY FUNCTION**

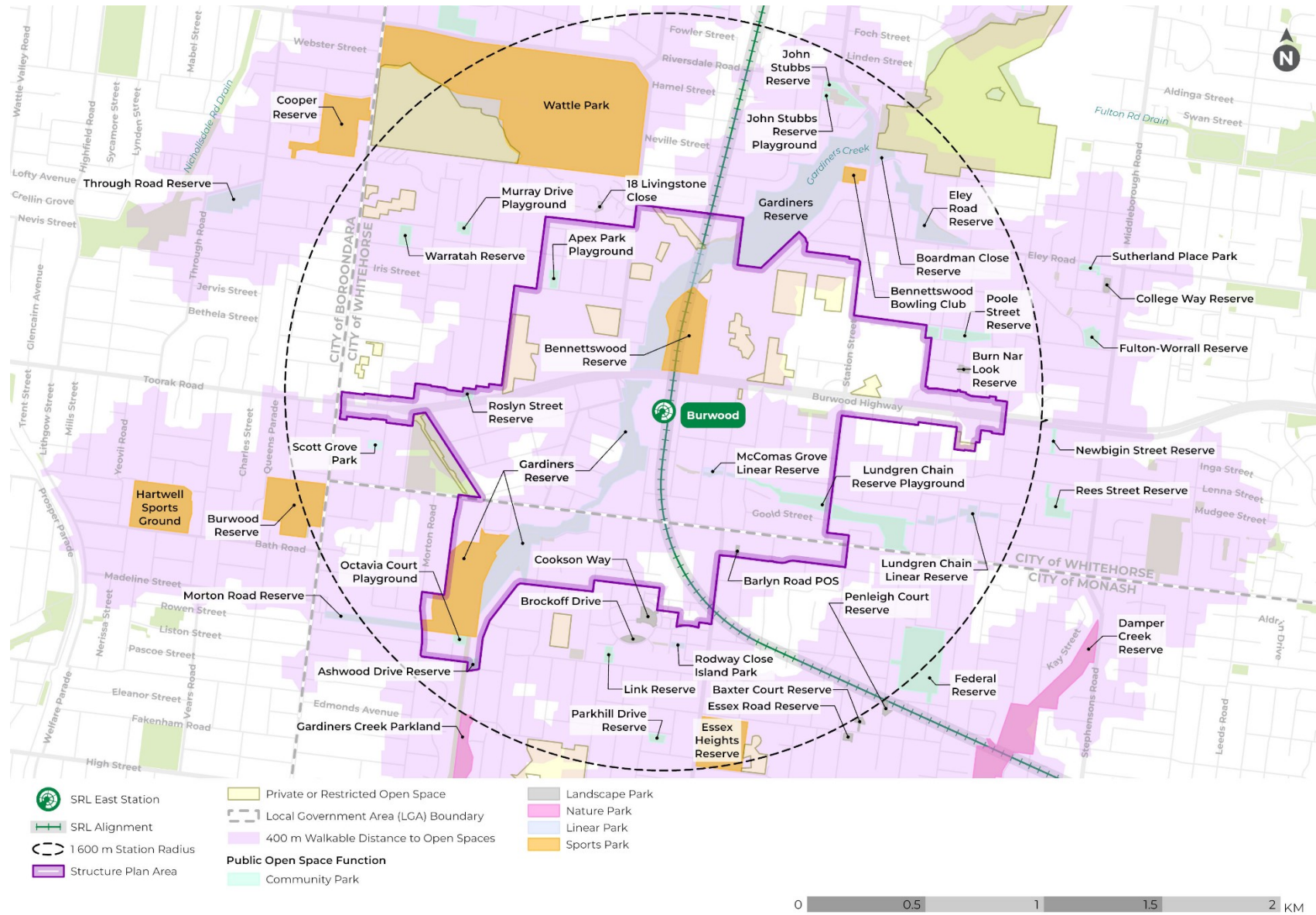
# Glen Waverley



**FIGURE I.4 GLEN WAVERLEY - PUBLIC OPEN SPACE BY PRIMARY FUNCTION**

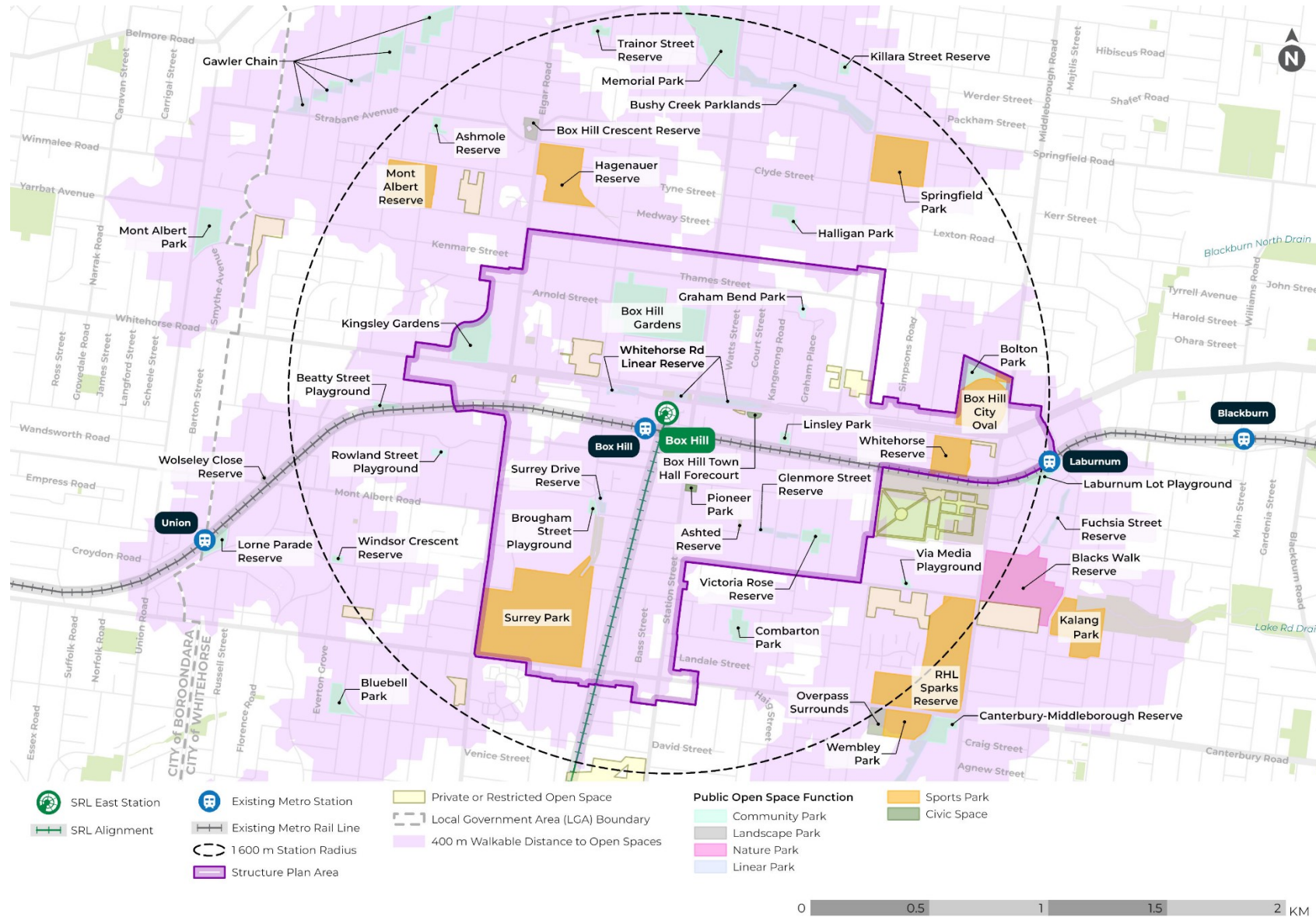


# Burwood



**FIGURE I.5 BURWOOD - PUBLIC OPEN SPACE BY PRIMARY FUNCTION**

# Box Hill



**FIGURE I.6 BOX HILL - PUBLIC OPEN SPACE BY PRIMARY FUNCTION**



Appendix J  
**Peer review report**





# SRL East Structure Plan Open Space Technical Report

*Peer Review*

Suburban Rail Loop Authority

February, 2025



**Report title:** SRL East Structure Plan Open Space  
Technical Report – Peer review

**Client:** Suburban Rail Loop Authority

**Version:** Final

**Date:** February, 2025



Cred Consulting acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we operate.

We pay our respects to the Traditional Owners, Ancestors and Elders past and present.

We recognise the strength, resilience and contributions of First Nations Peoples, and the eternal and spiritual connection held in the lands, skies and waters, through cultural practices and beliefs.

Our team is proud to live, learn and thrive in the place we now call Australia, and recognise sovereignty has never been ceded by First Nations Peoples of this continent.

As embedded in our values, we are committed to building connected, healthy and resilient communities and creating purposeful outcomes that reflect our deep appreciation for the peoples and cultures that make us who we are and shape where we are going — together as one.



# 1. Background and context

Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) is a transformational project that will help shape Melbourne's growth in the decades ahead. SRL East Structure Plan Areas will surround the six new underground stations at Cheltenham, Clayton, Monash, Glen Waverley, Burwood and Box Hill.

AJM Joint Ventures has conducted an open space assessment for developing Structure Plans that will guide open space planning across each SRL East Structure Plan Area.

In September 2024, Clayton Utz and White & Case engaged Cred Consulting to conduct a peer review of AJM's Open Space Technical Report. The peer review has been a thorough and iterative process involving multiple rounds of report reviews and discussions about the feedback. It has included a comprehensive evaluation of the methodology and metrics applied in the study across all structure plan areas.

After incorporating feedback from Cred Consulting, AJM issued a revised document titled 'SRT East Structure Plan Open Space Technical Report' on January 21, 2025. This document was subject to a final review, which is the focus of this current peer review document. It provides commentary on whether Cred Consulting supports the findings and endorses the outcomes.

## Limitations of the peer review

Cred Consulting did not conduct site visits to any of the structure plan areas. This peer review was purely desktop-based, evaluating whether the approach adopted aligns well with current planning policies, contemporary thinking, and best practices in open space planning to achieve positive community outcomes, while considering the challenges associated with providing open spaces in urban densifying areas.



## 2. Peer review findings

The technical report (study) evaluates the existing open spaces within the structure plan areas and a 1.6km radius, their primary functions, and assesses these spaces using key metrics such as access, quality, diversity, and provision.

The peer review supports the findings of the study including the methodology, its application, and the findings across all structure plan areas. Peer review insights on the key metrics are provided below:

### Access

Across all six structure plan areas, the study assesses whether open spaces are accessible within a 400m walkable catchment and identifies areas with gaps. This approach is in alignment with Victorian Planning policies and is supported.

The assessment considers all open spaces, irrespective of their size or hierarchy. However, it is Cred's professional opinion that the methodology could have been refined to exclude pocket parks (smaller than 0.1 ha with a service catchment of 200m). This adjustment would have helped to more accurately determine which areas have access to sizeable open spaces.

Nonetheless, excluding these smaller pockets parks is considered unlikely to impact the findings or recommendations of this study, as any additional gaps identified would likely be addressed by the new open spaces proposed as part of this study.

Overall, the study effectively identifies areas lacking access within a 400m radius and proposes new open spaces to bridge these gaps, which is supported.

### Quality

Across all six structure plan areas, the study has conducted site visits to all open spaces within structure plan areas to assess their current quality (high, medium, or low) and their potential for improvement. Cred did not re-evaluate the findings of the quality assessments and assumes they have been conducted accurately. The study's prioritisation of enhancing low or medium quality spaces is supported.

### Diversity

Across all six structure plan areas, the study examines the hierarchy and primary functions of existing open spaces, assessing whether there is an overrepresentation or underrepresentation of certain types and determining the types needed to ensure good diversity. This approach and the findings are supported.

### Provision

Across all six structure plan areas, the study discusses the amount of open space per person within each structure plan area and a 1.6km radius as of 2021, and projects changes by 2041 based on population growth. It sets a target of 9m<sup>2</sup> per person. While Cred does not endorse this 9m<sup>2</sup> per person metric, it acknowledges that this metric is derived from open space provision in global cities and studies from the City of Melbourne. The study evaluates whether the open space provision meets, exceeds, or falls below this metric and notes the additional space required to meet the 9m<sup>2</sup> target if there is a shortfall. This approach and the findings are supported.

## Opportunities

As a first call to action, the study addresses access and quality gaps while aiming to increase the total provision of open space. It identifies planned open spaces by SRL or other proponents, and proposes additional spaces where there are pending access gaps. It suggests a primary function and an indicative size range for these spaces, noting that future planning stages should determine the exact size and function based on feasibility, community needs, and ongoing trends.

The study also proposes quality improvements for lower-quality open spaces and identifies locations for links and connections to form a connected network of open spaces. These are supported.

The study notes the contribution of planned and proposed open spaces to future provision and acknowledges that in some areas, this will still not meet the 9m<sup>2</sup> per person target, identifying the additional space needed to reach this target. It suggests that deficits could be addressed by opening up access to private open spaces, better utilising underused areas such as viaduct spaces, and encouraging developers to provide communal or publicly accessible private open spaces. These strategies are also supported.

## Integration of study findings with other technical reports

It is noted that the study does not assess the need for sports facilities such as fields and courts, which are being addressed in the community infrastructure needs assessment. This will likely identify a need for more sports parks and facilities, impacting the findings of this study. Therefore, this study should be read in conjunction with that assessment. This could be further reinforced in the report.

## Conclusion

Cred supports the approach, findings, and recommendations of the study after a thorough peer review of the technical report.



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