

# Puffing Billy Discovery Centre



**EMERALD TOURIST RAILWAY BOARD**

The Emerald Tourist Railway Board is designing a new Discovery Centre adjacent to the Puffing Billy Lakeside Station for Puffing Billy passengers and visitors to Emerald Lake Park.

A process is now underway to view the plans and provide your views on the associated planning provisions that have been prepared.

The Emerald Tourist Railway Board (ETRB), operator and manager of Puffing Billy Railway, completed the Puffing Billy Master Plan in 2017 outlining a strategy for the future operations and development of Puffing Billy.

The first phase of implementing the Master Plan is now underway, which focuses on the development of a Discovery Centre. Detailed architectural design and preparation of associated planning scheme provisions form a key part of this phase. Community engagement has begun on the detailed design of the Discovery Centre and your views are now being sought on the draft planning scheme provisions referred to as Amendment C243.

## What is a Discovery Centre?

The Discovery Centre is an all-weather facility with the amenities and visitor experiences necessary to sustainably meet the needs and expectations of the Puffing Billy passengers and visitors to Emerald Lake Park.

The Discovery Centre is intended to provide unique cultural interpretations dealing with the relationship between the Dandenong Ranges and Puffing Billy and their corresponding history, as well as providing quality food, beverage and function facilities.

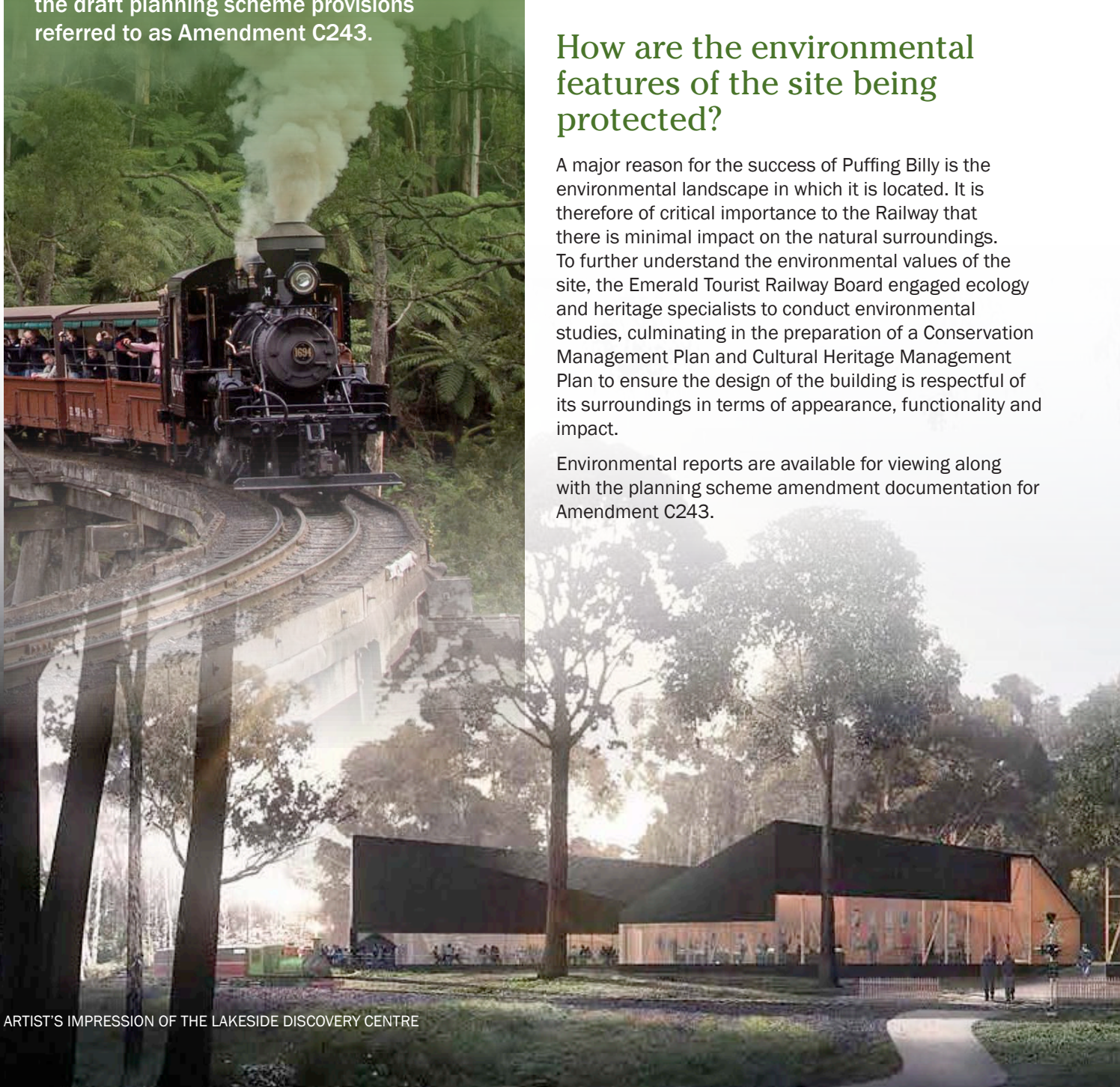
## Where is it going to be located?

The site of the proposed Discovery Centre is located adjacent to the existing Puffing Billy Lakeside Station and will be accessed either by train on Puffing Billy, by car via Emerald Park Rd, or by walking or cycling along the Emerald to Cockatoo Trail as shown on the map opposite.

## How are the environmental features of the site being protected?

A major reason for the success of Puffing Billy is the environmental landscape in which it is located. It is therefore of critical importance to the Railway that there is minimal impact on the natural surroundings. To further understand the environmental values of the site, the Emerald Tourist Railway Board engaged ecology and heritage specialists to conduct environmental studies, culminating in the preparation of a Conservation Management Plan and Cultural Heritage Management Plan to ensure the design of the building is respectful of its surroundings in terms of appearance, functionality and impact.

Environmental reports are available for viewing along with the planning scheme amendment documentation for Amendment C243.



ARTIST'S IMPRESSION OF THE LAKESIDE DISCOVERY CENTRE

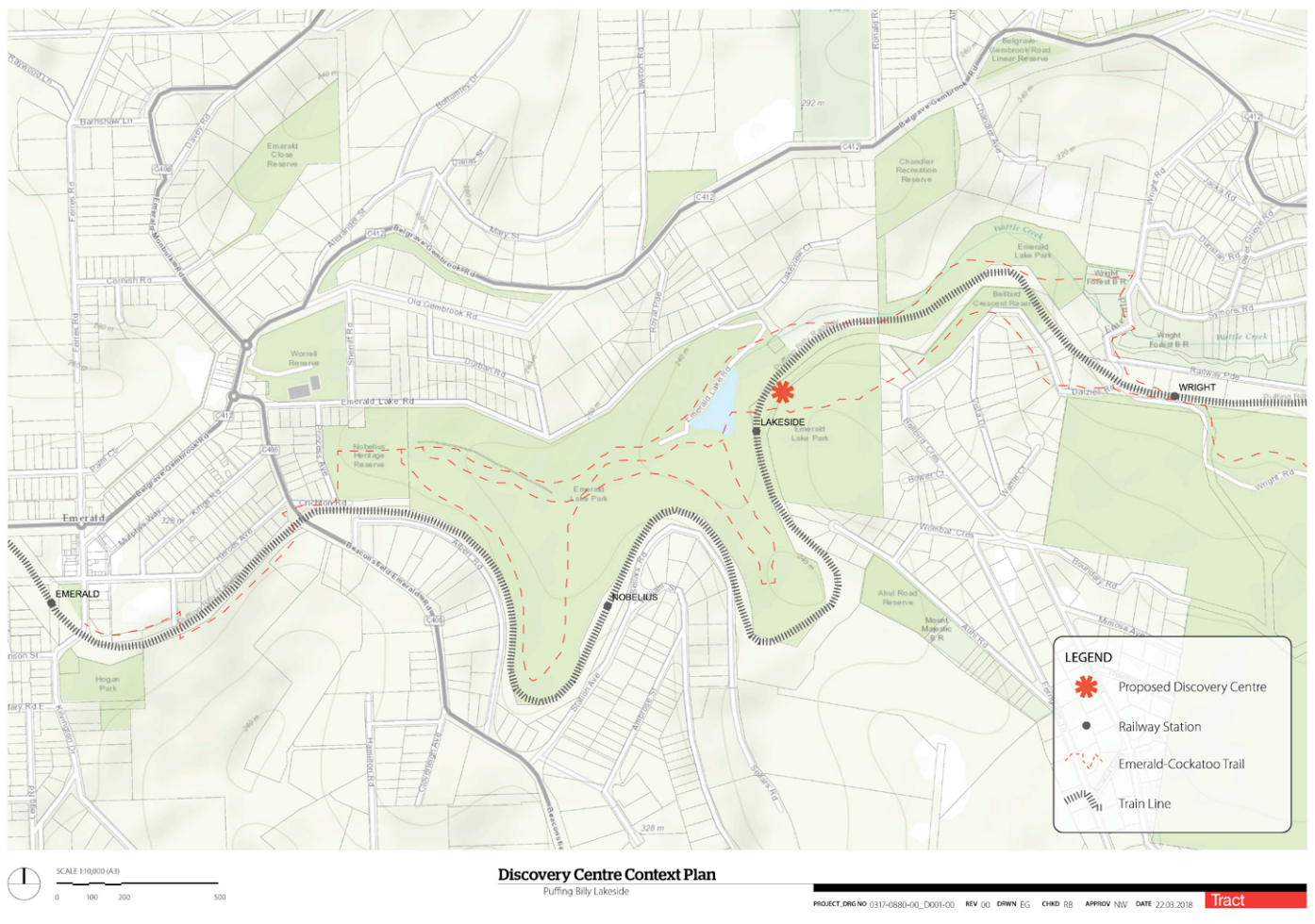
# Why are new planning controls required and what do they do?

New planning controls (provisions) are required to ensure the design of the building has due regard to issues such as:

- cultural heritage
- native vegetation
- traffic management
- bushfire management
- construction management
- any other significant landscape features

The ETRB has requested that these, and other requirements, be consolidated into one overarching document that is incorporated into the Cardinia Planning Scheme via Clause 52.03 and Clause 81.01. An update to the Schedule to the Public Use Zone also forms part of this request.

Your views are sought on the draft provisions.





## Consultation and community engagement

Consultation with the community and authority stakeholder groups is an integral part of the development process. There are different ways to engage in this process including:

## Information session

If you have questions and want to speak directly to representatives of Council, State Government and/or the Puffing Billy Railway, attend our community drop in session:

- Saturday 12 May, 12pm to 4pm.  
Gemco Theatre, 19 Kilvington Drive Emerald

## Public exhibition

A full copy of the proposed Amendment C243 documentation can be viewed at:

- Emerald Library during business hours  
400A Belgrave-Gembrook Rd, Emerald, VIC 3782
- Council's website at [www.cardinia.vic.gov.au](http://www.cardinia.vic.gov.au)
- The Puffing Billy Railway website  
<http://puffingbilly.com.au/en/pb-news/discovery-centre/>

# Have your say

Amendment C243 is open for comment from Tuesday 1 May to Friday 1 June 2018.

Let us know what you think about the proposed changes by making a formal submission:

- **visit:** [www.puffingbilly.com.au](http://www.puffingbilly.com.au)
- **post:** Amendment C243, Emerald Tourist Railway Board, PO Box 451, Belgrave VIC 3160
- **email:** [discoverycentre@pbr.org.au](mailto:discoverycentre@pbr.org.au)

## Contact us

For any queries please contact us on ph: 97570704 or email [discoverycentre@pbr.org.au](mailto:discoverycentre@pbr.org.au)



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