



Yarra River Melbourne,  
Yarra River Business Association,  
Arup  
August 2019

# Yarra River Big Ideas Forum

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**ARUP**  Proudly presented by  
**Yarra River Business  
Association Inc**

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*Arup wish to acknowledge the custodians of the land in which this forum was held, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation and their Elders past and present and emerging. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land, which continue to be important to the Kulin nation people living today and shape our city.*

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melbourne

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# Foreword

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*The Yarra River is a globally iconic waterway and arguably Melbourne's most significant natural asset. It is at the core of Melbourne's identity and the lifeblood of the city's inner reaches. The river meanders through Melbourne's renowned civic parks and places, bringing together people from all walks of life to relax within the heart of the city. Together, the civic parks and places along the Yarra attract millions of visitors each year, contributing significantly to Melbourne's liveability and economic prosperity.*

*As Melbourne's population grows over the next 35 years, the role of the Yarra River in the city is becoming even more important. Better human interaction with the river and its edges is needed to improve the attractiveness and liveability of the city.*

*To capitalise on potential opportunities and ensure Melbourne's continued economic prosperity and liveability; a 'Big Ideas' forum was held with nearly 100 stakeholders from across local and state Government, along with business owners and community representatives. This document records the outputs and ideas from the forum for consideration by key decision makers in transforming the banks of the Yarra River. We look forward to continuing the conversation with all key stakeholders, and hope to re-convene next year to reflect on the progress that has been made.*

*"Great cities embrace their green and blue infrastructure. Sydney has its harbour and ocean beaches, New York has its Central Park and the Hudson River, and Singapore has its island status and concept of a 'city in a garden'" (Yarra River Protection Ministerial Advisory Committee).*



# The Process

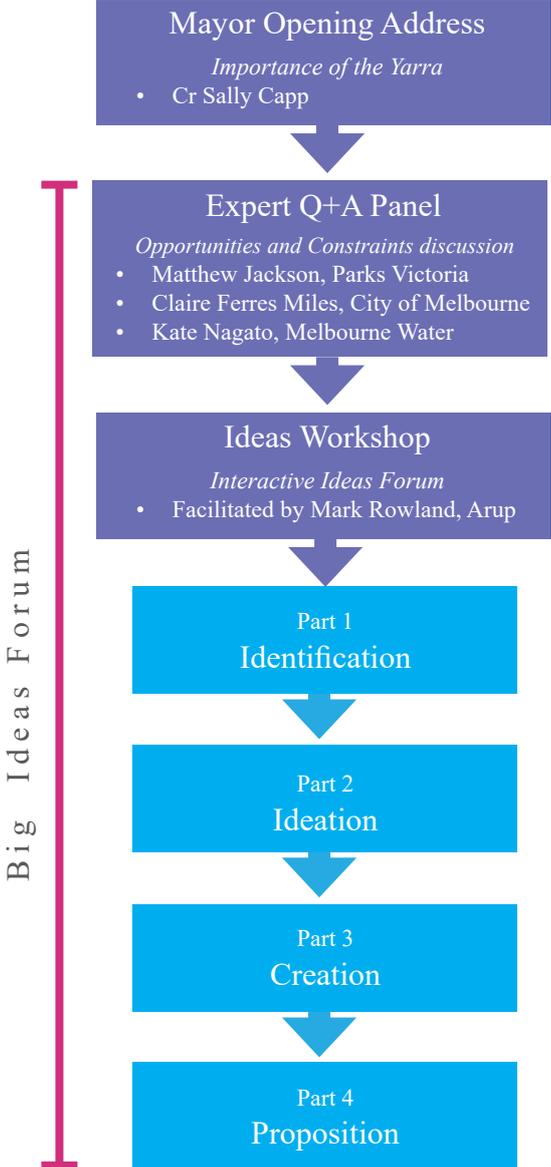
*The ‘Big Ideas’ forum aimed to encourage participants to think about the Yarra at both a city and local scale, and articulate what is and isn’t liked. Insights from peer group discussions generated transformational ideas for the lower Yarra, with a focus on overcoming challenges facing the river and its edges.*

The Lord Mayor, Cr. Sally Capp opened the forum, outlining the importance of Melbourne’s most prominent natural asset and its value. Not only to our environment, but to Melbourne’s livability as a city, its wider community and its visitors.

Mark Rowland hosted a Q&A panel with three senior key government representatives involved in the management of the Yarra River. Matthew Jackson from Parks Victoria, Claire Ferres Miles from the City of Melbourne and Kate Nagato from Melbourne Water held in-depth conversations highlighting opportunities, challenges and stakeholder ambitions for the river and its banks.

An ideas workshop was the largest component of the day. Starting with ‘Identification’, participants nominated their most liked and least liked locations. They were then asked to create ideas that were ‘transformational’. Discussions on most liked and least liked locations have been captured in the Appendix. Drawing on key insights, teams brainstormed ideas to mitigate challenges and build upon opportunities.

Teams homed in on one “big idea” to create a two-minute pitch that explained the core requirements and impact of their concept, answering other team’s questions at the end. The fast paced and dynamic session generated some bold ideas for the Yarra River, outlined in this document





# ‘What we heard’

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*The Yarra River is celebrated as one of Melbourne’s most iconic features, forming a natural spine through the city. Dynamic conversations from the ideas forum highlighted the need for targeted project prioritisation and consideration for the future. However, discussions around the river’s future suggested that many physical, environmental and operational challenges already faced the Yarra.*

Key stakeholders in the Yarra River’s future, contributed valuable observations and ideas to the forum. Initial conversations around most liked and least liked locations along the Yarra River suggested a clear trend of favouritism towards open and green space. Downtown commercial areas like Docklands and Enterprise Park were less favourable, due to less public amenity and safety concerns along the hard surfaces of the river’s edge.

Ideas around community wellness, connectivity and river edge activation recurred in group discussions. A desire to soften hard segments of landscapes along the Yarra into more permeable and accessible places for residents to dwell would allow more spaces to reflect on the river edges. This activation would attract more potential uses for the river’s edge, like pop-up and fixed retail space, festivities and seasonal events. Connectivity ideas, such as bridging green spaces and a waterway public transport system were also raised.

A recurring discussion point was to reidentify the Yarra River with its traditional name, Birrarung, acknowledging the custodians and traditional owners of the land and respecting its rich history, pre-colonial settlement. Kate Nagato from Melbourne Water said, ‘We did this with Uluru, so why not the Yarra?’

*“We should rename the Yarra River to Birrarung”*

*“(The Yarra) is calm and cool, green and serene, isolated from urban zone”*

*“Docklands end looks empty and inactive...lifeless”*

*“Birrarung Marr park area looks stunning, with uninterrupted and has city view”*

*“Banana Alley; looks rough and unloved, feels less safe and shady”*

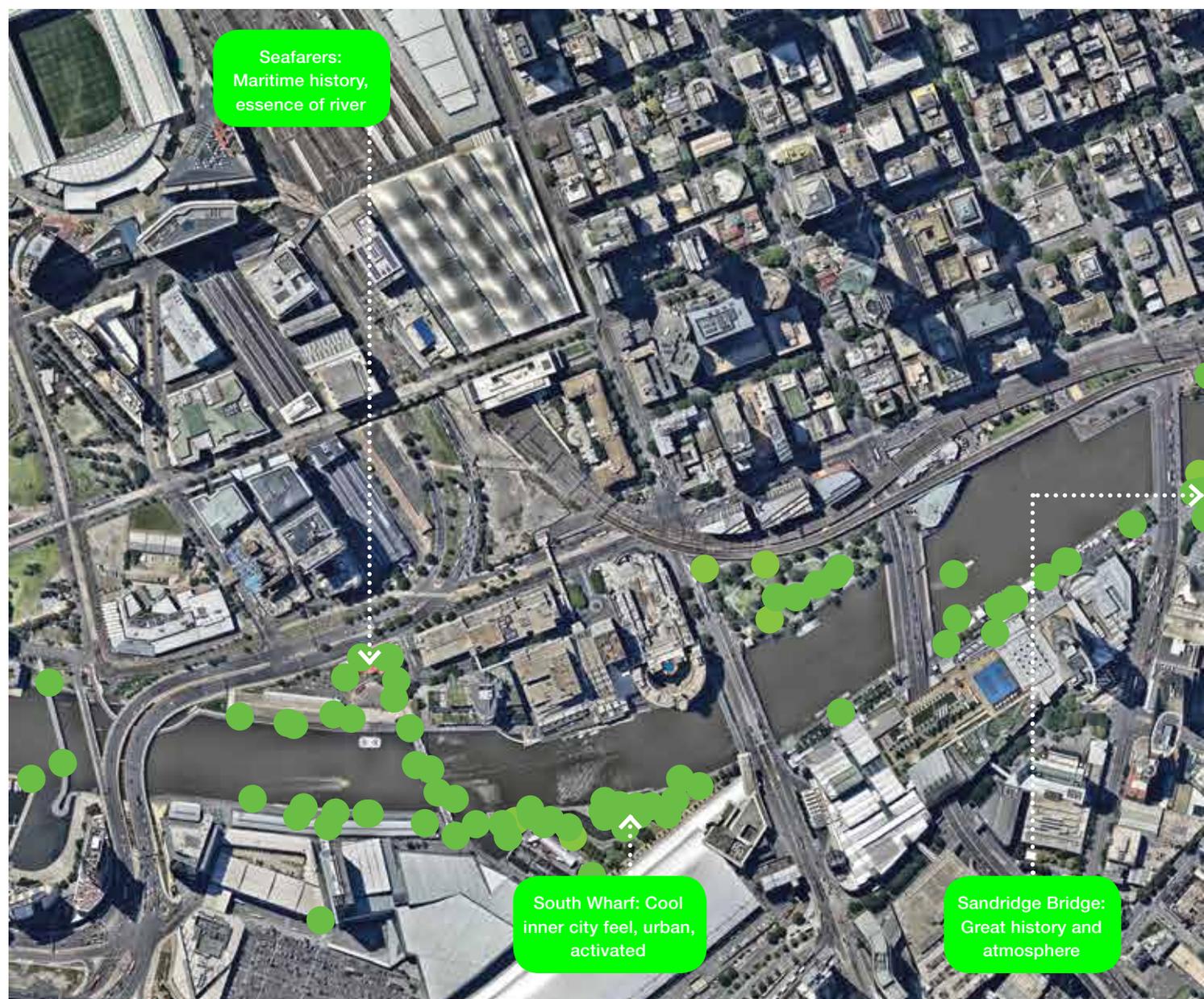
*“Southbank and Arts Centre: sunlight, good food and drink, connected”*

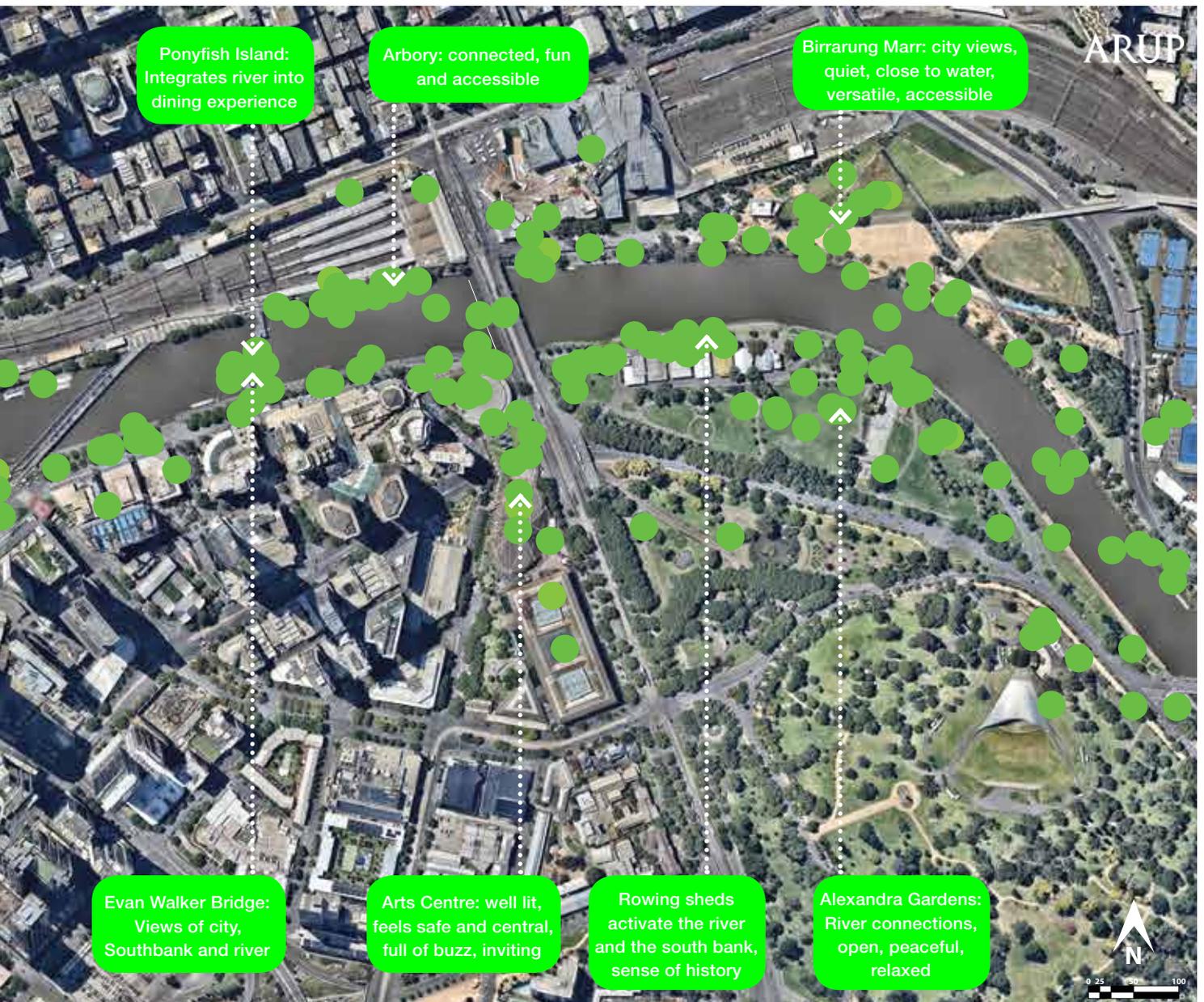
*“Aquarium doesn't celebrate or connect well with Enterprise Park or Yarra River”*

Please note. Detailed notes of individual group discussion and ideation in appendix of this document.

# Locations liked most...

The image below highlights the focus area for the Ideas Forum; the lower city section of the Yarra River. During the 'Identification' stage of the workshop, participants were given five green dots and asked to identify the locations they 'liked most' along the River. Each participant was then asked to describe the location they liked most from the perspective of how it 'looks, feels and sounds' when they experience it. Consolidating each groups' information provides a detailed database of both qualitative and quantitative experiences along the Yarra River's edge and surrounds. The image below is a consolidation from across ten groups, amounting to nearly 450 dots.





Ponyfish Island:  
Integrates river into  
dining experience

Arbory: connected, fun  
and accessible

Birrarung Marr: city views,  
quiet, close to water,  
versatile, accessible

Evan Walker Bridge:  
Views of city,  
Southbank and river

Arts Centre: well lit,  
feels safe and central,  
full of buzz, inviting

Rowing sheds  
activate the river  
and the south bank,  
sense of history

Alexandra Gardens:  
River connections,  
open, peaceful,  
relaxed

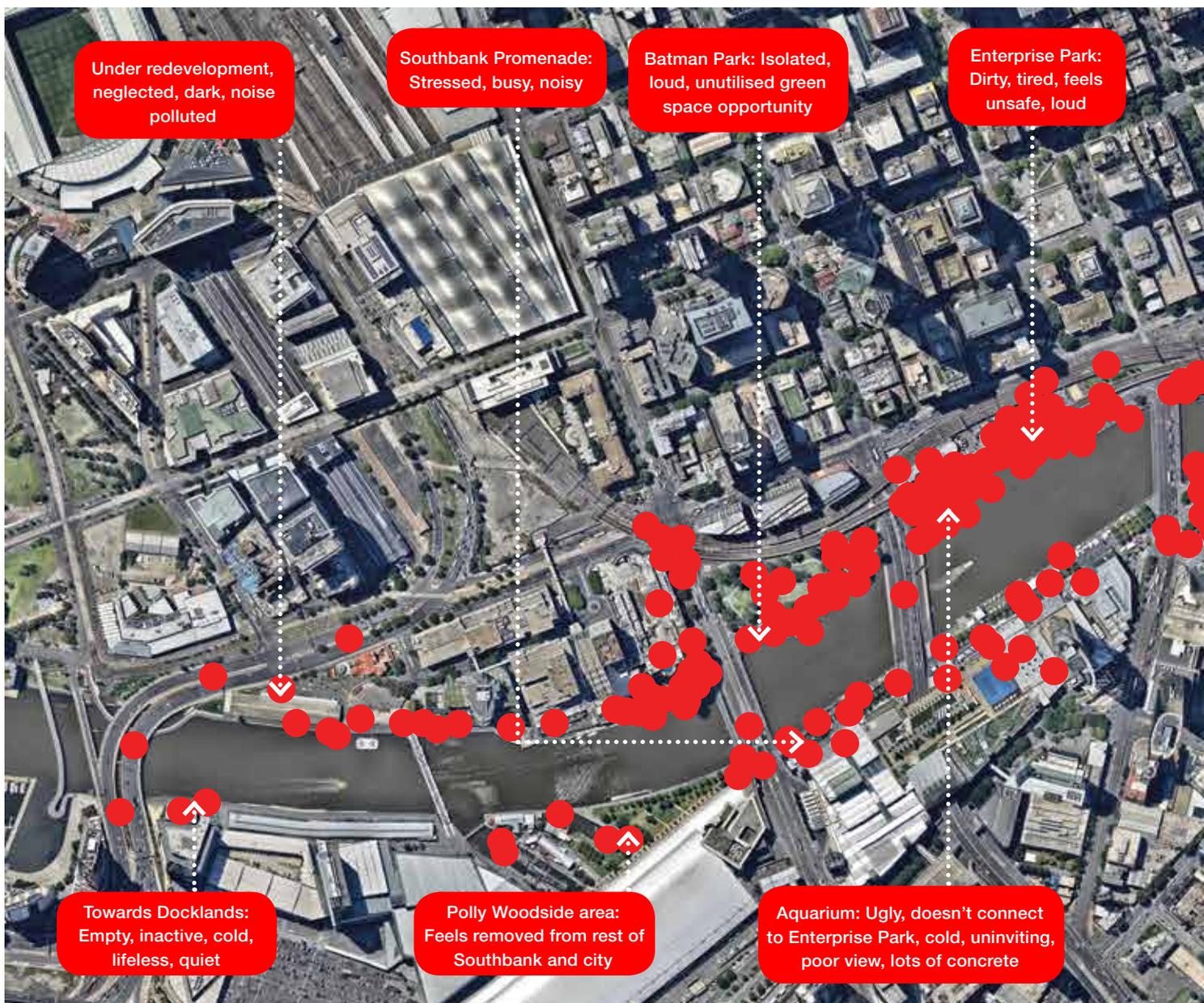
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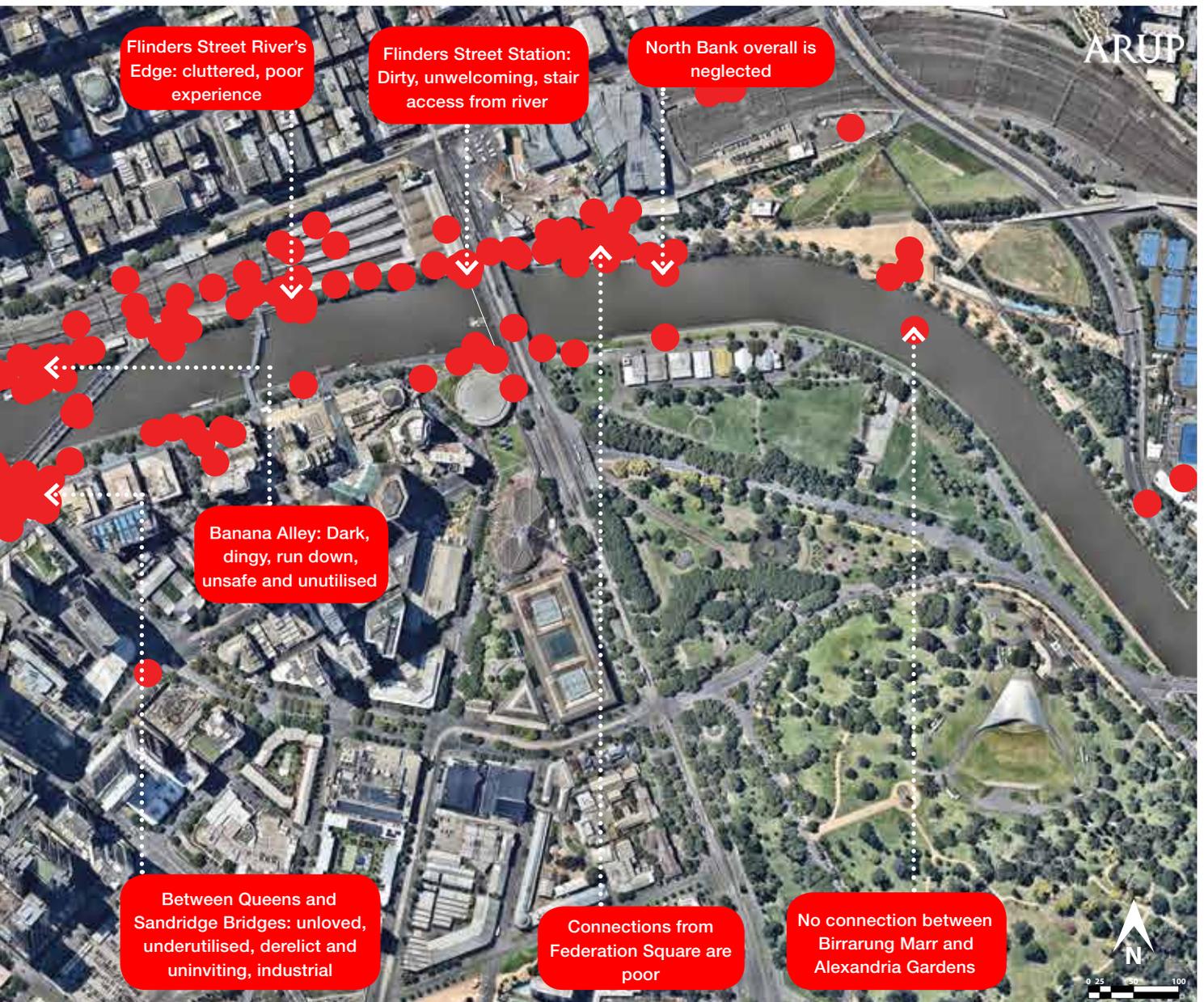
0 25 50 100

# Locations liked least...

The image below highlights the focus area for the Ideas Forum; the lower city section of the Yarra River. During the 'Identification' stage of the workshop, participants were given red dots and asked to identify the locations they 'least liked' along the River. Each participant was then asked to describe the location they liked least from the perspective of how it 'looks, feels and sounds' when they experience it. By consolidating each groups information provides a rich evidence base of both qualitative and quantitative experiences along the Yarra river's edge and surrounds. The image below is a consolidation from across 10 groups, amounting to nearly 450 dots.



*Please note.* Detailed notes of individual group discussion and ideation in appendix of this document.



Flinders Street River's Edge: cluttered, poor experience

Flinders Street Station: Dirty, unwelcoming, stair access from river

North Bank overall is neglected

Banana Alley: Dark, dingy, run down, unsafe and unutilised

Between Queens and Sandridge Bridges: unloved, underutilised, derelict and uninviting, industrial

Connections from Federation Square are poor

No connection between Birrarung Marr and Alexandria Gardens

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# Big Ideas

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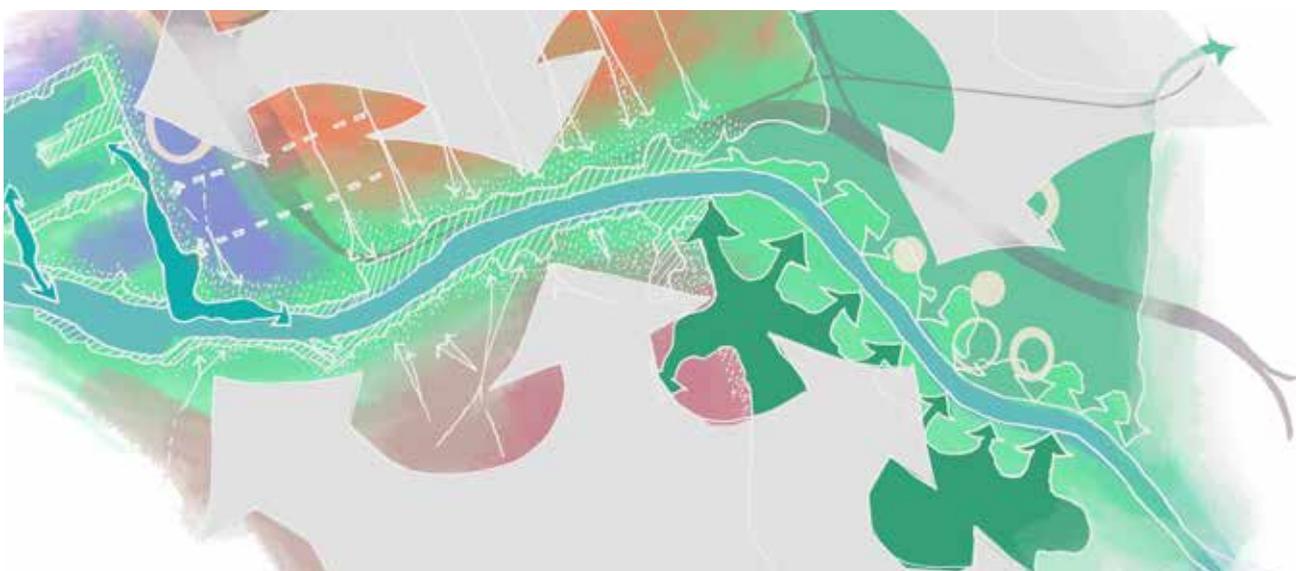
*Group 1*

## **Birrarung Walk**

A Las Ramblas-like approach to the Yarra River, the aim is to connect a 'string of pearls'; ten great things to do between Swan Street Bridge and Seafarer's Bridge. This journey will create a sticky place through a regenerative approach to the river, building resilience. Bringing a sense of pride to the space, it would attract residents, visitors and retailers. A shared vision and investment from both public and private stakeholders is essential to get this project off the ground. Initially, this would start with smaller projects and progress into the greater vision over the next 18 months. A focus on sustainability needs to be at the core of this process, with strict ground rules for both sectors involved. It is important that these guidelines take into account international approaches to these kinds of regenerative projects, lifting Melbourne's profile as a global city. It would become Melbourne's next big attraction, encouraging visitors to connect with the unique destinations along the Yarra. Existing examples of this conceptual idea include the successful Brisbane South-bank and Sydney's Circular Quay.



*Example of project to re-engage people with riverside walk*



*Arup artist impression of river walk concept*

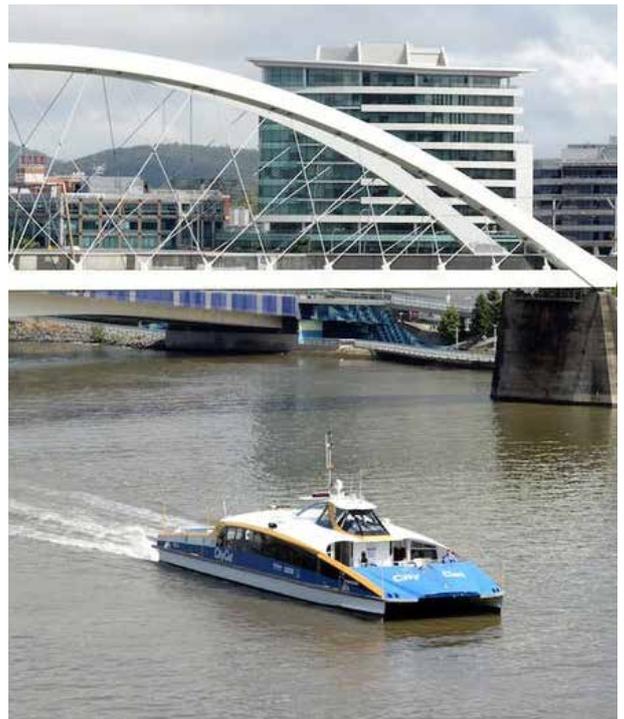
# Big Ideas

Group 2

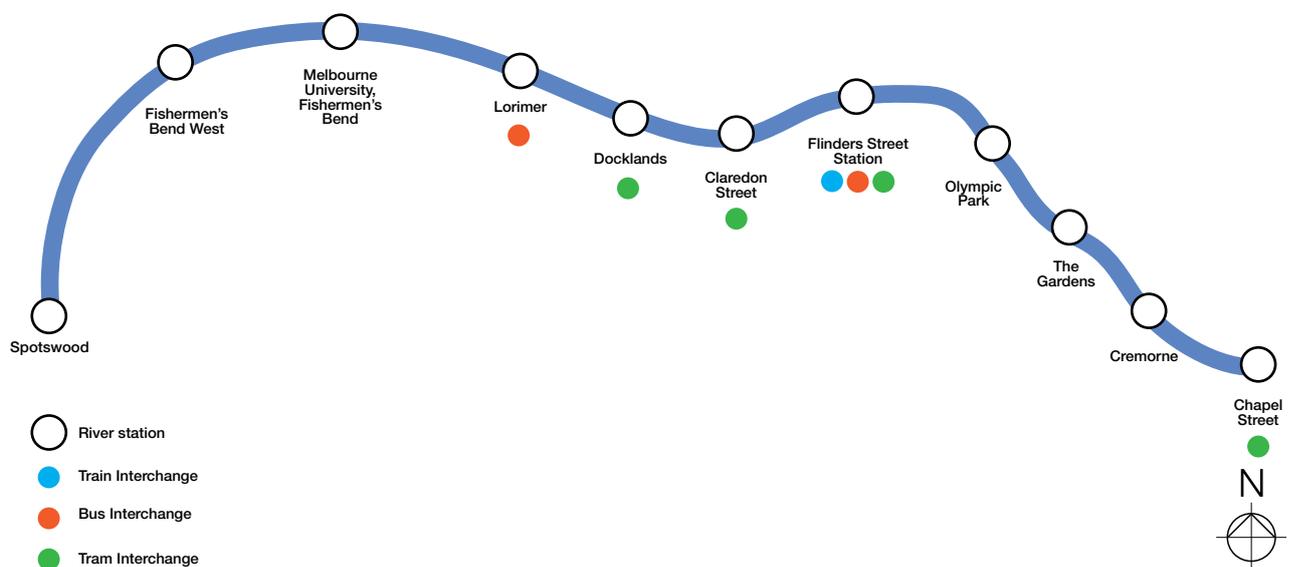
## Ride the River

A river ferry transport solution to help mitigate our overcrowded trains, trams and roadways, will enable greater accessibility to the river. Like other great river cities, we have an opportunity to offer a modern alternate transport option along Birrarung, linking key precincts and job centres. Pontoons will sit along the river, providing viewing points and access to river transport during major events. This transport option would be achievable in 3-5 years, possibly sooner given the need to connect priority precincts like Fishermens Bend. Key partners would include Public Transport Victoria, state government and waterway authorities. A key constraint that needs to be considered moving forward is the speed restriction.

The river has a strong history of transportation that has greatly diminished in recent times. This project would bring people back to the river, to engage with and appreciate the city.



Brisbane's existing ferry system offers a strong precedent  
Source: The Conversation, 2015



Conceptualised river map put forward for discussion purposes

# Big Ideas

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*Group 3*

## **Green Family & Entertainment Spaces**

This project aims to renew and increase the number of places to meet and experience the Yarra together, particularly gathering places for family and friends. The aim is to encourage visitors and residents to linger and dwell along the Yarra's edges, offering natural respite for city workers. This initiative will be achieved by filling more green spaces with picnic tables, bbq's and trees between Princes Bridge and Charles Grimes Bridge. The timeline for this would work in installments over a ten year period as pockets of green spaces are introduced. Partners would include City of Melbourne, waterways authorities and Parks Victoria.



*Birrarung Marr's successful Artplay Outdoor play area  
Source: ASPECT Studios, City of Melbourne, 2004*



*BBQ and outdoor areas on the Yarra River's edge*

*Source: Traveller.com.au, 2014*

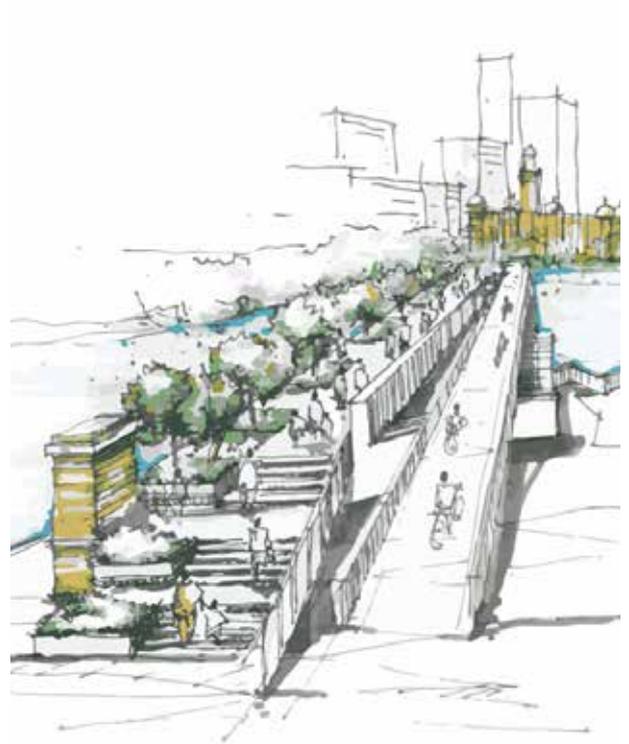
# Big Ideas

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*Group 4*

## **The Special Sandridge**

Sandridge Bridge has been identified as a great space offering huge opportunity, but currently under utilised, its full potential unrealised. It offers a strong city story, historically and architecturally, but requires huge upheaval to reach functionality that would offer a new place along the river. This will include greening the bridge, continuing a green line currently running down Southbank Boulevard into Queens Bridge Square. This project would extend the green line down Sandridge Bridge, over the top of the railway line and into the city, creating an accessible public space. With the infrastructure already there, this could be driven by City of Melbourne and achieved through stakeholder collaboration.



*Arup artist impression of river bridge concept*



*Arup artist impression of river bridge concept*

# Big Ideas

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Group 5

## Heart of Birrarung

Between Sandridge Bridge and Queens Bridge Square lies a great opportunity to better connect Southbank with the city. This area is currently lifeless and neglected, with barriers impeding access to the river's edge. Banana Alley is another contributor to this disconnected, unwelcoming environment that discourages engagement with the river. However, this convergence point offers potential for a river-embracing location that could extend the green line from the Botanic Gardens, allowing the nature that has been stripped away to return and intermingle with urban development. This type of place-making exercise would require state government involvement in conjunction with the private sector.



*Eat Streets Northshore Markets, Hamilton, Queensland*  
Source: [eatstreetmarkets.com](http://eatstreetmarkets.com), 2019



*Arup artist impression of Banana Alley revitalization*

# Big Ideas

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*Group 6*

## **Birrarung Square**

A greater connection between the river and Federation Square would see a celebration of 60,000 years of Indigenous Australian history. This would include a green link between Birrarung Marr and Birrarung Square, decking over the train tracks east of Flinders Street Station beside Federation Square. The aim is to foster a greater relationship between the city and the river by drawing linkages across from the buildings, over the green space, to the river. Over time, this will present river-facing development opportunities. With construction on the metro tunnel underway, now is the perfect time to begin implementing this space. A collaborative approach would benefit this project, with state government leadership and partners including Vic Track, Metro, City of Melbourne and Federation Square.



*Umbrella Sky project, Portugal*  
*Source: Getty Images, 2016*



*Federation Square, Melbourne*  
*Source: Tourism Australia, 2019*

# Big Ideas

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Group 7

## Return to Birrarung

This proposal stems from a need to better connect the city and the Yarra River. Reframing perceptions of the river provides an opportunity to draw on its history as the food bowl and cultural centre it was before settlement. Return to Birrarung would take a place-based approach to the whole Yarra River precinct. A series of nodes, both floating and fixed, would form a continuous network of experiences. As a unique place along the river, it would become a major visitor attraction; the thing to do when in Melbourne. These nodes will include a return to wetlands in some areas, high activation zones and food harvesting that could be utilised by local vendors. The Federation Square and Birrarung Marr precinct would be a key focus for transformation, with education and interpretation interwoven into these places, and steeped in a respectful engagement with the traditional owners of this land.



Melbourne's Night Noodle Market  
Source: City of Melbourne, 2018



Arbory Afloat  
Source: TimeOut, 2017

# Big Ideas

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*Group 8*

## **Birraconnect**

Birraconnect is a return to Birrarung, and aims to turn our city to “face the front” again. With a strong focus on the North Bank of the river from Spring Street to Spencer Street, there is a vision to widen footpaths and introduce more green spaces. Under the viaduct and near the aquarium, there are opportunities to implement strategies that face the front, such as the Yarra Pool. A big shift could be achieved by 2030 with this approach, by forming a Birraconnect Authority dedicated to this reformation, and building on the existing Birrarung Council



*Floating gardens Chicago Riverwalk  
Source: Christian Phillips for Landzine, 2012*



*Bruges riverfront, Flussbad Triennale  
Source: Atelier Bow-wow architecture, 2019*



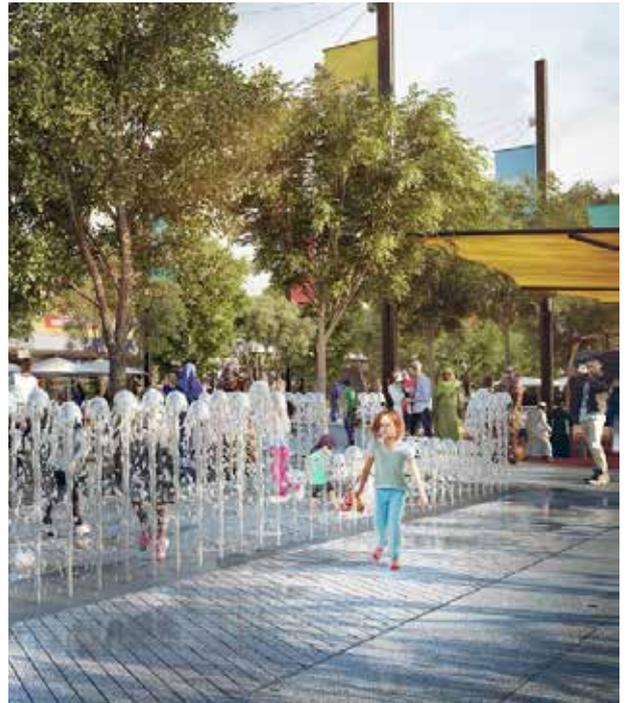
# Big Ideas

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*Group 9*

## **North Bank Activation**

North Bank Activation focuses on the North Bank of the river, particularly between Sandridge Bridge and Spencer Street. It would see a continuous connection all the way along the North Bank, removing uses that currently sub-optimize this space. It would also bring focus to an increase in safety along the corridor. Improved and additional egress points to the city will be implemented to increase accessibility towards the north. River activation, such as a floating swimming pool, will link across to Southbank. Serious consideration will be required in rethinking roads that currently intersect the North Bank, and how an uninterrupted connection can be made. This calls for a masterplanning approach to the entirety of the precinct.



*Liverpool City Centre Masterplan, NSW*

*Source: Liverpool City Council, 2017*



*Arup artist impression of North Bank revitalization*



# Thank you

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Thank-you to the following organizations for their attendance in the Yarra River Ideas Forum

- Arts Centre Melbourne
- Arup
- Asado
- Bendigo Bank
- Better Boating Victoria
- Beulah International
- City of Melbourne
- Coleby Consulting
- Committee for Melbourne
- Creative Victoria
- Environment Protection Authority
- Eureka Skydeck
- Eureka Tower
- Federation Square
- Freshwater Place/ JLL
- GoBoat Melbourne
- Herald Sun
- Hospitality One
- HQ Group
- JCBA
- Leftbank Melbourne
- Melbourne Boat Hire
- Melbourne River Cruises
- Melbourne Showboat
- Melbourne Water
- Mirvac
- Mission to Seafarers
- Novotel South Wharf
- Parks Victoria
- Pure South
- Quest Southbank
- Rebecca Walk P/L
- Riverland Group
- Riverlee
- Sandi Sieger Social Media
- Southbank Local News
- Southbank Residents Association
- Southgate
- Venice on the Yarra
- Village Well
- Visit Victoria
- Williamstown Bay & River Cruises
- Yarra Pools
- Yarra River Cruises
- Yarra Riverkeepers Association



# Appendices

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# Group findings

	GROUP 1	GROUP 2
<b>Positives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alexandra avenue has picnic areas, bike paths, botanic gardens, green spaces, community spaces (skate parks, rowing sheds) Looks healthy, alive, utilised. Feels safe, friendly, fun, relaxing, meditative. Sounds natural, lively, calm and cool, green and serene, isolated from urban zone, less congested by cars, more native animals</li> <li>Arbory looks; lights, colour. Feels safe, active, vibrant. Sounds busy and social</li> <li>Riverlee development; protects heritage crane/shed, new innovative use and connection, feels good</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parkland on river edge provides natural respite</li> <li>Rowing club looks open and green, sounds quiet and feels relaxing</li> <li>Arts Centre feels quiet and at the centre of it all</li> <li>Southbank has historically significant sites but looks dirty and unloved</li> </ul>
<b>Negatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flinders wharf is uninviting, run down, no green space</li> <li>Water locks at Jeffs Shed is under utilised and bridges lock off water</li> <li>Enterprise Park looks cold, empty, unactivated and not looked after, feels cold and unsafe</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southbank near Crown looks industrial, sounds empty and feels dull</li> <li>Batman Park looks unloved, feels unsafe, sounds noisy from helipad</li> <li>Railway underpass looks creepy and dirty, feels unsafe and sounds busy</li> </ul>
<b>Big Ideas</b>	<p>Rename the river to Birrarung</p> <p>Move the Melbourne Star</p> <p>One governance model</p>	<p>Swimming in the river</p> <p>Night market and farmers market along water way and more cultural events</p> <p>Northbank improved park network</p>
<b>Chosen Idea</b>	<p>Nodal spaces such as pontoons supporting local vendors, biotope to support river ecology and places of respite that step down to the water for Melbournians</p>	<p>Season events: winter festival, summer fun, Christmas markets</p>

# Group findings

	GROUP 3	GROUP 4
<b>Positives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Love the rowing as part of history of the river, needs to connect visually with river</li> <li>Birrarung Marr park area looks stunning, uninterrupted and has city views, it feels green and natural offering respite, sounds quiet</li> <li>The Arts Centre looks; spectacular lights, watching over the river. Feels; full of buzz, relaxed walk from river full of anticipation. Sounds full of conversation before a show, quiet reflection in downtime</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arbory: looks attractive, commercial, accessible operation, feels calm and fun, sound loud and vibrant</li> <li>Further down river near Birrarung Marr: looks view of city and river bend, uninterrupted, beautiful. Feels international city, natural, park both sides, open, spacious. Sounds like rowers, birds, runners, play, non city sounds, relaxed healthy</li> <li>Between Queens and Sandridge Bridge looks like the entrance to Melbourne, can see up and down the river to Arts Centre, feels like people on the move, happy and vibrant, sounds like Melbourne, Trams / sports festivities</li> </ul>
<b>Negatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helipad is noisy, invasive and interrupting</li> <li>Docklands end looks empty and inactive, feels lifeless and cold, sounds quiet</li> <li>The rowing shed need to blend in with the park</li> <li>Flinders Street Station looks industrial and disconnected and feels disconnected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flinders Street station: Looks dirty, unwelcoming, stairwell access, Feels unsafe and dirty, sounds silent and scary</li> <li>Underpass: camping ground for vagrants, unprotected, noisy. Hard landscapes, dirty, unsafe, cold, empty, cars and trains</li> <li>Enterprise park near aquarium: looks dirty, tired, feels unsafe, sounds urban, car noises, train noises</li> <li>Batman Park: looks like lots of potential, large open but under used. Feels not relaxing, disconnected, unloved. Sounds like noisy, traffic, train, helicopter</li> </ul>
<b>Big Ideas</b>	<p>Develop blue and green connection</p> <p>Sink the railway line</p> <p>Fly the Spine: recreational drone flights, helicopter flights, flying foxes to celebrate Bunjil story along the river</p>	<p>Convert Aquarium into a maritime museum which is opened out to face the river, aquarium relocated, integrate into museum trail</p> <p>Relay train tracks to reduce noise</p> <p>Construct an 'arch' over King Street to move pedestrian and cycling traffic seamlessly, could be Southgate or a reconciliation arch (run design competition)</p>
<b>Chosen Idea</b>	<p>Prosecute all litter droppers in Melbourne and ban bikes on pedestrian promenades or walkways</p>	<p>Create a base for indigenous groups operating pre-1835 River History Tourism businesses - maybe in Banana Alley vaults - and properly fund these groups to build solid tourism ventures</p>

# Group findings

	GROUP 5	GROUP 6
<b>Positives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bridges: warm and lights up the river all night, creates an atmosphere</li> <li>Corner of river and Flinders Street station looks like activity, boats, tourism, feels like movement and vibrancy, sounds like laughter, tourists and boat engines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ponyfish Island: a lovely place for all to enjoy, local and guests</li> <li>Birrarung Marr: Good parkland, quiet, easily accessible, close to water, versatile use</li> <li>Fed square river edge: key front of house passenger boating destination, near public transportation, easy access, historically long term, passenger boating activity</li> </ul>
<b>Negatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Banana Alley: very dirty, people sleeping rough, uncomfortable feel, sounds like trains</li> <li>Near aquarium looks like baron wasteland, feels cold and uninviting, no sounds</li> <li>Bridge and Flinders Street Station corner looks dirty and smelly, sounds noisy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Queensbridge Square: hard, open space, lack of shared and sheltered green seating, work through without sound</li> <li>Banana Alley: looks rundown, rubbish, carparking, shabby, unsafe and underutilising opportunity, outdated and backwards facing. Inappropriate passenger boating destination, unattractive, lack of parking, no retail or activity overall</li> <li>Southbank near Pollywoodside feels removed</li> </ul>
<b>Big Ideas</b>	<p>Uber Air Skyport at Batman Park</p> <p>Deck railway lines and make it a big park</p> <p>Improve all abilities access to the river</p>	<p>Increase passengers, boating and destination, icons, key attractions</p> <p>Masterplan for Yarra, MCG, Fed Square, Flinders Street Station, Fed Square East</p> <p>Re-development and activation of North Bank</p>
<b>Chosen Idea</b>	<p>Change the name of the river to Birrarung - encourage Aboriginal cultural significance</p> <p>Turn all the buildings to face the river and have open view lines and space from Fed Square to the river, make the river part of the square</p>	<p>Queens Bridge: Indigenous word for our meeting place for resting, activation. Create a true multi use biophilic and diverse place - a true rest, work, play place making destination</p>

# Group findings

	GROUP 7	GROUP 8
<b>Positives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alexandra Gardens: Beautiful along the river, open, peaceful</li> <li>Activation of vaults with market events and hospitality, vertical activation</li> <li>Evan Walker Bridge: Elevated view of city, south bank and river, people</li> <li>Arbory Float and Pony Island: excellent integration of the river and food and wine</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southbank: inviting, sunny</li> <li>Southbank and Arts Centre: sunlight, good food and drink, good connection to river, wide promenade, good visualisation and use</li> <li>Alexandra Gardens: good connection between gardens and river</li> <li>Best view of Melbourne under Swan Street bridge</li> </ul>
<b>Negatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commuter cyclist and peds conflicts north bank</li> <li>North Bank is narrow and can impact safety for pedestrians for major events</li> <li>No clear destination, wayfinding is poor</li> <li>Under the bridge, no direct access, Flinders Station east entry, doesn't feel good, no direct and visible access to river in south side</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Near Sydney Myer Music Bowl, not used falling in</li> <li>Tall building right on the river</li> <li>Call outs rubbish at low tide</li> <li>Aquarium: too concrete, train line along river, uninviting, poor view from water</li> <li>Flinders street to Elizabeth Street crossing: ugly, not great use of public space, needs to stay low so don't block sun on other side</li> </ul>
<b>Big Ideas</b>	<p>Water display with laser lights telling an indigenous story - become a destination</p> <p>Greening Queens Bridge square</p> <p>Continuity of green spine connection from botanical garden to river in Southbank Boulevard (south bank structural plan stage 6)</p>	<p>Close Alexandra Parade and make it a park to connect both gardens and domain with river</p> <p>Well being spots, meditation, yoga, exercise stations</p> <p>Recognise history of primary production: bakers, brewery, distilling, roastery</p>
<b>Chosen Idea</b>	<p>Flinders Street "big idea", governance critical, formal river management committee</p>	

# Group findings

	GROUP 9	GROUP 10
<b>Positives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arts Centre: Cultural life - enjoyment, inspired</li> <li>Birrarung Marr: Happy, peaceful, engaging with event</li> <li>Peaceful, relaxing (Yarra's edge)</li> <li>Fresh, open, accessible, nature</li> <li>History (maritime), essence of river, mission to seafarers, green</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activated spaces: Bars and F+B</li> <li>Important world arts destination</li> <li>Arbory: connected, fun, accessible</li> <li>Activation rowing</li> <li>Parks and open spaces in Birrarung Marr and Alexandria Park</li> </ul>
<b>Negatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Along Flinders Street Station river edge cluttered and inaccessible</li> <li>Southbank Promenade: stressed, busy, noisy</li> <li>Enterprise Park: unkept, untidy, uninviting, dull</li> <li>Seafarers: under redevelopment, was/is underdeveloped and unsafe, neglected, dark, overshadowed, traffic, pollution, noise</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southbank: too commercial, harsh</li> <li>No bridge between Birrarung Marr and Alexandria Gardens</li> <li>Fed square to Birrarung Marr access is poor</li> <li>Flinders Street Station river edge: poor experience, circulation access, egress, train line barrier access</li> <li>North bank neglect</li> </ul>
<b>Big Ideas</b>	<p>Open space outside Crown Casino managed by council</p> <p>Bridge between Birrarung Marr and Alexandria Gardens</p> <p>Highline between river and Docklands</p> <p>Identification of river landmarks and make them link</p>	<p>Cultural destinations including educational along river</p> <p>Cover and sound proof train tracks</p> <p>Make Rebecca Walk a destination</p>
<b>Chosen Idea</b>	River public transport	Clean up river, social responsibility: homeless, youth, indigenous, shared governance and shared vision, reinstate Elizabeth creek into Yarra



# Moments from the day

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