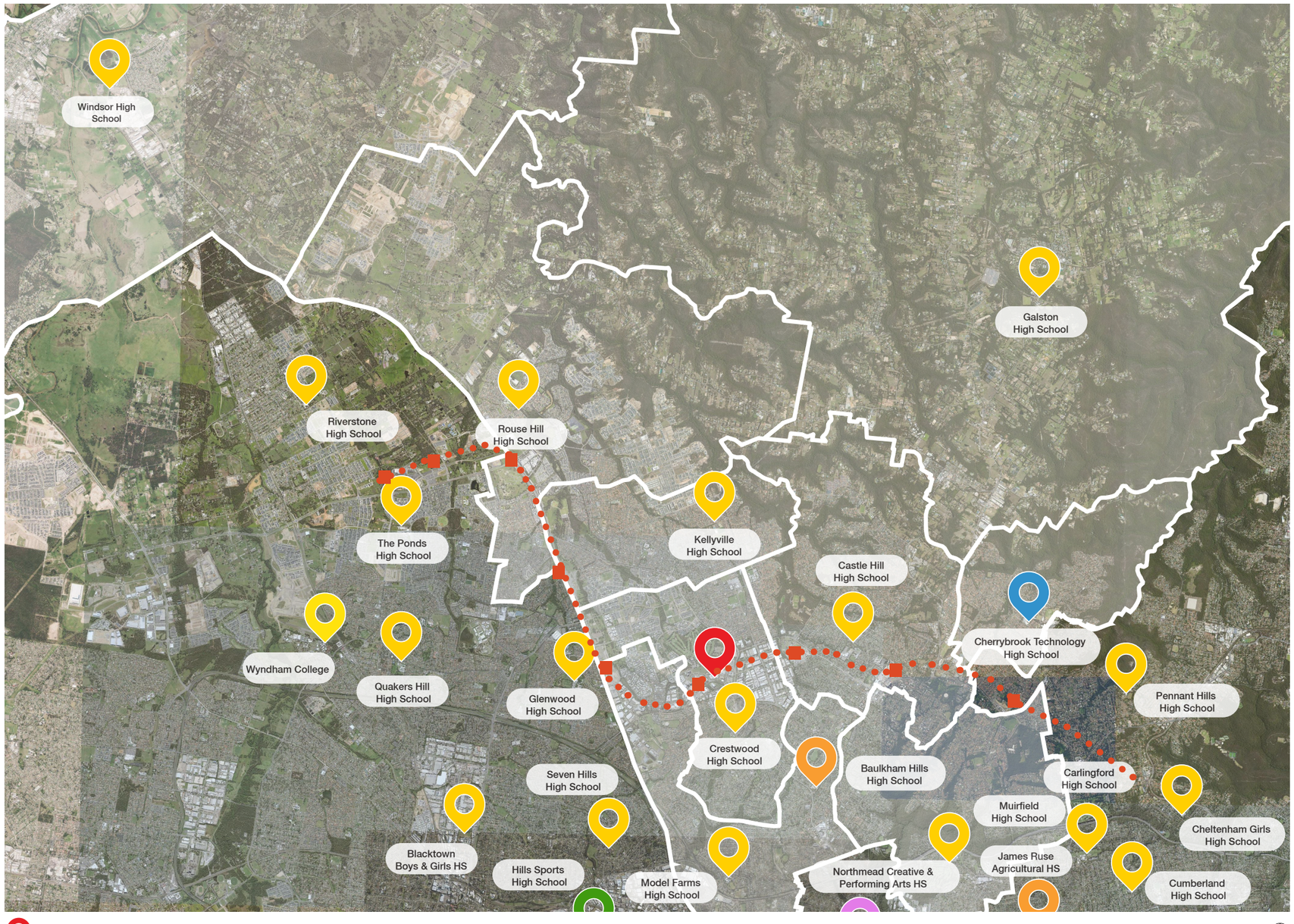

Platforms

Context

3.1 Local schools

Government Schools

- **Crestwood High School** - 4 minutes
  1050 students; 7-12 co-educational
  Agriculture, Hospitality, Construction
- **Kellyville High School** - 8 minutes
  1060 students; 7-12 coeducational
  Hospitality, Multi Media
- **Glenwood High School** - 8 minutes
  1420 students; 7-12 co-educational
  Hospitality, Construction, Primary Industries
- **Baulkham Hills High School** - 8 minutes
  1160 students; 7-12 co-educational
  Selective High School
- **Model Farms High School** - 10 minutes
  990 students; 7-12 co-oeducational
  Agriculture, Hospitality, Construction
  Castle Hill High School - 10 minutes
  1300 students; 7-12 co-educational
  Hospitality, Construction, IT
- **Seven Hills High School** - 10 minutes
  430 students; 7-10 co-oeducational
  Future Trade Training Centre
- **Wyndham College** - 12 minutes
  Senior High School, 11-12 co-oeducational
- **Rouse Hill High School** - 13 minutes
  1015 students; 7-12 co-educational
  Hospitality, Entertainment, Sports Coaching
- **Cherrybrook Technology HS** - 15 minutes
  2000 students; 7-12 co-educational
  Technology High School
- **The Hills Sports High School** - 15 minutes
  930 students; 7-12 co-oeducational
  Sports High School & SSC Language
- **Northmead C&P High School** - 15 minutes
  790 students; 7-12 co-educational
  Creative & Performance High School
- **Windsor High School** - 29 minutes
  430 students; 7-10 co-educational
  Trade Training Centre



Non-Government Schools

- **Norwest Christian College** - 20 minutes 400+ students; K-12 co-educational; Christian; day school; multi-purpose playing fields, tennis courts and basketball courts
- **William Clarke College** - 7 minutes; 1500 students; K-12 co-educational; Anglican; day school, extensive music facilities, a designated drama space, commercial grade kitchens and multi-purpose courts.
- **Gilroy Catholic College** - 8 minutes; 1200 students; 7-12 co-educational; Catholic; day school, TAS (VET kitchen), 2020+ construction with a new 3-storey building with 16 collaborative general learning areas,
- **Oakhill College** - 11 minutes; 1600 students; 7-12 co-educational; Catholic; day school, 42-acre campus and features a Sports and Assembly Centre containing basketball/ netball courts, an indoor swimming pool and gymnasium; tennis courts, sporting fields and agricultural facilities.
- **Hills Adventist College** - 13 minutes; 565 students; K-12 co-educational; Seventh Day Adventist; day school
- **Tangara School for Girls** - 15 minutes; K-12 girls; Catholic; day school
- **St Andrews College, Marayong** - 15 minutes; 1050 students; 7-12 co-educational; Catholic; day school
- **The Kings School** - 18 minutes; 1160 students; K-12 boys; Anglican; day and boarding school; sports centre, indoor rock climbing, information technology centre, 150-seat “blackbox” drama studio, science centre, 320-seat professional theatre
- **St John Paul II College, Schofields** - 19 minutes; 1500 students; 7-12 co-educational; Catholic; day school



Site Location

3.2 Community infrastructure

Local Venues

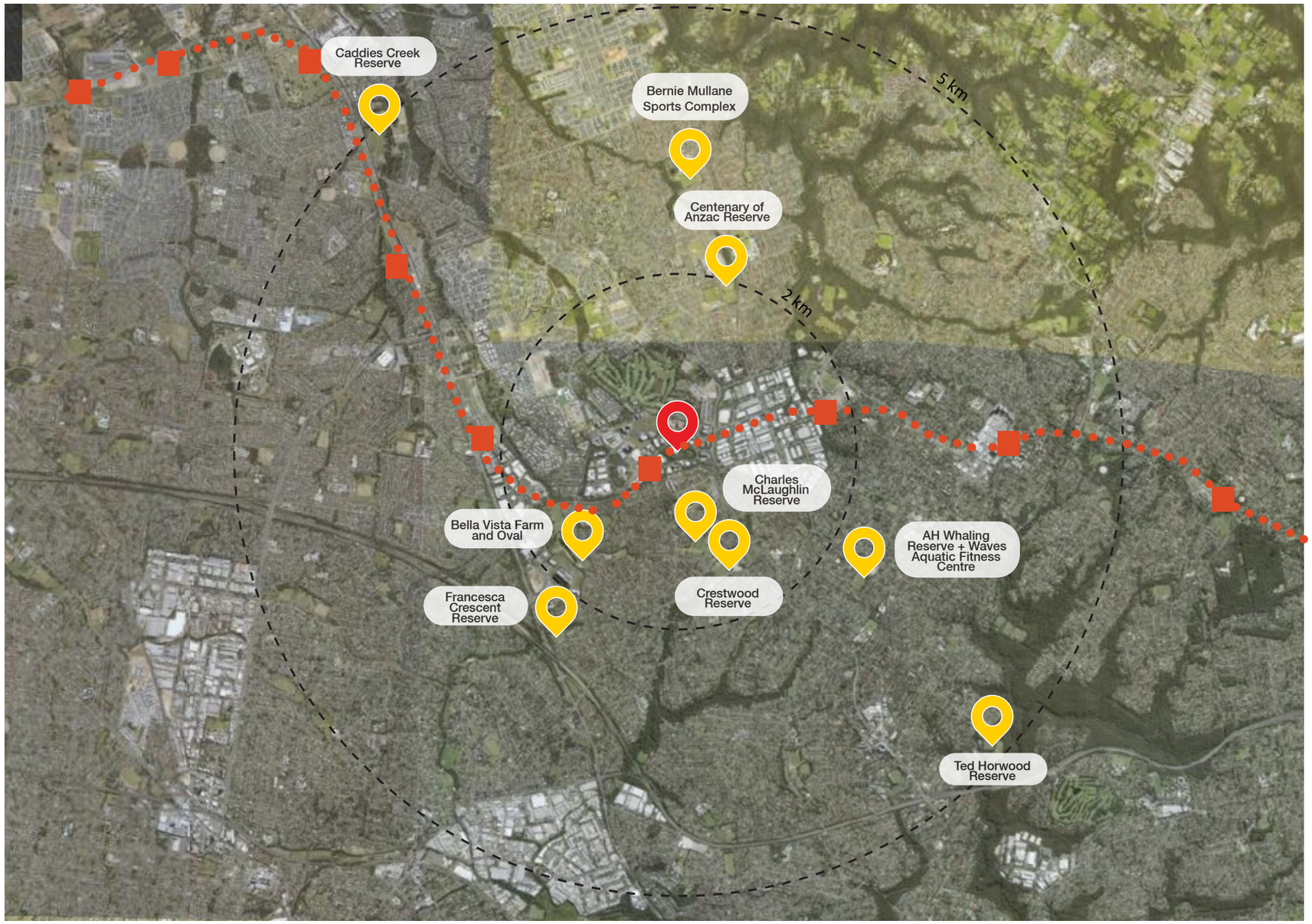
- **Balcombe Heights Estate** - 12 minutes; Stamford Hall - Capacity 120; Thompson Hall - Capacity 180
- **Baulkham Hills Community Centre** - 9 minutes; Capacity 150
- **Beaumont Hills Community Centre** - 10 minutes; Capacity 100
- **Box Hill Community Centre** - 15 minutes; Capacity 100
- **Castle Hill Cultural Centre** - 8 minutes; Pioneer Room - Capacity 350; Rebellion Room - Capacity 180
- **Castle Hill Showground** - 7 minutes; Harvey Lowe Pavilion - Capacity 350; Federation Pavilion - Capacity 150; Education Pavilion - Capacity 150
- **Rouse Hill Community Centre** - 14 minutes; Capacity 120
- **Glenhaven Community Centre** - 12 minutes; Capacity 190
- **Vinegar Hill Community Centre** - 12 minutes; Capacity 125
- **West Pennant Hills Community Centre** - 17 minutes; Capacity 170
- **Wrights Road Community Centre** - 6 minutes; Function Room - Capacity 150; Activity Room 2 - Capacity 100



Site Location

Local playing fields

- **Crestwood Reserve** - 4 minutes drive; 3 sports fields - rugby league in winter, touch football in summer (2 fields), soccer (1 field); outdoor gym equipment; skate park
- **Bella Vista Farm and Oval** - 4 minutes drive; 1 sports field - soccer in winter, cricket in summer; 2 tennis courts
- **Centenary of Anzac Reserve** - 6 minutes drive; 2 sports fields - rugby league in winter, cricket in summer
- **Francesca Crescent Reserve** - 7 minutes drive; 2 sports fields - soccer in winter, cricket in summer (1 field), soccer only (1 field); half basketball court; cricket nets
- **Charles McLaughlin Reserve** - 8 minutes drive; 2 sports fields - club AFL (1 field), junior AFL and junior cricket (1 field); cricket nets
- **AH Whaling Reserve and Waves Aquatic Fitness Centre** - 8 minutes drive; athletics field; running tracks; long jump pit; shot-put cage; javelin area and public pool with 50m and 25m pools.
- **Bernie Mullane Sports Complex** - 8 minutes drive; indoor sports stadium; 5 sports fields - soccer in winter, six-a-side soccer in spring, touch football (1 field); 2 cricket pitches; 5 netball courts; 6 tennis courts
- **Caddies Creek Reserve** - 10 minutes drive; 4 sports fields - football in winter, cricket in summer (2 fields), football (1 field) and a baseball diamond
- **Ted Horwood Reserve** - 10 minutes drive; 5 sports fields soccer in winter, cricket in summer (4 fields), junior soccer and hockey (1 field); 5 tennis courts; 7 netball courts; outdoor gym equipment



Site Location

Walking distance to playing fields

Three parks are located within walking distance of the site that contain fields and courts that cater to a range of sports.

- **Crestwood Reserve** - 24 minutes walk (1.9km); 3 sports fields - rugby league in winter, touch football in summer (2 fields), soccer (1 field); outdoor gym equipment; skate park
- **Bella Vista Farm and Oval** - 24 minutes walk (1.9km); 1 sports field - soccer in winter, cricket in summer; 2 tennis courts
- **Charles McLaughlin Reserve** - 26 minutes walk (2km); 2 sports fields - club AFL (1 field), junior AFL and junior cricket (1 field); cricket nets



KEY

- Site Boundary
- Local Playing Fields
- Pedestrian Route
- Rugby
- Soccer
- AFL
- Touch Football
- Cricket
- Tennis

3.3 Land Use

The site offers a significant parcel of undeveloped land in close proximity to the Norwest Metro Station and Local Centre. It is surrounded by large areas of existing residential and commercial. There is limited future demand for commercial led developments and multiple proposed residential/mixed use development. This will result in high population growth in Norwest, close to the proposed school site.



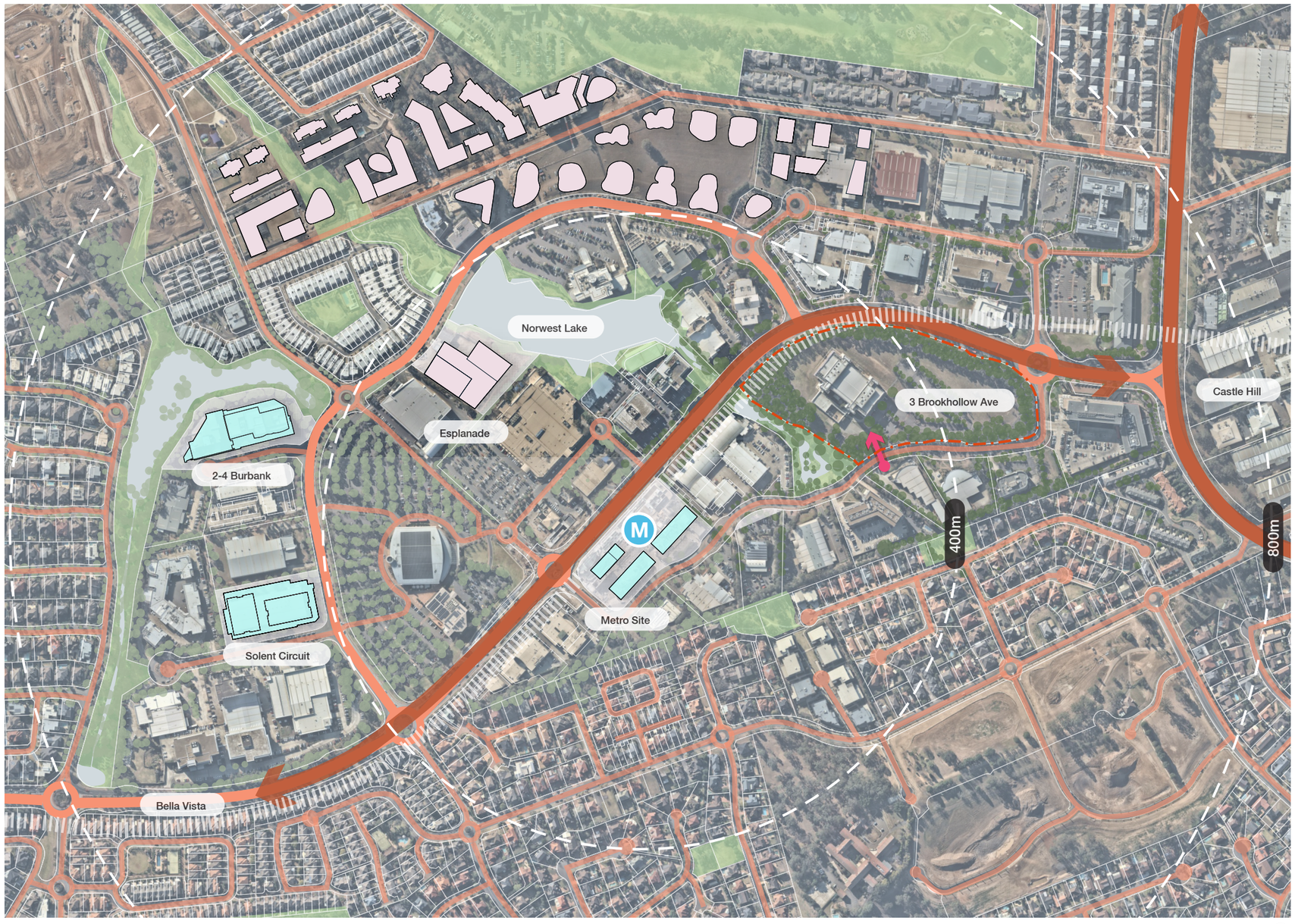
KEY

- Site Boundary
- Commercial Led Proposals
- Residential / Mixed Use Proposals
- Existing Open Space
- R3 - Medium Density Residential Zoning
- R4 - High Density Residential Zoning

3.4 Movement, connections and site access

Local movement

Movement around the precinct is largely driven by cars. Norwest Boulevard is located to the north and is a key connector road between Old Windsor Road and Windsor Road. Brookhollow Avenue services the site to the south. Key movement to the site will be from the Metro station and surrounding residential developments.

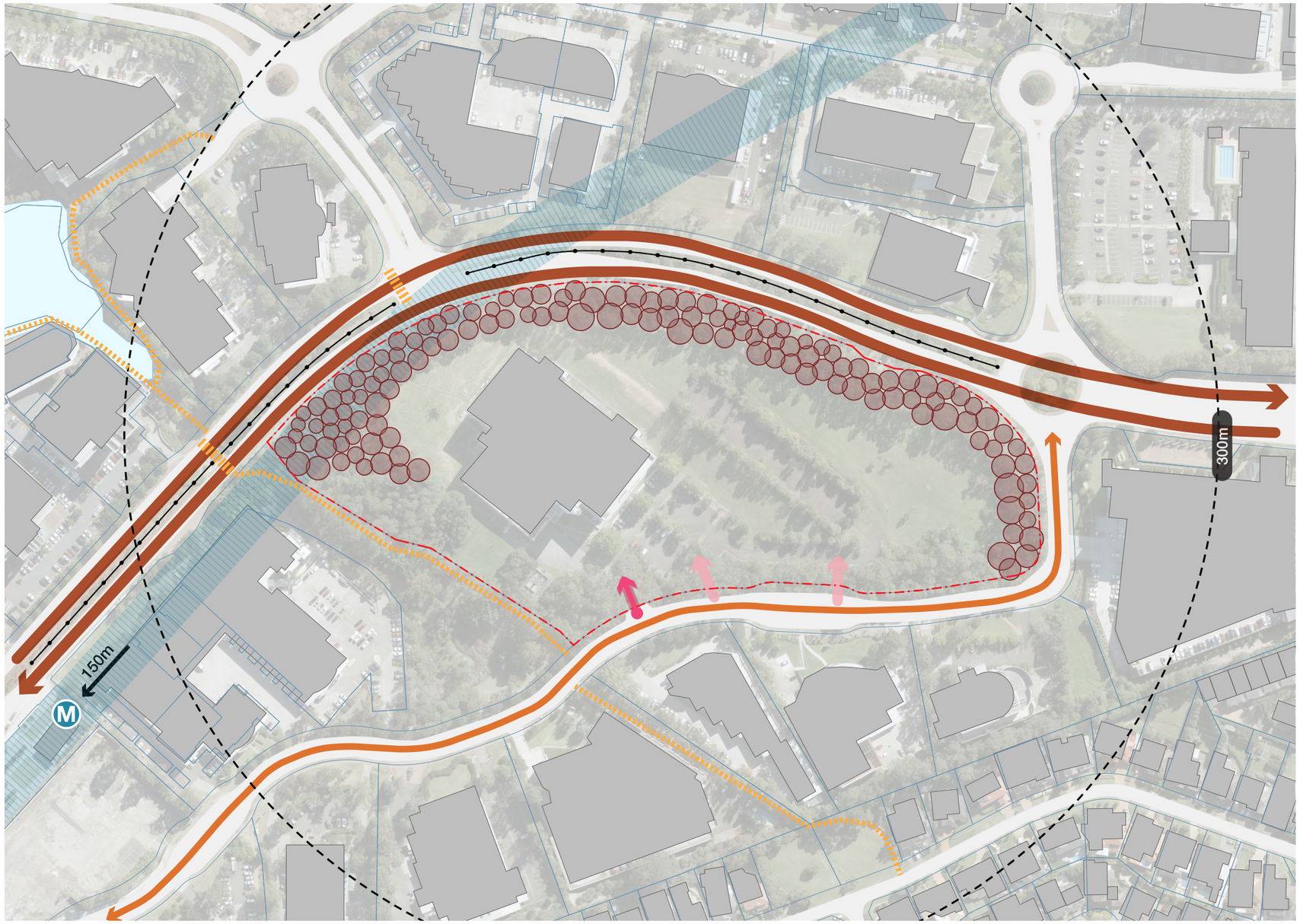


KEY

- Site Boundary
- Major Roads
- Street Network
- Existing Open Space

Site movement and permeability

The site is bound on three sides by streets which provide access clear access. Norwest Boulevard to the north provides limited pedestrian access. Brookhollow Avenue is a more quiet street with the existing access point on the south east corner. To the west is a riparian corridor with an existing pedestrian pathway which forms part of a greater pedestrian network in Norwest.



KEY

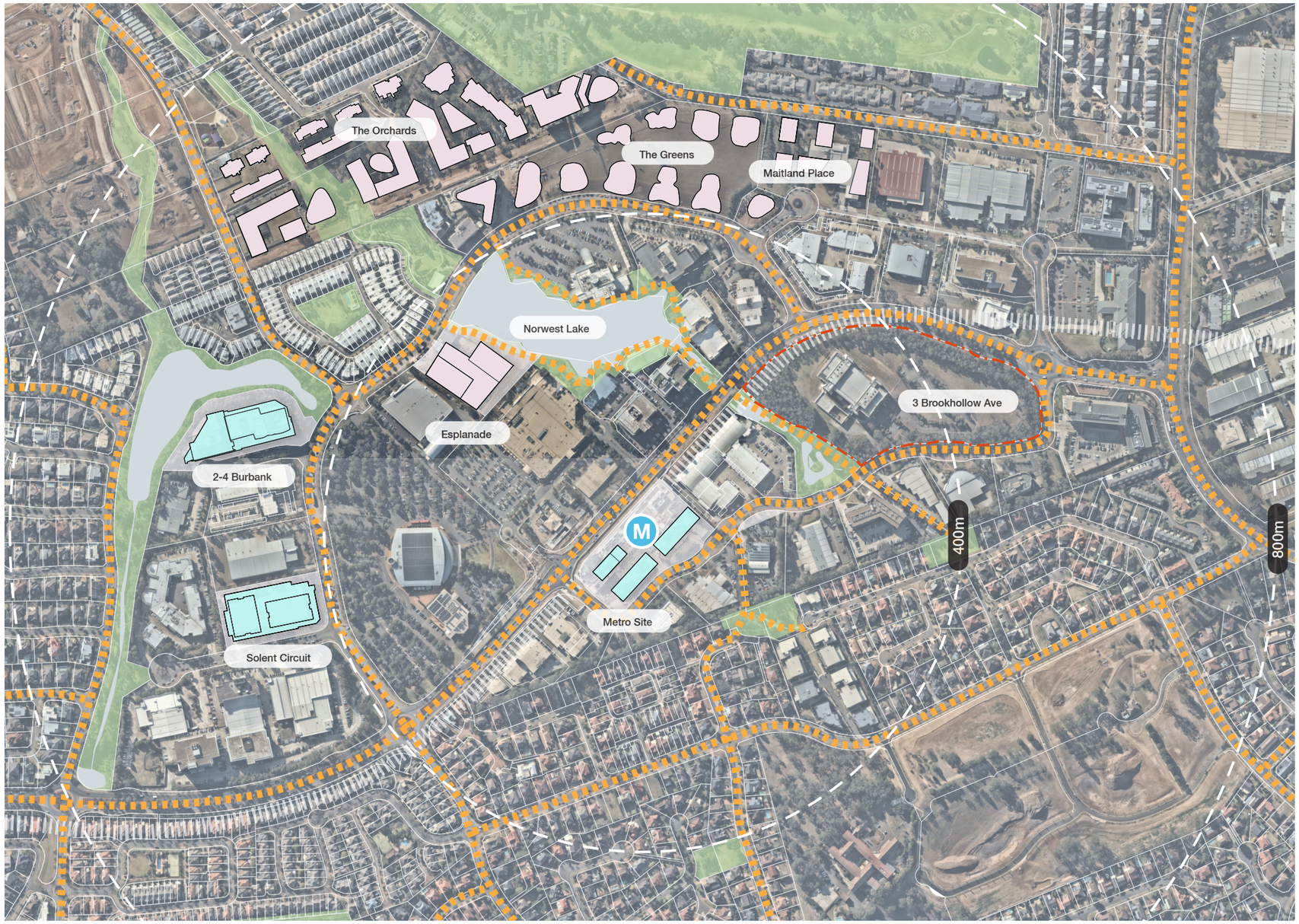
- Site Boundary
- Major Roads
- Street Network
- Pedestrian Pathway
- Existing Acess Point
- Potential Access Point

3.5 Transportation

Local pedestrian pathways

Pedestrian networks provide connections between the site, local open space, metro station and the local centre. Pedestrian networks within Norwest are more permeable than the street network with many walking paths connecting cul-de-sacs and business parks.

The site benefits from multiple pedestrian connections, in particular direct access from Solent Circuit, connecting to future residential population, as well as connections to existing residential areas through the riparian corridor and on to Norwest Lake.

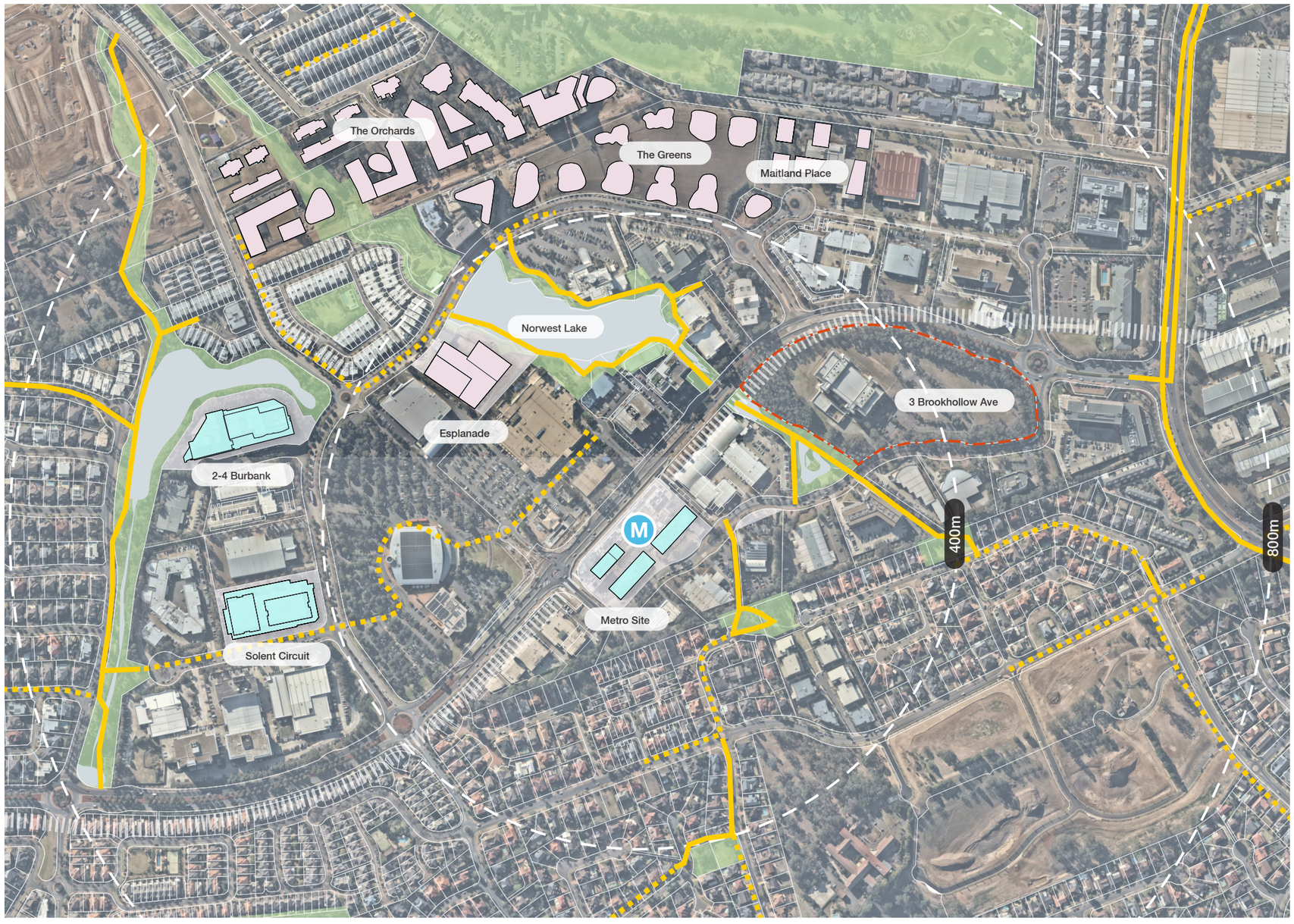


KEY

- Site Boundary
- Walking Pathway
- Existing Open Spaces

Local cycle network

The existing cycle network is fragmented with some designated cycle paths provided and other shared paths. There is an opportunity to link some of these cycle paths on the subject site.

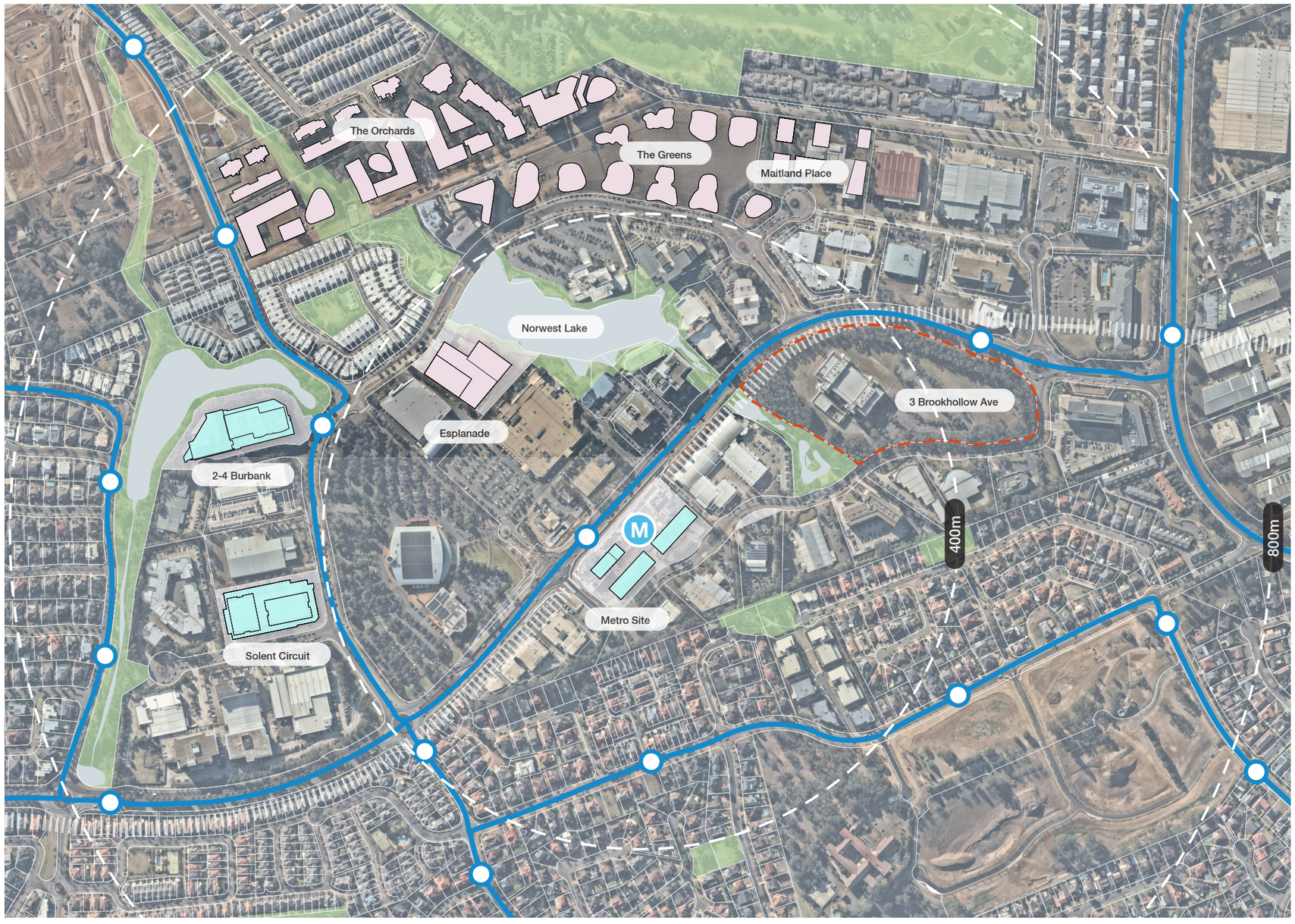


KEY

- Site Boundary
- Cycling Pathways
- Shared Pathways

Local bus stop network

In addition to the metro station, bus routes service the area. There are a number of bus stops within close walking distance, including one located adjacent to the site on Norwest Boulevard. There are local and express routes to the Hills District, Parramatta and the CBD.



KEY

- Site Boundary
- Bus Routes

1200m radius from Site East and West

The site area is large and this diagram catchments areas covered measured from the western and eastern edges of the site boundary.



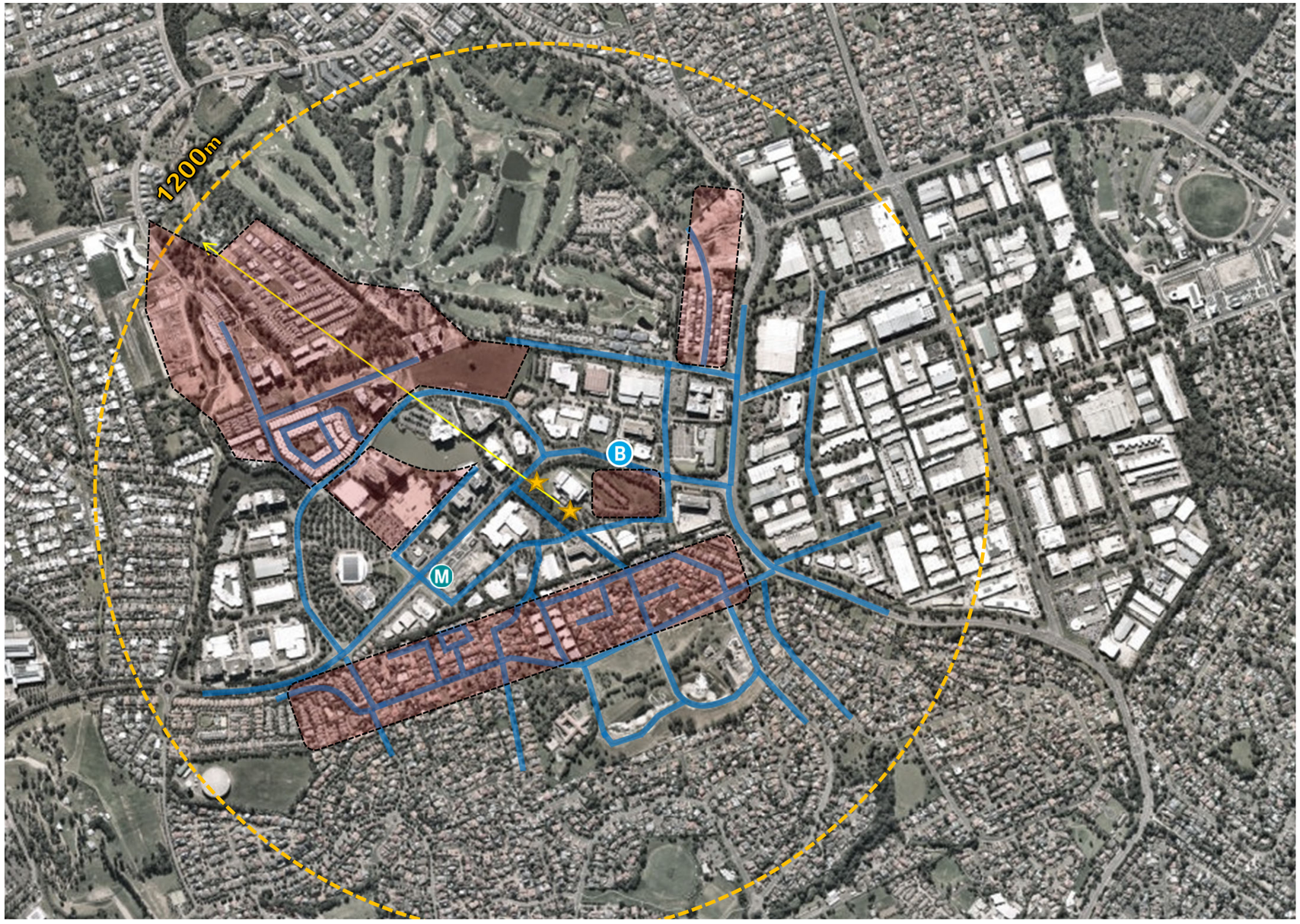
KEY

- Site Boundary
- Catchment from western end of site
- Catchment from eastern end of site

Existing 1200m pedestrian catchment area

The 1200m catchment area shows both a 1200m radius from the site and 1200m walking distance from the entry point. This highlights the different residential areas within this catchment.

Source:
Rapid Transport Assessment by JMT Consulting



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1200m radius as crow flies

School entry point

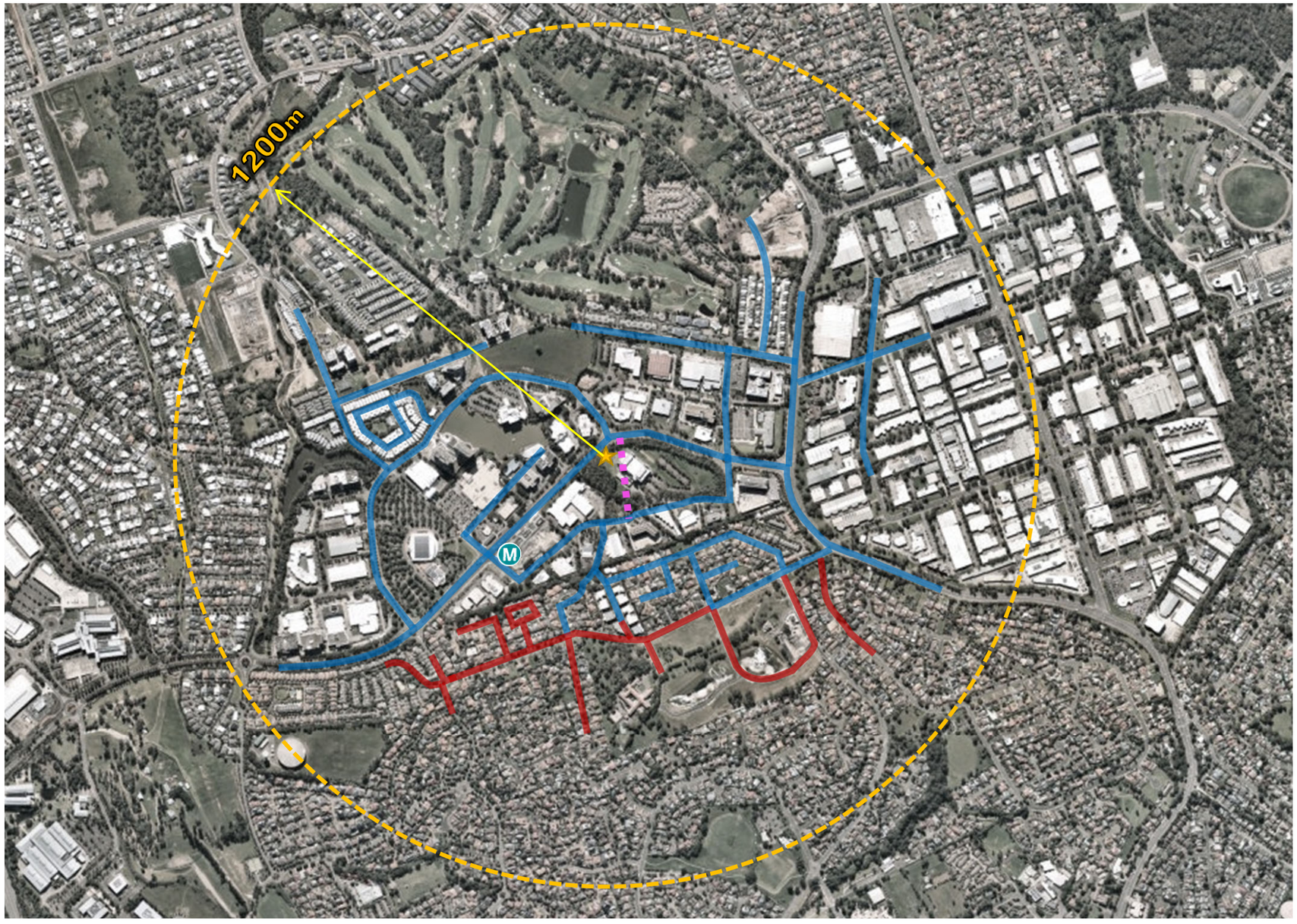
Existing 1.2km catchment

Planned residential development

Extended 1200m pedestrian catchment area

With the provision of a through-site link, the catchment is extended to include a greater residential area to the south of Brookhollow Avenue.

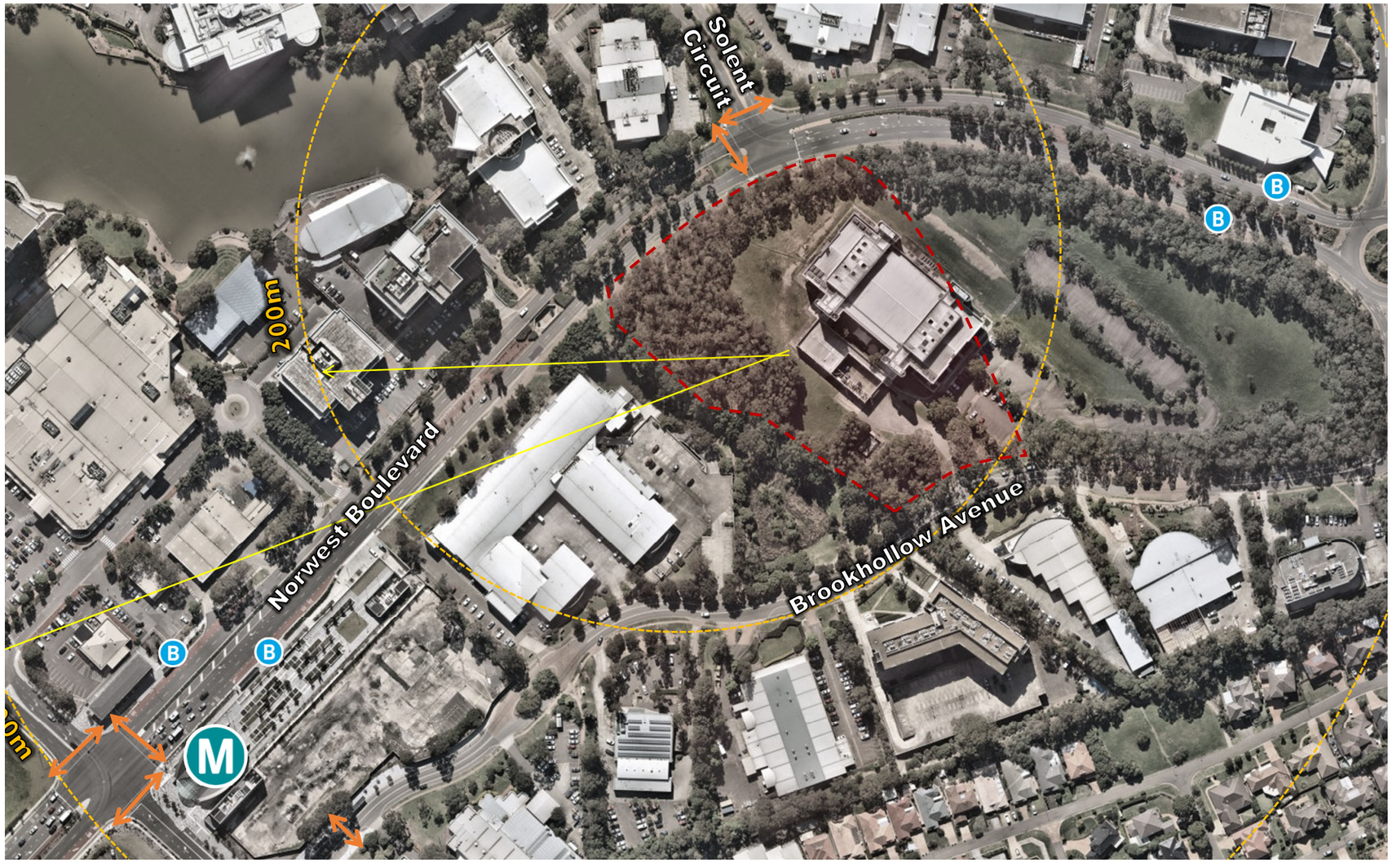
Source:
Rapid Transport Assessment by JMT Consulting



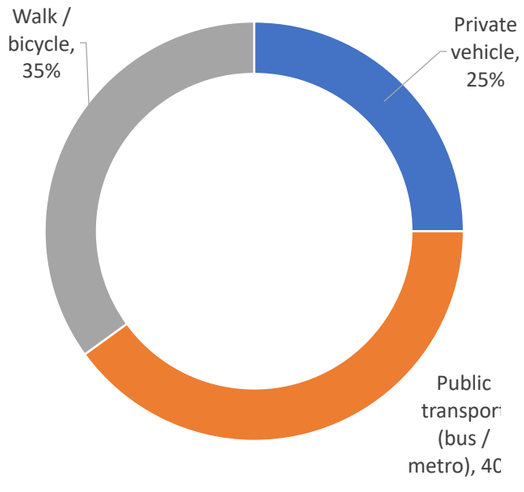
Site transportation

Pedestrian access to the site is provided along Norwest Boulevard and Brookhollow Avenue. The key pedestrian site entry is located at the intersection of Solent Circuit. Both the metro station and bus stops are located on Norwest Boulevard.

Source:
Rapid Transport Assessment by JMT Consulting



Potential mode share / travel demand



Bus routes

The sire is serviced by the following bus routes:

632: Rouse Hill to Pennant Hills
half hourly weekday, hourly weekend

660: Castlewood to Parramatta
half hourly (average) weekday, hourly weekend

662: Castle Hill to Parramatta
hourly (average) weekday, hourly weekend

664: Rouse Hill to Pennant Hills
half hourly (average) weekday, hourly weekend

715: Rouse Hill to Seven Hills
half hourly (average) weekday, hourly weekend

730: Castle Hills to Blacktown
half hourly (average) weekday,
half hourly weekend

Source:
Rapid Transport Assessment by JMT Consulting



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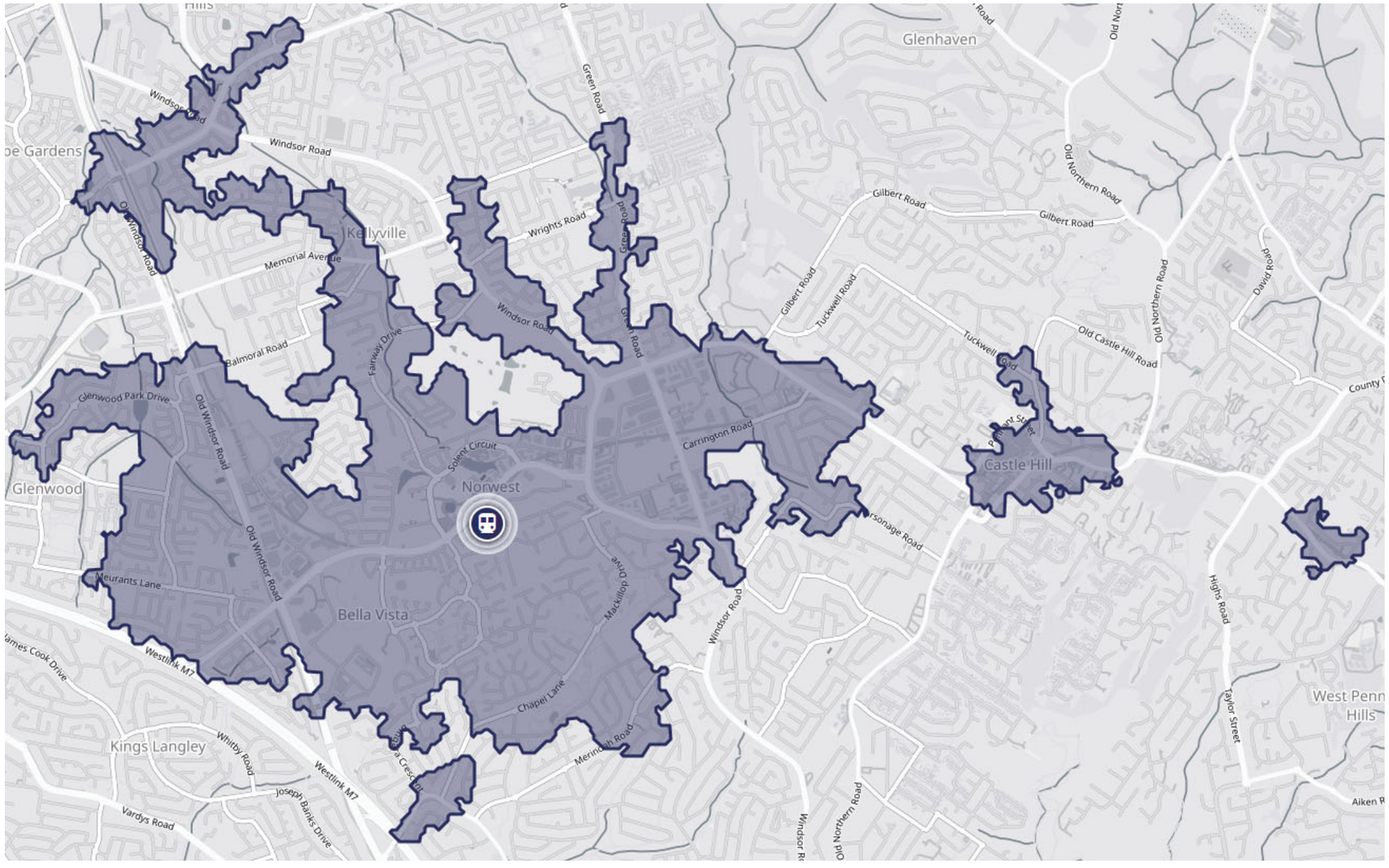
Bus route

15 minute public transport catchment

With Norwest metro station within 400m, the school offers a 15 minute public transport catchment that extends to Stanhope Gardens, Glenwood, Bella Vista, Castle Hill and parts of West Pennant Hills.

Source:
Rapid Transport Assessment by JMT Consulting



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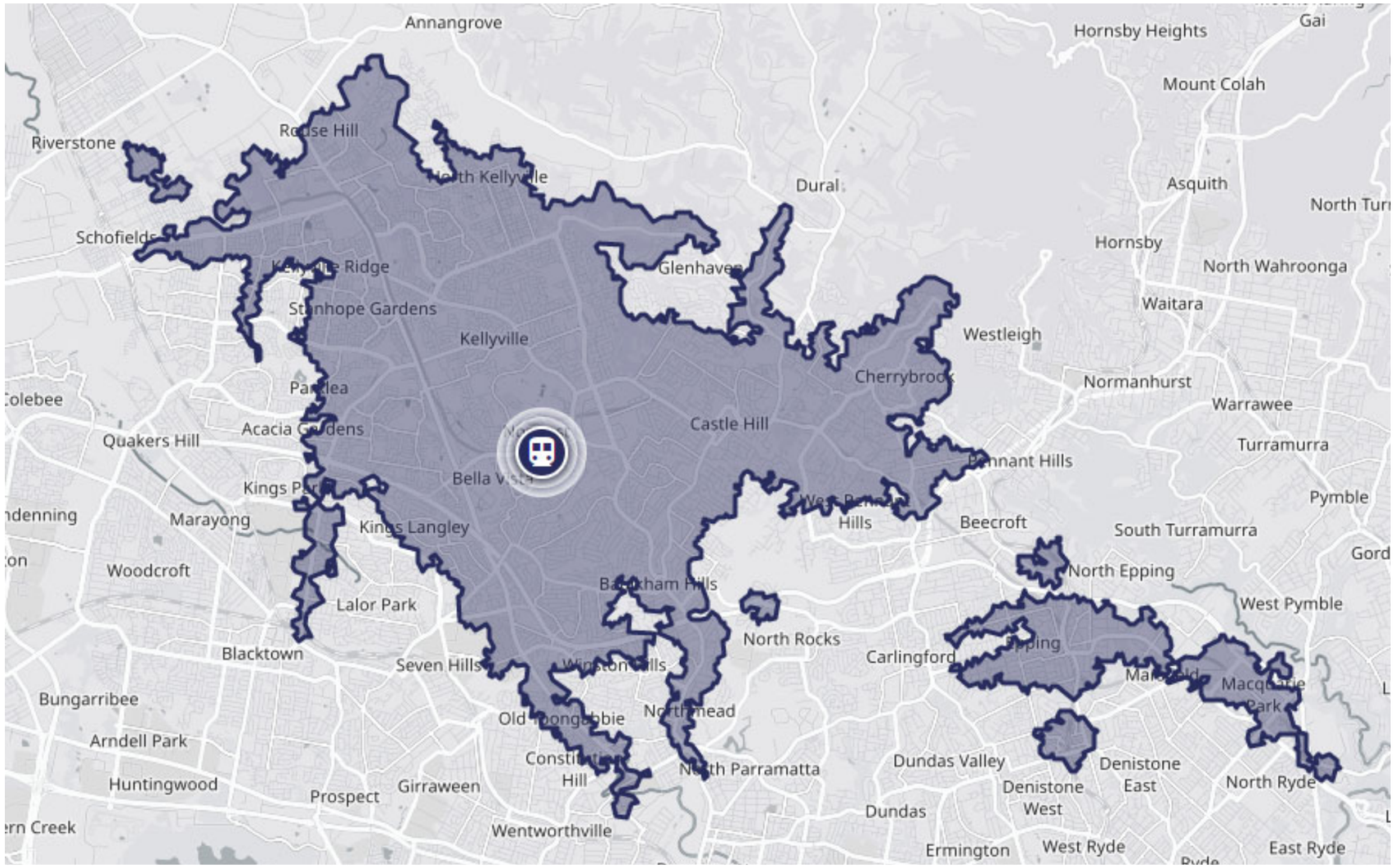
30 minute public transport catchment

The proximity of Norwest metro station to the school sees a 30 minute public transport catchment that extending to Riverstone, Schofields, Kellyville, Dural, Blacktown,Wentworthvill, North Parramatta, Epping and North Ryde.

Source:
Rapid Transport Assessment by JMT Consulting



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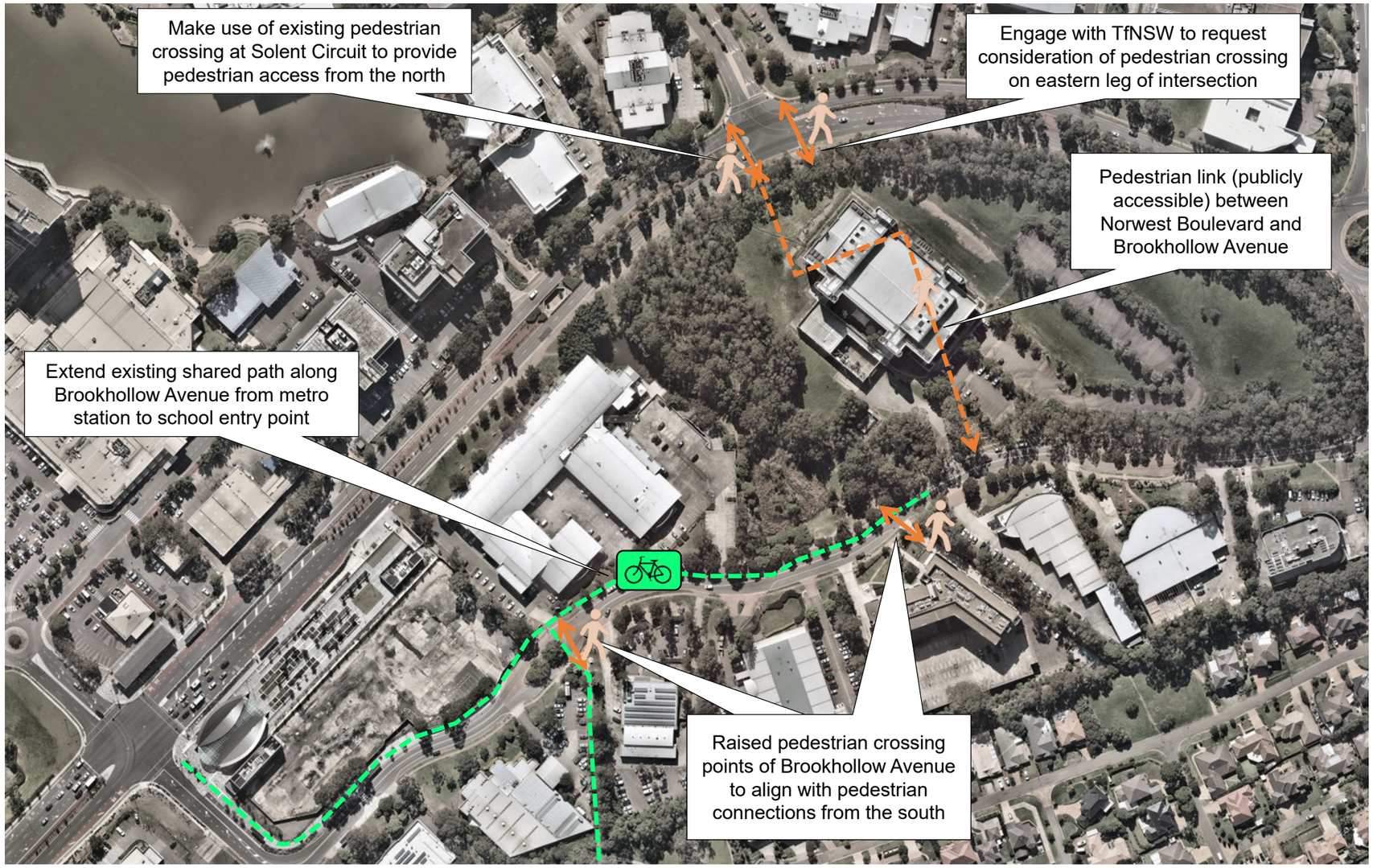
Pedestrian and Cyclist Connection Opportunities

Opportunities exist to improve on the pedestrian and cyclist connections as follows:

- pedestrian link between Brookhollow Avenue and Solent Circuit
- Raised pedestrian crossing points along Brookhollow Avenue
- Engage with TfNSW to open discussions for an east pedestrian crossing to Solent Circuit
- Extend shared path network

Source:
Rapid Transport Assessment by JMT Consulting

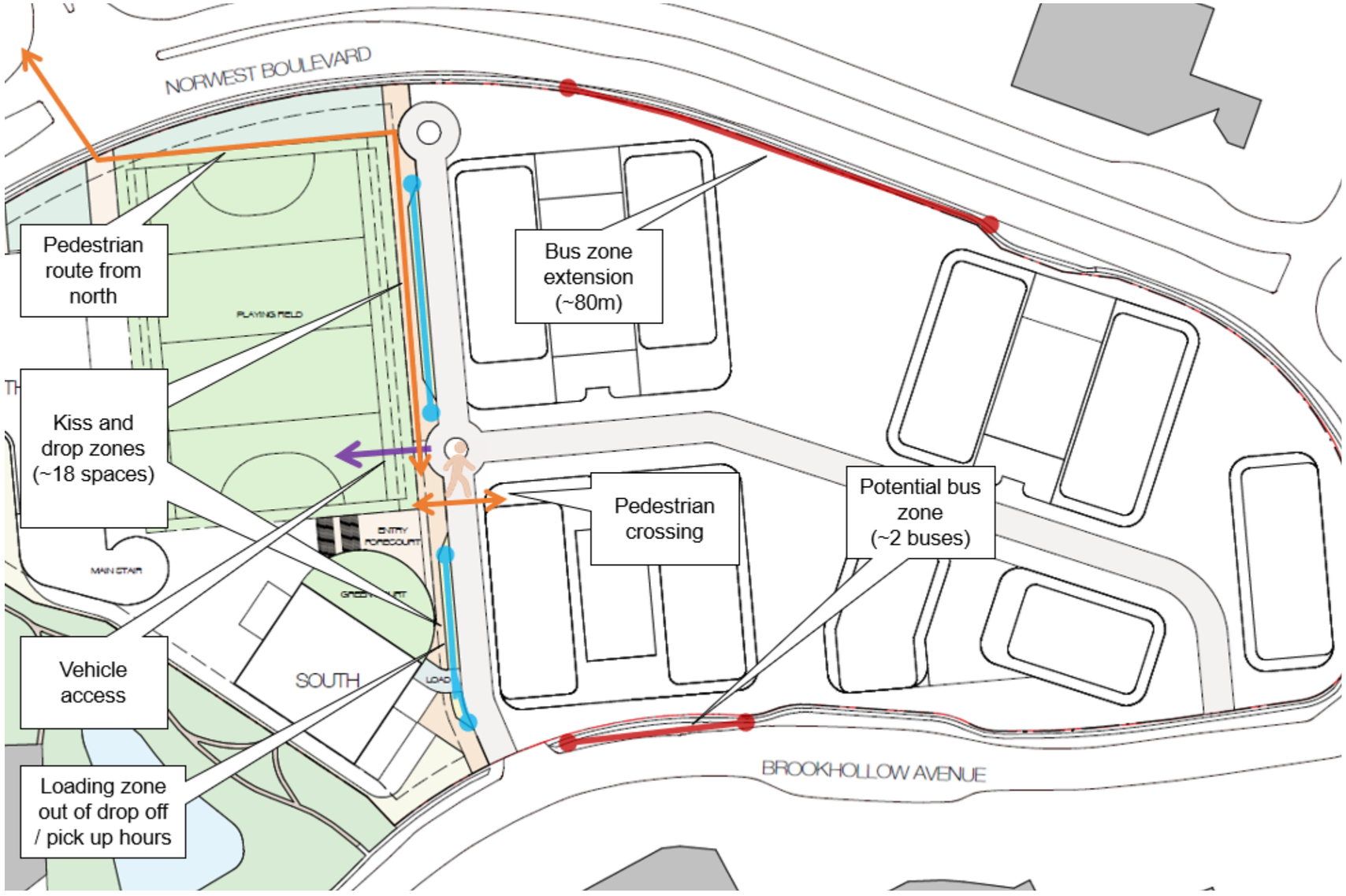


Site Infrastructure Opportunities

Opportunities exist to improve site infrastructure as follows:

- extend existing bus stop to Norwest Boulevard
- extend existing bus stop to Brookhollow Avenue
- provide pedestrian crossing opposite school entry
- provide kiss and drop zone for 18 spaces

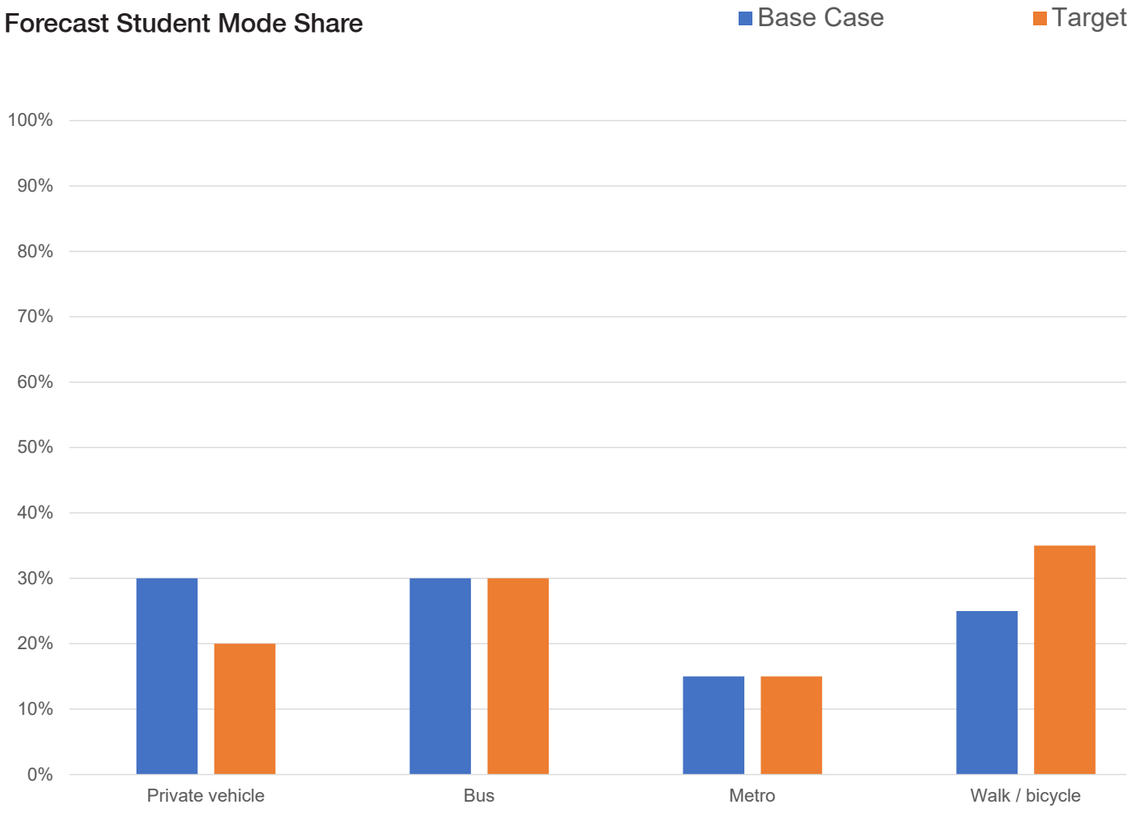
Source:
Rapid Transport Assessment by JMT Consulting

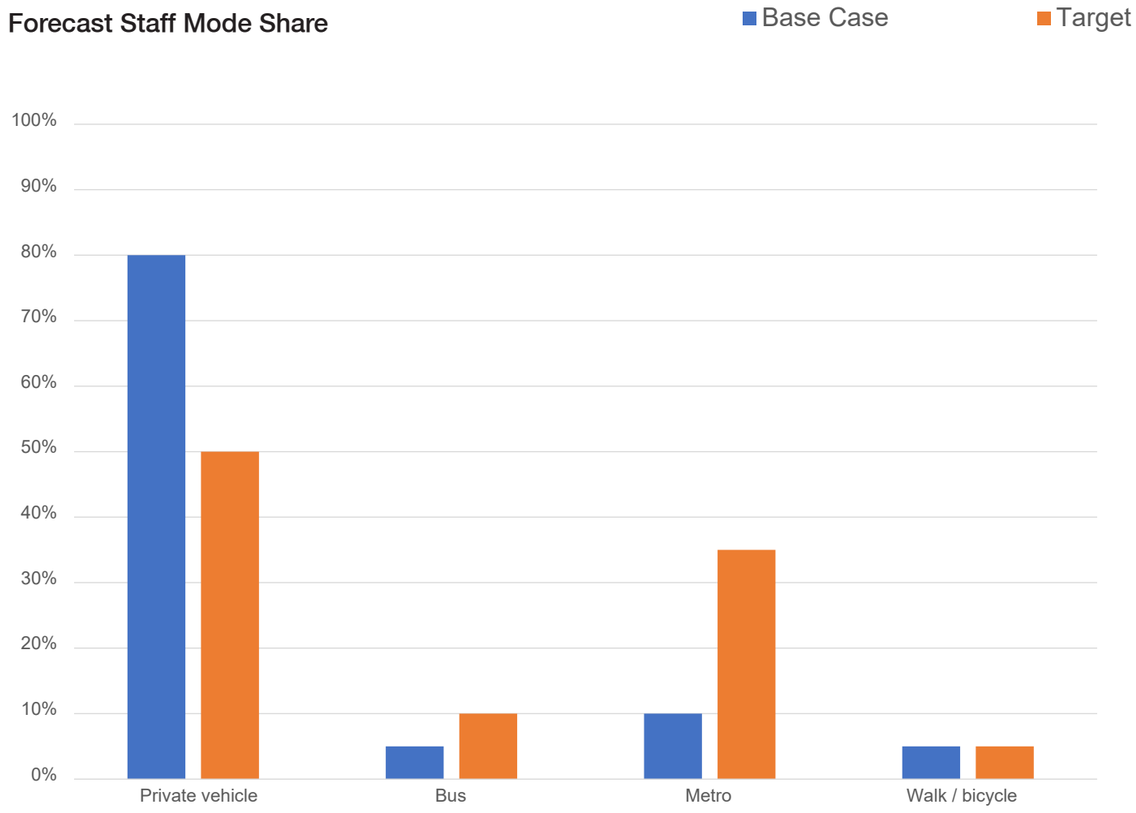


Share Mode Charts

The below diagrams reveal that the transportation mix for students is relatively even between pedestrian and bicycle, metro, bus and private vehicle. On the other hand, it is anticipated that the majority of staff will travel by private vehicle, with the base case at 80%.

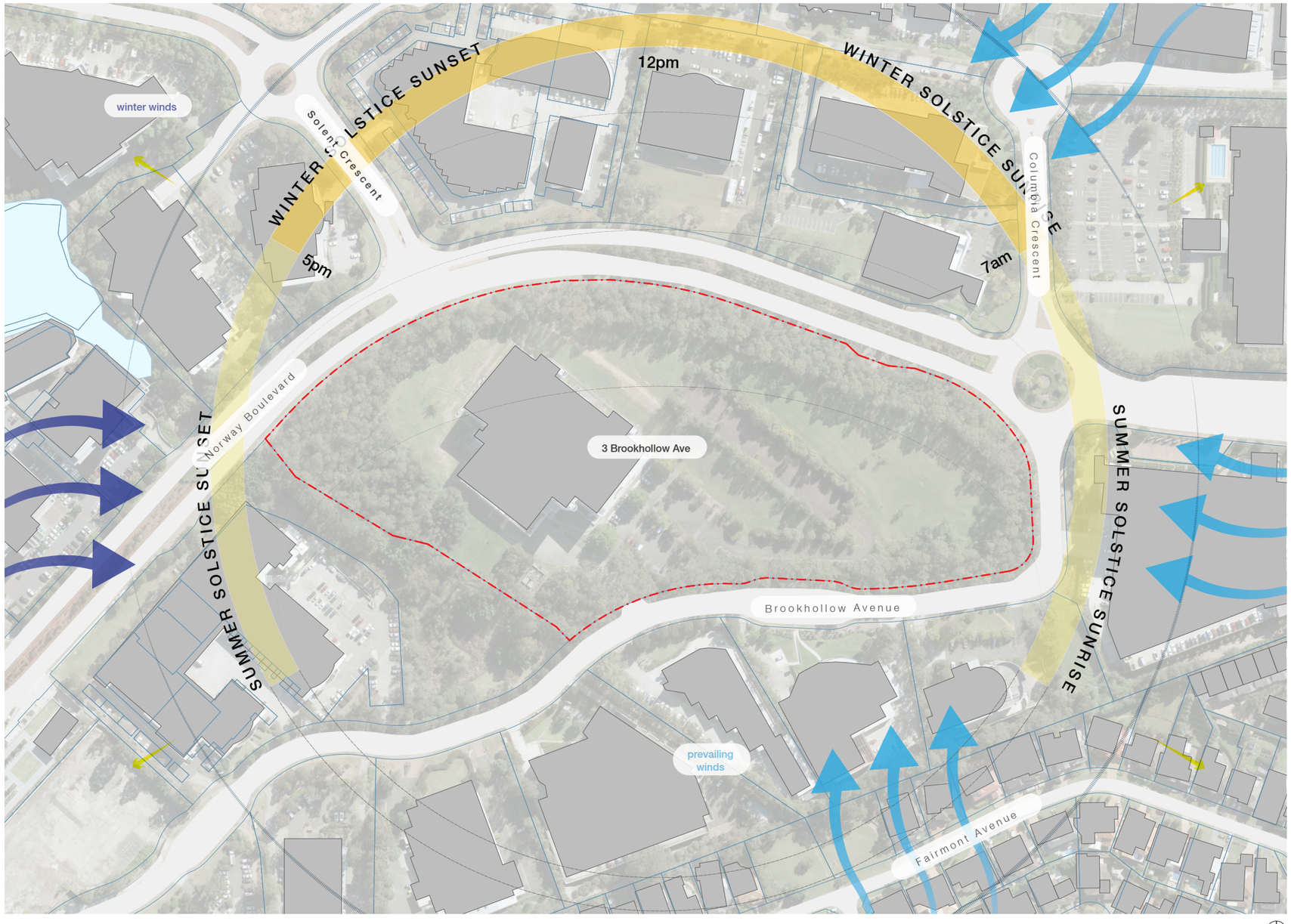
Source:
Rapid Transport Assessment by JMT Consulting





3.6 Micro climate

There is excellent solar access to the site along the northern boundary with Norwest Boulevard limiting overshadowing. There are prevailing winds from the south and winter winds from the north west.



KEY

- Site Boundary
- Winter winds
- Prevailing winds

3.7 Vegetation

The riparian corridor to the west provides a significant amount of vegetation. This gives a green outlook to the site and can provide borrowed amenity. The site is also bound with some existing trees. The best quality trees are positioned within the Strangers Creek riparian corridor or close to the boundary.



KEY

- Site Boundary
- Riperian Zone
- Potential to maintain existing trees

Site Vegetation



Iconic trees adjacent Strangers Creek pedestrian path



Dense vegetation to site embankment adjacent riparian corridor



Site boundary trees along Norwest Road, west site



Dense undergrowth to site embankment adjacent riparian corridor



Boundary trees along Brookhollow Avenue



Site boundary with Strangers Creek at interface with Norwest Bld

3.8 Topography and gradient

The topography of the site changes from east to west. There are sloping sections which fall west towards the riparian corridor. The high point of the site is RL+104 with the low point in the north west corner falling to RL+82.



KEY

- Site Boundary
- Contours 1m
- Downhill
- Slope

Site Topography



Consistent slope along Brookehollow Avenue sloping up to west



Embankment from Strangers Creek with view to data centre



Internal embankment between car parking bays



Consistent slope to Norwest Boulevard sloping down to west



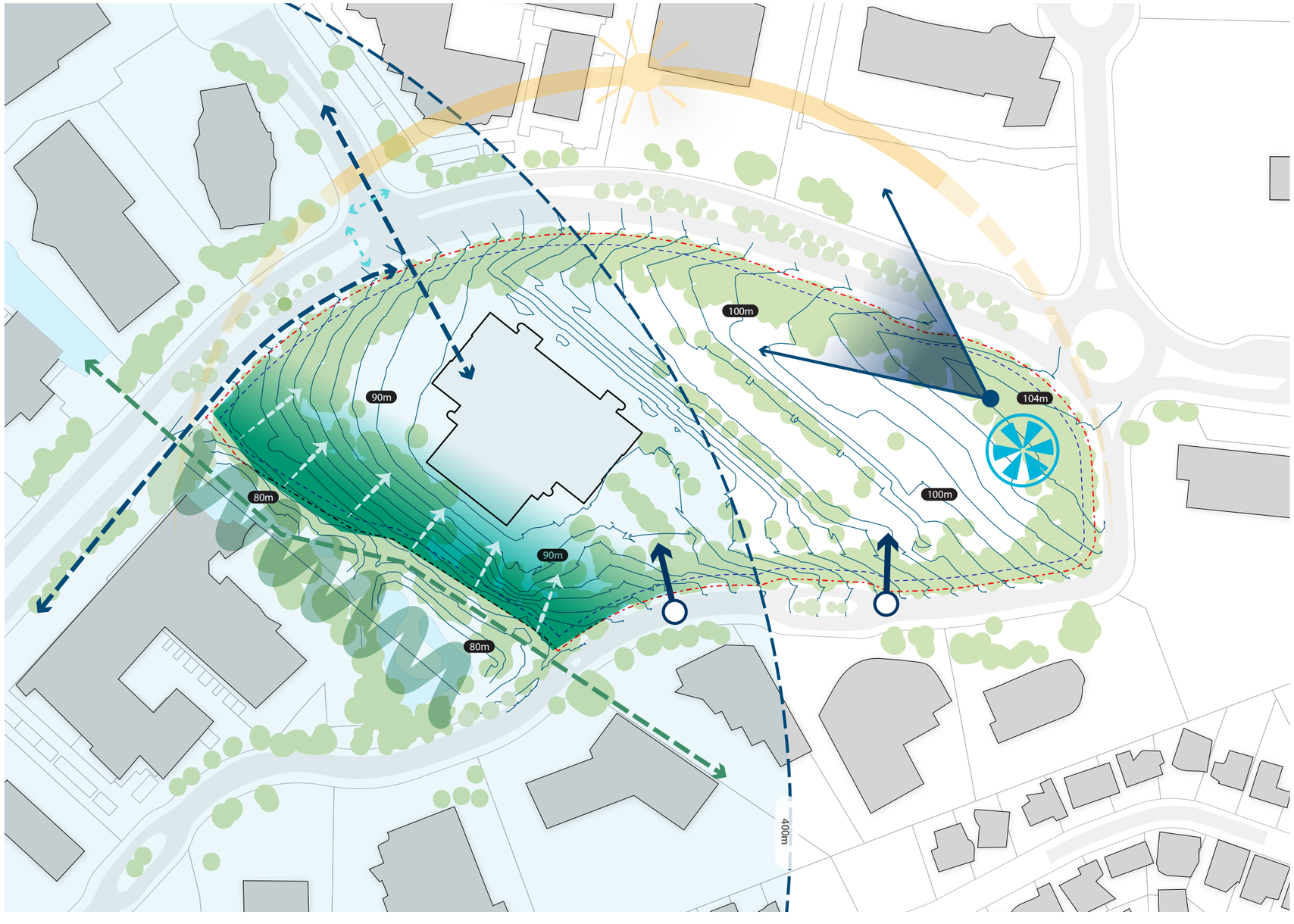
Internal embankment adjacent data centre, looking south



Internal embankment adjacent data centre, looking north

3.9 Site opportunities

- The proximity to the Metro stations will offer future residents and students access to higher order public transport options
- The riparian zone offers amenity and natural cooling to the local environment
- The active transport connection along the riparian zone will provide passive recreation space and the opportunity connect with local neighbourhoods and directly to market town
- Improvements to the riparian zone will extend the passive recreation space of the site beyond the boundary of the study area, maximising the site
- The top of the site offers views across Norwest and Bella Vista and presents an opportunity for a landmark building
- Utilise access points along Brookhollow Avenue to provide vehicular access to the school site via an internal road network



3.10 Site constraints

- The Metro path prevents basements being built in the North West of the site.
- Norwest Boulevard is a busy road which will lead to a defensive school building in response to the noise and the hostile environment
- Norwest Boulevard severs the site from the activity to the North, limiting connectivity to the local shops, amenities and high density residential areas.
- The topography of the site is steep and will constrain development, the ability to achieve a level playing fields and the overall walkability of the local area.
- Existing site vegetation at the interface with the Strangers Creek corridor enhances the amenity of the pedestrian experience - this quality will need to be considered in the school design

