

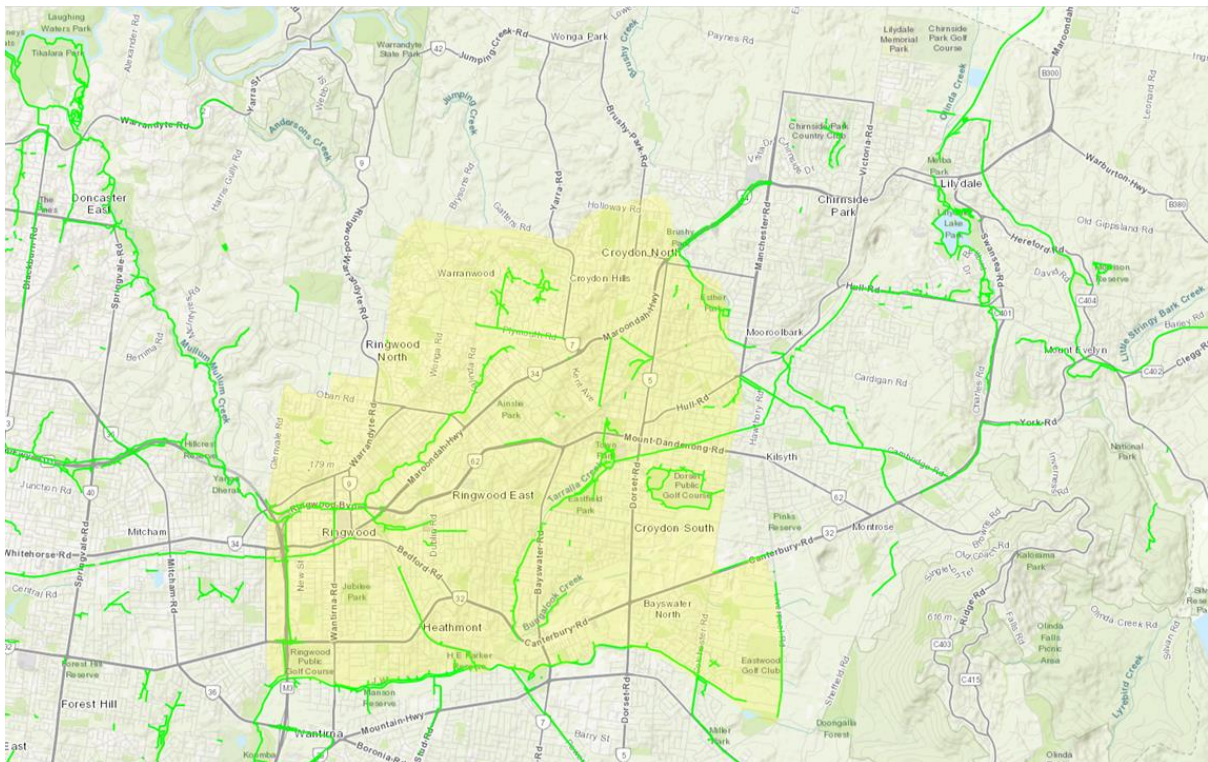


18/8/23 Feedback ahead of the Maroondah Bicycle Network Review

The Metro East Bicycle User Group (MeBUG) has the following feedback for the “Maroondah Bicycle Network Review.”

We believe that Maroondah has plenty of spare space and scope for improvement of the existing network.

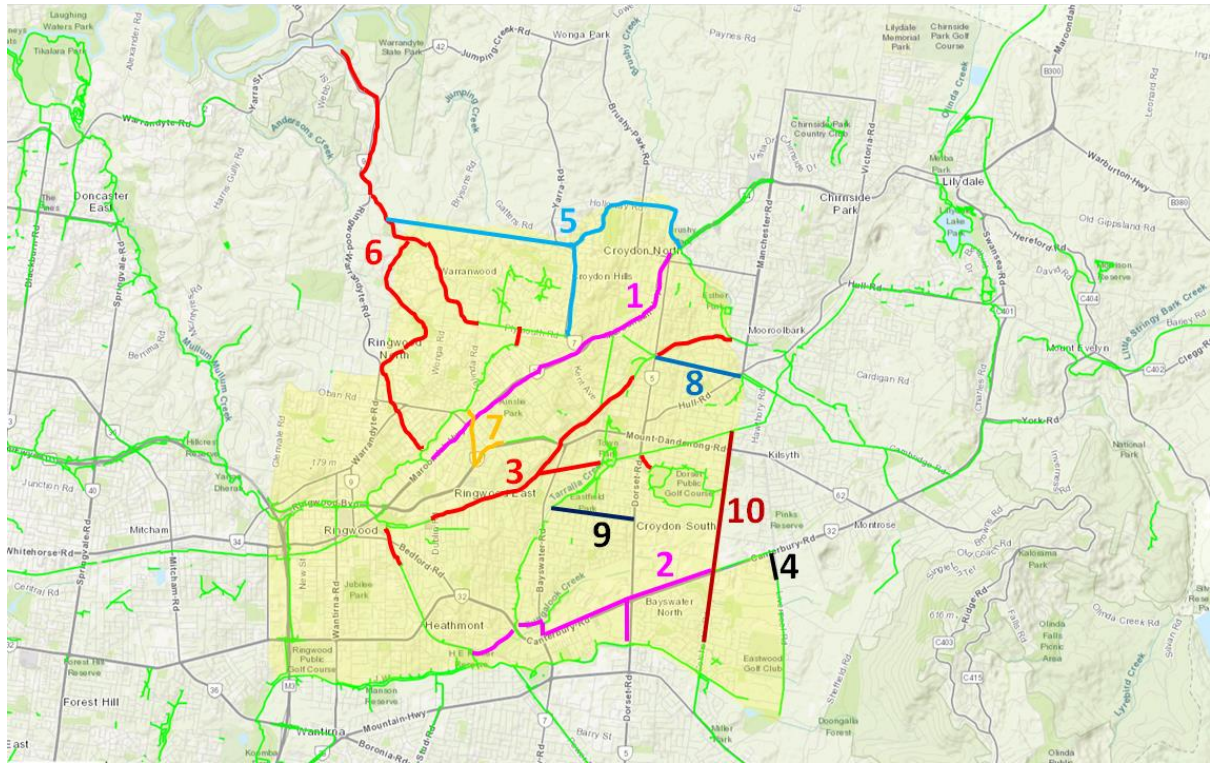
If we take a look at the existing network, we can see good path density around Ringwood, but the rest of municipality is suffering from a lack of investment and connectivity:



Map showing the off-road cycling paths in Maroondah (marked in green).

We at MeBUG believe that there are many opportunities to be made use of by utilising the Service lanes of many of the major roads like Maroondah Hwy, building trails along creeks, railways and roads and widening footpaths in many locations can yield much greater connectivity.

With our top 10 upgrade ideas, we believe that the map of Maroondah could like something more like this:



The following upgrades would be required to:

1. Maroondah Hwy
2. Canterbury Rd
3. Lilydale Railway Line and Pipeline connection
4. Liverpool Rd Trail
5. Yarra Rd and Pipeline connection
6. Ringwood/North Ringwood to Warrandyte
7. Old Lilydale Rd
8. Lincoln Rd
9. Eastfield Rd
10. Colchester Rd

1. Maroondah Hwy

Maroondah Hwy which is on the Strategic Cycling Corridor route, would benefit from having either a trail along the land island between the service lanes or having short sections of trail to link the service lanes, allowing people to ride from the Peter Vergers Reserve to the Yarra Ranges Green spine. Owing to the gradients involved, we recommend running along the North side of the highway and making use of the short section of trail between Alice St and Yarra Rd:



Existing trail along Maroondah Hwy at Birts Hill

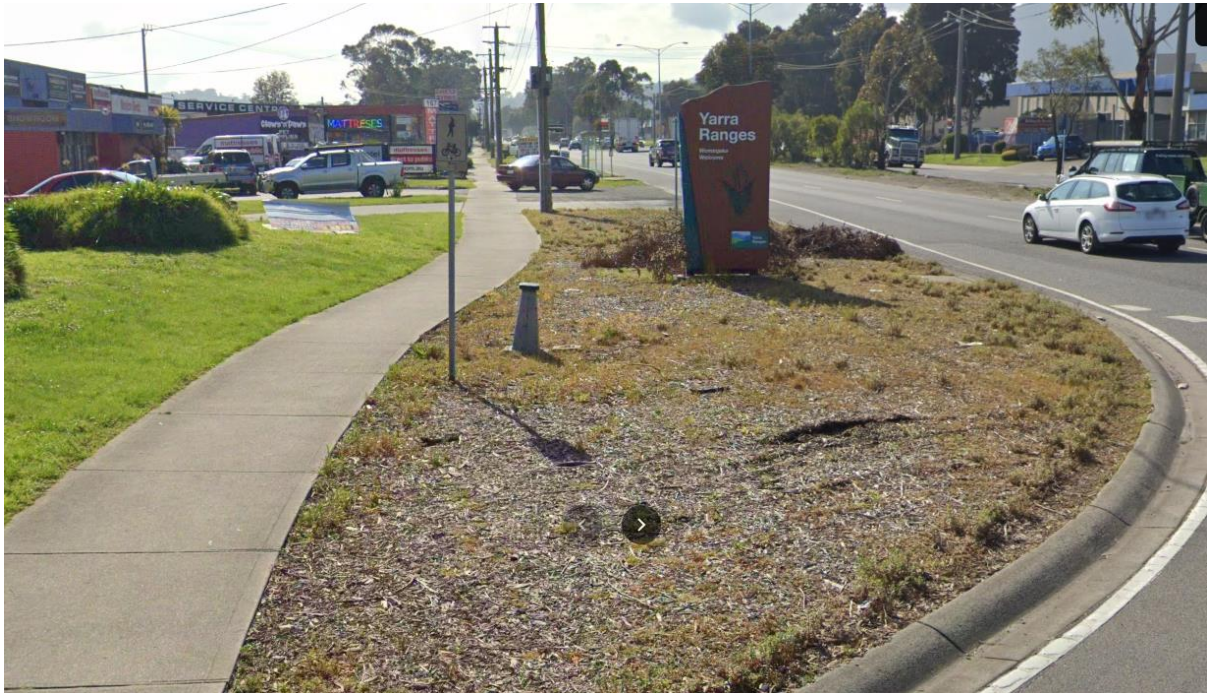
Treatments like the one at Stud Rd and Dumbarton Dr in Wantirna along the length of Maroondah Hwy would turn Maroondah Hwy into a 10km long cyclable corridor for minimal expenditure. This would also link the Mullum Mullum Trail, the Kent St separated Lanes, Croydon Rd Trail, Yarra/Plymouth Rd Trail, Lincoln Rd Trail, Bushy Creek Trail and Yarra Green Spine.



Stud Rd and Dumbarton Dr (Wantirna). Note that riders never have to mix with 80kph traffic.

2. Canterbury Rd

Canterbury Rd has an existing trail along it on the northern side of the road between Colchester and Liverpool Rd.



We believe that this trail could be extended along the Northern side of Canterbury Rd which could have the footpath widened (similar to Mountain Hwy, Boronia to Bayswater) to make a shared trail along its length to join up with the Taralla Creek and Balook Creek Trails. We believe that these trails could then be joined to the Dandenong Creek Trail. This would provide access to many factories and work places along the length of this corridor.



Existing Path along Canterbury Rd (west of Liverpool Rd)



New Trail along Mountain Hwy

3. Lilydale Railway Line and Pipeline connection

MeBUG believes that there should be a trail running the length of the Lilydale Railway line between Ringwood and Lilydale (and taking in the Pipeline at South Croydon). We have proposed this link via our closing the Gap report.

<https://mebug.org.au/projects/ringwood-to-croydon-path/>

4. Liverpool Rd Trail

A short connection along the west side of Liverpool Rd will link the Liverpool Rd Trail to the existing Canterbury Rd Trail.



Existing Liverpool Rd Trail.



Picture showing the short connection required between the Service Lane and the intersection of Liverpool Rd and Canterbury Rd.

5. Yarra Rd and Pipeline connection

Yarra Rd has a gravel path alongside that just needs to be formalized as a cycling corridor:



This would connect well with the route of the Melbourne Water Pipeline that meets Kerry Rd:



This pipeline Keeps pushing west to Gibsons Rd and eventually to Templestowe – a great asset to be utilised.

6. Ringwood/North Ringwood to Warrandyte

Recently Manningham city council have unveiled a brand new trail along Warrandyte Rd:



Similar treatments and use of the paths through the creekways in area could link up Ringwood and North Ringwood to Warrandyte. Additionally making use of Horse Trails could further improve the connectivity of this region. Plymouth Rd/Wonga Rd has an existing trail as far as the Steiner School (sealed) then an unsealed gravel path to Highfield Ave, that is ripe for upgrading.

7. Old Lilydale Rd

Linking up the Old Lilydale Rd service lanes to the Peter Vergers Reserve, then connecting up the Service lanes of Mt Dandenong Rd (and joining with the existing trail along the road). The trail along Mt Dandenong Rd has like the trail along Croydon Rd seen better days and could do with some TLC:



8. Lincoln Rd

The existing Trail along Lincoln Rd between Croydon Rd and Dorset Rd, should be extended East of Dorset Rd in a similar manner to link Croydon Hills/Croydon North to Mooroolbark.



Existing Trail along Lincoln Rd

9. Eastfield Rd

A Simple opportunity to link the service lanes to provide access between Dorset Reserve and the Taralla Creek Trail occurs along this corridor:



10.Colchester Rd

Widening the Western side of Colchester Rd would link the Dandenong Creek Trail to the Doreset Reserve trails. This would then be able to push north to the Carrum to Warburton Trail.



Conclusion

MeBUG believes that Maroondah needs to be ambitious and smart in their cycling strategy and that they have the opportunity to match the facilities seen in Manningham or Knox in order to be able to cater for the demands of their residents and to facilitate safe travel in their municipality.