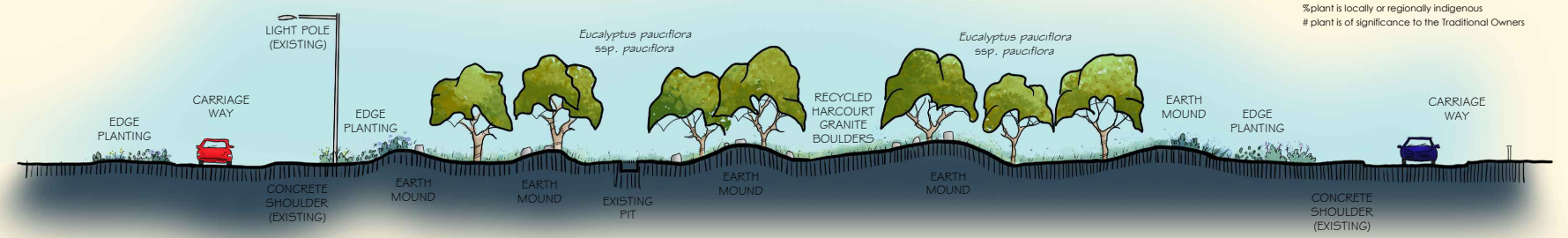


SECTION AA: SKETCH SECTION OF PLANTING AND TOPGRAPHY
Scale 1:200



DESIGN PROCESS

The design for the Harcourt Roundabout has been produced for Regional Roads Victoria and developed in consultation with Dja Dja Wurrung Traditional Owners, Mount Alexander Shire Council and the Harcourt Progress Association. The design proposal takes the current roundabout, and refurbishes it with new planting and earthworks to create a welcoming entrance reflective of Harcourt and the people who live there. Central to achieving this is ensuring that the design is resilient, and able to be easily maintained and cared for within available resources.

The design concept was developed following an assessment of the current site conditions and consultation with Council, Regional Roads Victoria and representatives of the community. Analysis of the site revealed past problems with soil preparation, leading to the failure of the previous landscape, although the large Harcourt Granite on the current roundabout is able to be salvaged and is planned for reuse. Existing site lines and services were also considered, with the new design accommodating these, as well as responding to road safety concerns, such as clear site lines, a non-distracting design, and the need for hard features such as rocks to be well set back from the road edge.

Consultation with community representatives showed the importance of the roundabout to Harcourt, and the need for it to reflect the township and provide the right first impression. Most people enter and leave Harcourt via the roundabout and it's important that it looks good. The overarching desire was for a simple design which reflected the local landscape, the granite and provided some shade. There was also a desire to use local flora if possible, and from the Traditional Owners there was a desire to reflect their perspective of the landscape, including for a design that will "reinforce our relationship to nature and compel us to care for it".

DESIGN CONCEPT

The concept considers all these aspects, and incorporates them into a new design for the roundabout. The design is simple, with gentle earth mounds across the centre of the roundabout, away from site lines and services, performing the dual purpose of increasing the soil depth and preventing cars entering the roundabout and damaging it. These mounds are also reminiscent of the landforms that surround Harcourt - Leanganook (Mt Alexander), Lalgambook (Mt Franklin), Mt Tarrengower, Mt Consultation and Mt Kororocheang. Three large areas around the edges of the roundabouts will be filled with low level, colourful native plants in large bands. These bands will provide colour and interest and be filled with low level (under 1m) plants such as grevilleas, acacias, low banksias and Alyogyne.

Similar plantings are proposed for the entrance median strips as a later stage (shown as paler colours on drawing). Planting the median strips makes them easier to maintain (lawn needs mowing more often than garden beds require weeding and pruning), and is a way of slowing traffic by visually reinforcing the fact that vehicles will soon reach the roundabout. Another proposed later stage will be the provision of a new entrance sign beyond the round about on the road into Harcourt. This welcome sign would be designed in collaboration with the Traditional Owners.

The planting of the roundabout is proposed to centre of the roundabout is proposed to be a stylised representation of the once prevalent native grasslands. This will be spread across the gentle earth mounds and scattered with small local Eucalypts (*Eucalyptus pauciflora* ssp. *pauciflora*). The grasslands will contain a mix of locally indigenous and Victorian native grasses

in broad sweeps, intersected with native meadow plants. These include plants which are rare and threatened and those of significance to the Traditional Owners. Nestled in amongst these plantings, on the side of the mounds, will be the reused Harcourt Granite boulders from the current design. The intention of this concept is to provide a simple, beautiful landscape which is reflective of the local environment and provides an environmentally sensitive response which may make people view the wider Harcourt landscape through new eyes.

Critical to the success of the project will be ensuring that soil preparation is thorough, including decompaction and the installation of new clean, weed free topsoil. Plants are to be chosen because they are resilient in the hot, dry and frosty Harcourt climate and will be planted at a slightly higher density than normal to assist establishment. Irrigation will be provided for the first two years, and to assist with this and future maintenance works a series of gravel areas have been provided to create a safe place to park the Council maintenance vehicles.

It is intended that the new design for the Harcourt Roundabout will provide an entrance statement to the town, reflective of the community's passion for where they live. The design has been developed to reflect the local Harcourt landscape with its use of native plants and local granite, in a way which is stylish, resilient and able to be maintained while inspiring people to care for and appreciate the local landscape.

INDICATIVE PLANT LIST
(subject to detailed design)

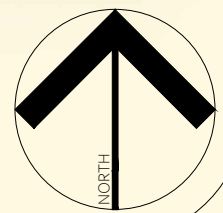
Trees
Eucalyptus pauciflora ssp. *pauciflora* %

Edge Planting
Acacia linata *
Alyogyne 'Blue Heeler'
Banksia spinulosa
Brachycome multifida %
Casuarina glauca 'Prostrate'
Chrysocephalum apiculatum
Correa alba subsp. *pannosa*
Enchylaena tomentosa (grey form)
Eremophila 'Kalbarri Carpet'
Grevillea 'Jelly Baby'
Hardenbergia violacea %
Poa sieberiana ssp. *sieberiana* %

Grassland Planting
Acacia sporadica *
Arthropodium strictum %
Austrostipa elegantissima %
Austrostipa mollis %
Austrostipa mollis %
Austrostipa stipoides
Bulbine bulbosa %
Chrysocephalum semipapposum %
Deschampsia cespitosa %*
Dichelachne crinita
Eryngium ovatum %
Eryngium paludosum *
Grevillea micrantha *
Lomandra glauca *
Microseris walteri %#
Poa labillardierei %
Pycnosorus globulus %
Rytidosperma fulvum
Themeda triandra %#
Wahlenbergia communis %
Xanthorrhoea minor var. *lutea* %
Xerochrysum viscosum

All planting subject to detailed design including climate suitability and availability checks
* preliminary research indicates plant is locally rare or threatened
% plant is locally or regionally indigenous
plant is of significance to the Traditional Owners

HARCOURT ROUNDABOUT CONCEPT
REGIONAL ROADS VICTORIA Scale 1:250 @ A1 / 1:500 @ A3



HARCOURT ROUND-ABOUT
DESIGN INSPIRATION: MOUNDS, GRANITE AND NATIVE GRASSLANDS





Austrostipa mollis



Poa labillardierei



Pycnosorus globosus



Eryngium paludosum



Lomandra glauca



Austrostipa stipoides



Xerochrysum viscosum



Themeda triandra



Feature tree: Eucalyptus pauciflora



Rytidosperma fulvum

HARCOURT ROUND-ABOUT
SCHEMATIC GRASSLAND PLANTINGS

HARCOURT ROUND-ABOUT
SCHEMATIC EDGE PLANTINGS



Alyogyne 'Blue Heeler'



Eremophila glabra
'Kalbarri Carpet'



Enchylaena tomentosa



Hardenbergia violacea



Rhagodia spinescens



Poa sieberiana



Chrysocephalum apiculatum



Banksia spinulosa



Acacia linata



Brachyscome multifida



Casuarina glauca



Grevillea 'Jelly Baby'



Correa alba