

Southport, Gold Coast

FIGURE 6

Landscape Concept Plans

1.0

THE PARKLANDS' HEART IN A BORROWED LANDSCAPE


*Health
and
Wellbeing*

*Sport and
Recreation*

*Woodland /
Remnant
Vegetation*

Heart

Academia

*Ephemeral
Flows*



2.0

WSUD AND VEGETATION CHARACTER

SOUTHPORT
SHARKS FIELDS

shark lane

MUSGRAVE
PARK

nakina st

GOLD COAST
UNIVERSITY
HOSPITAL

hospital Blvd

SOUTHPORT
SHARKS
FIELDS

innovation dr

Heart

laneway

health st

GOLD COAST
UNIVERSITY
HOSPITAL

main st

GRIFFITH
UNIVERSITY
GOLD COAST

Civic
Plaza

second st

parklands drive

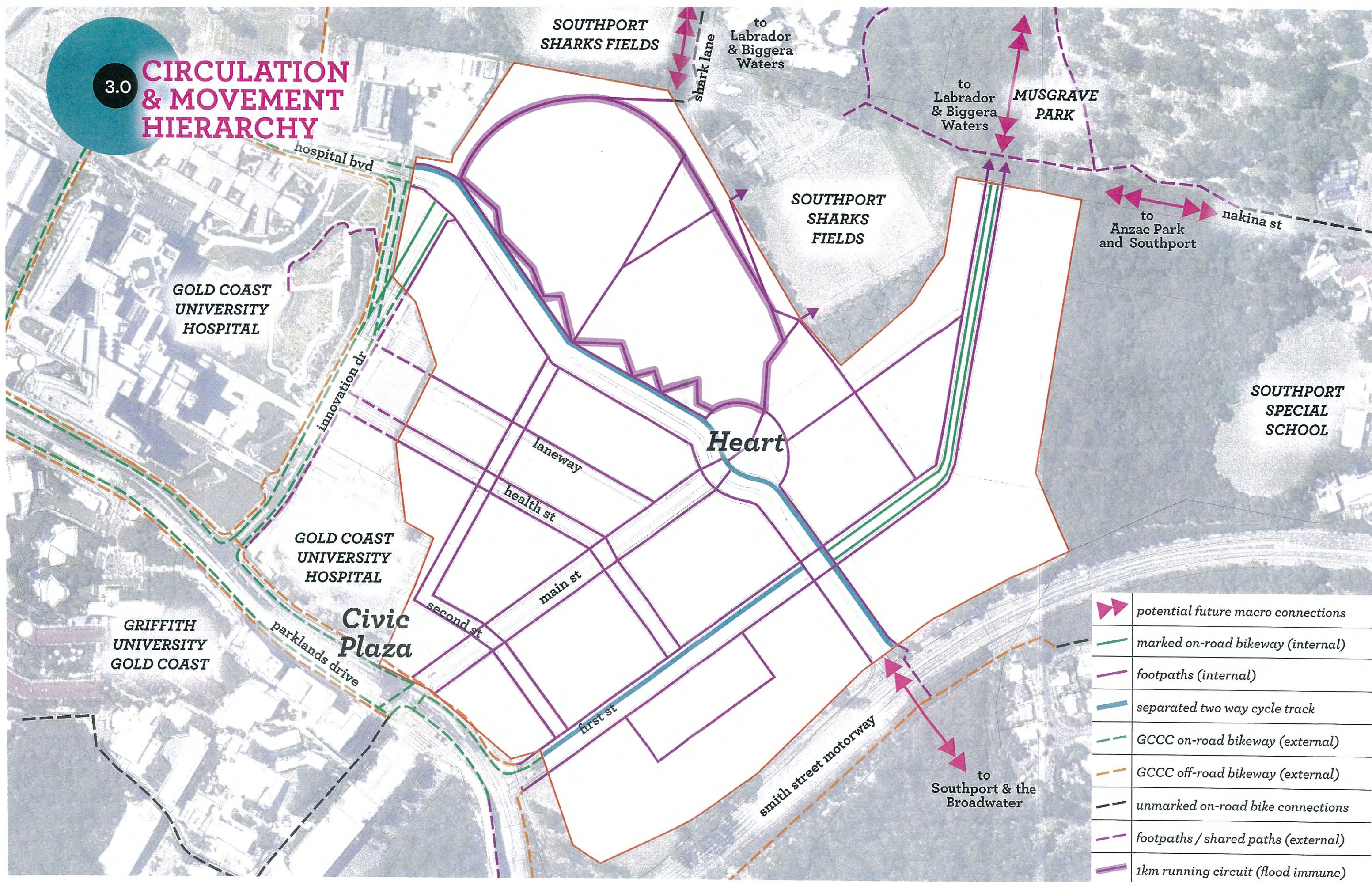
first st

smith street motorway

	riparian wetland species
	local and subtropical species
	predominantly open lawn
	local character species
	site interface with local vegetation
	overland flows
	vegetated swale
	water treatment / detention zones
	streetscape planting
	Hospital Boulevard: feature boulevard planting with central median in higher concentration towards Village Heart
	Main Street: palm and shade trees along footpaths

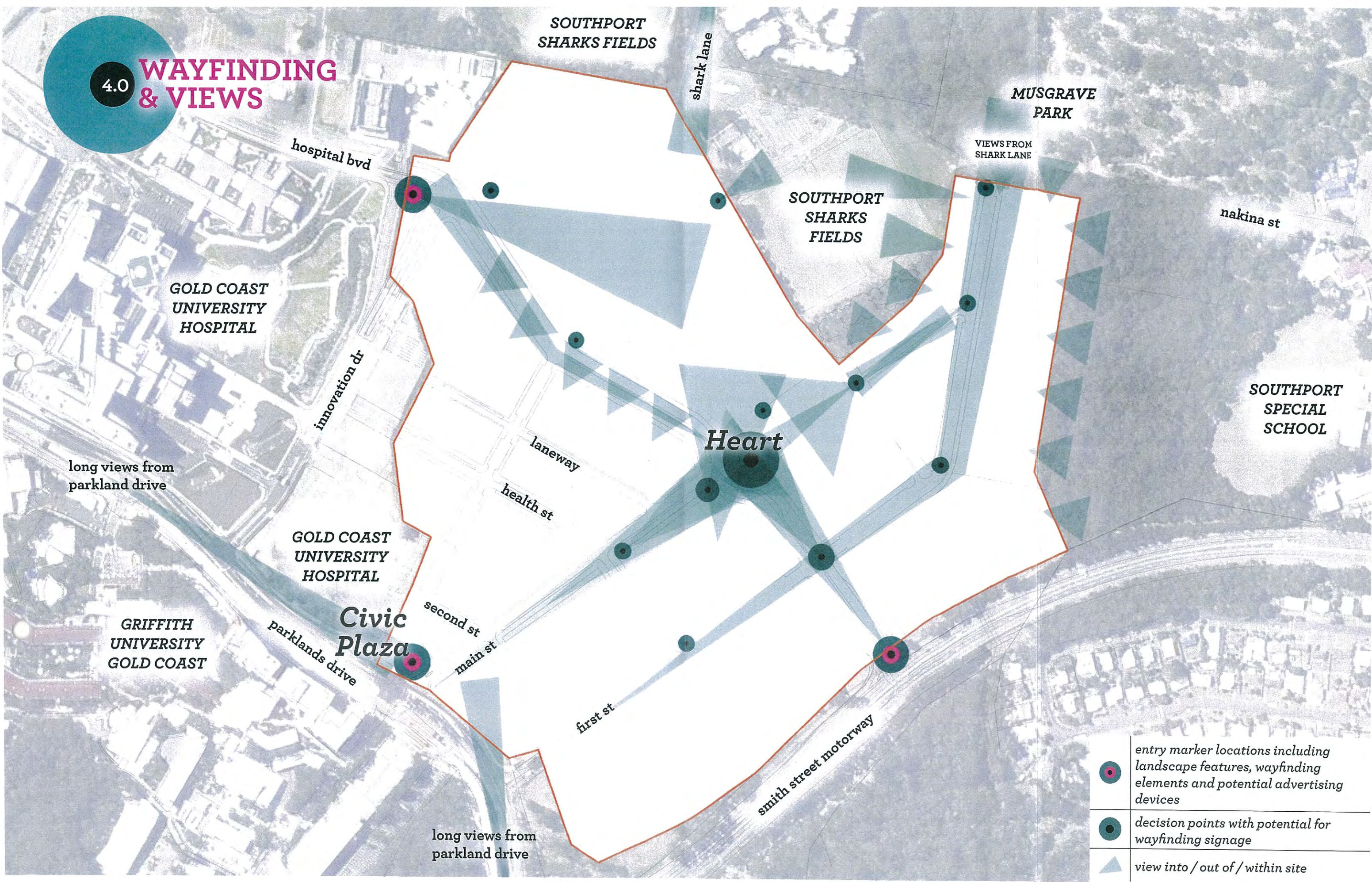
3.0

CIRCULATION & MOVEMENT HIERARCHY



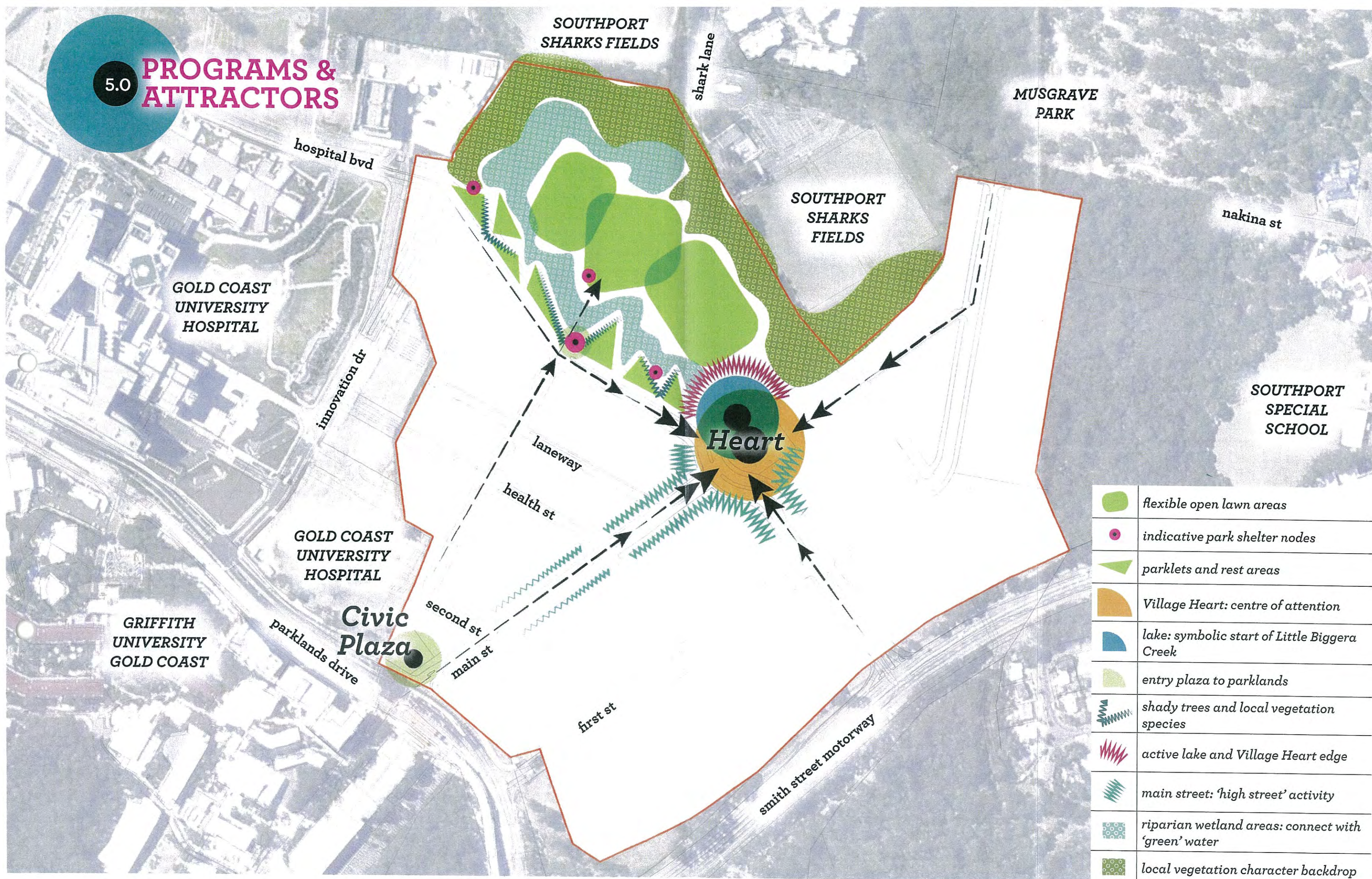
4.0

WAYFINDING
& VIEWS



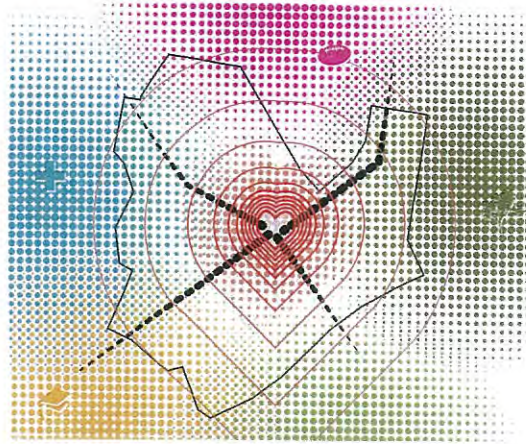
5.0

PROGRAMS & ATTRACTORS



FIVE DIAGRAMS: *One Contextual approach and four organisational strategies to achieve it.*

The Heart of the Parkland



Opening up the Parklands site as a re-connected, locally engaged public facility unlocks a vast community asset for the Gold Coast.

Maximising this conceptual interaction at site scale will involve mixing local experiences with the new Parklands program. This hybrid landscape reaches its most heightened, concentrated form at its Heart — the re-imagined source for the second coming of Little Biggera Creek.

WSUD & Vegetation Character

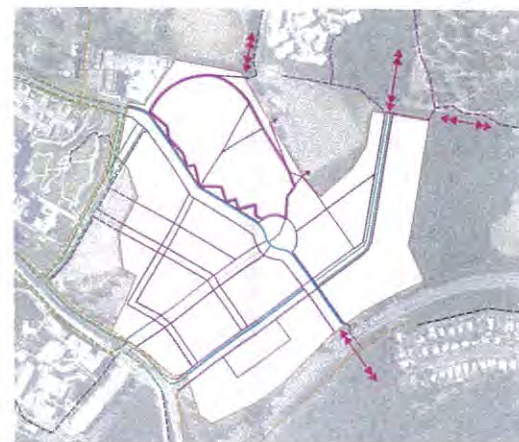


The landscape of the Parklands is grounded in existing ecological systems, a strategy which is designed to create a recognisably local development outcome. The Parklands borrows its vegetative character from the immediate vicinity which comprises attractive aged dry sclerophyll forest communities typical of this region of Southport. This site-wide character ensures design continuity, though thematic variations serve to define precincts, streets, land uses and public and private realms.

A hierarchical streetscape planting strategy is used to reinforce the intersecting axes of Main Street and Hospital Boulevard. Along these key streets, trees are planted in greater numbers towards the Village Heart to frame it as a regional destination. Within the parkland, the local character and riparian wetland plant species provide a context for the lake and bioretention zones. Thus, a rhythm of planting is expressed through species choice in relation to the various attractors of the site being the Village Heart, the parkland, the civic park and internal landscapes.

The large site catchment will see flows collected in traditional stormwater networks and then piped to a bioretention surface adjacent to the Village Heart lake to be daylighted and ultimately treated in an end-of-line system in the northern wetlands.

Circulation & Movement Hierarchy

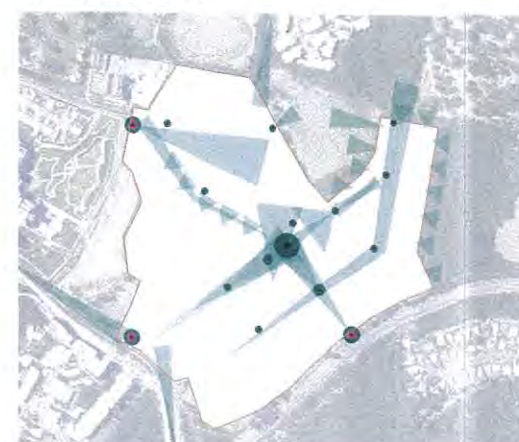


The circulation routes within the Parklands key into the established network of shared paths and bikeways in the local area. This enables greater transport options for visitors and residents, strengthening regional connectivity and linking pedestrians and cyclists to the Broadwater, nearby green spaces, campuses and schools, shops and transport hubs such as the Gold Coast Rapid Transit.

The highly connected network of footpaths, on-road and off-road bikeways within the Parklands will prioritise pedestrians and cyclists creating a healthy, walkable district. Where the road curves at the intersection of Main Street and Hospital Boulevard, a generous pedestrian crossing point reinforces the connection to the Village Heart and acts as a pause point for vehicles.

With the Southport Sharks Fields and parkland open space right on the doorstep residents can embrace an active and healthy outdoor culture. This will be further fostered through the provision of a two kilometre running circuit around the parkland from the Village Heart, along the northern boundary to the Hospital Boulevard entry and back to the heart. More direct routes with high pedestrian amenity between these and other locations will enable accessibility throughout the development and encourage walking.

Wayfinding & Views



Strong physical links drawing people deep into the site to the Village Heart are established through the intersecting axial formation of Hospital Boulevard and Main Street. The civic park and the Village Heart are the two anchoring open spaces at either end of Main Street which, in addition to the commercial spaces hanging off it towards the intersection, will see it become the primary pedestrian promenade.

The pre-eminent view from Parklands Drive down the length of Main Street can be appreciated as a series of experiences along the way as it is framed variously by trees, street furniture and built form. Buildings have been respectfully sited to capitalise on the open space asset of the parkland and to also borrow the significant vegetation of Musgrave Park as a backdrop. Potential entry markers at Parklands Drive and Hospital Boulevard entries will be highly visible on the approach, heralding the threshold into the site.

The size and topography of the development site necessitate the suite of signage located at key decision points, especially along primary street axes. These wholly integrated signage elements will orient visitors, aid in journey planning and strengthen the desired movement patterns between the most active and populated areas. There is potential for interpretive elements to be incorporated into the signs as an evocation of the site's continuing story.

Program & Attractors



A complex, hierarchical and high quality public realm will engage and delight visitors and residents, allowing them to socialise communally. Economically, it will also complement the commercial investment in the development site. An adaptive functionality built into the streets, plazas and parkland allowing the parkland to host seasonal events and activities will develop its reputation as an ever-changing regional destination.

The recreational and commercial lynchpin of the Parklands - the Village Heart - is strategically located on the Hospital Boulevard / Main Street intersection. A secondary axial hub sits at the interface of Second Street and the park acting as a gateway between the two where there is potential for a picnic shelter.

The vibrancy and dynamism embedded in the highly active Village Heart is tempered by the more passive offer of the parkland. Open green space, picnic areas, shared paths and riparian zones and have an embedded flexibility of use so as to maximise the experiential potential of this vast asset.