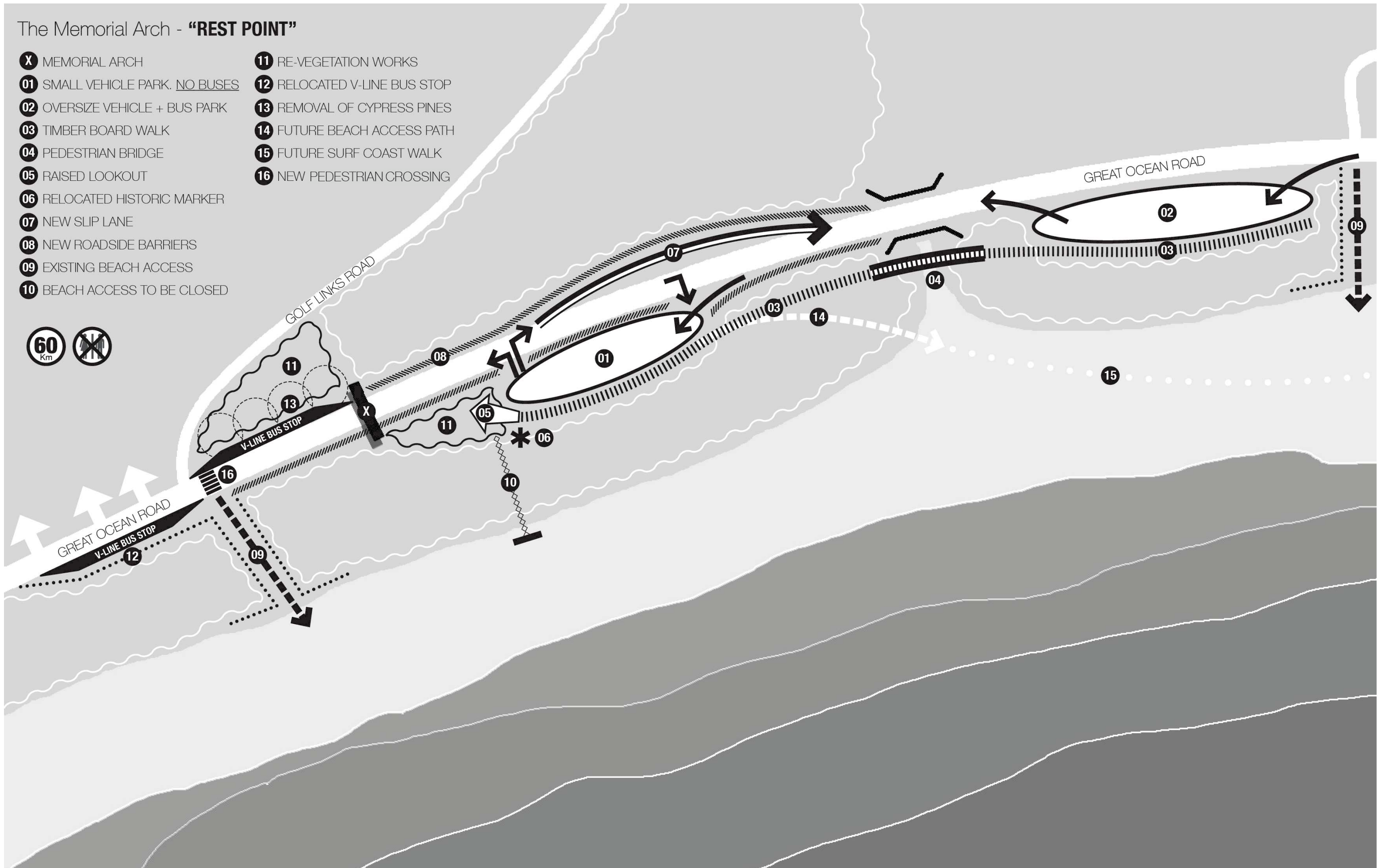


The Memorial Arch - "REST POINT"

- X** MEMORIAL ARCH
- 01** SMALL VEHICLE PARK. NO BUSES
- 02** OVERSIZE VEHICLE + BUS PARK
- 03** TIMBER BOARD WALK
- 04** PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
- 05** RAISED LOOKOUT
- 06** RELOCATED HISTORIC MARKER
- 07** NEW SLIP LANE
- 08** NEW ROADSIDE BARRIERS
- 09** EXISTING BEACH ACCESS
- 10** BEACH ACCESS TO BE CLOSED
- 11** RE-VEGETATION WORKS
- 12** RELOCATED V-LINE BUS STOP
- 13** REMOVAL OF CYPRESS PINES
- 14** FUTURE BEACH ACCESS PATH
- 15** FUTURE SURF COAST WALK
- 16** NEW PEDESTRIAN CROSSING



4.3 'Rest Point'

4.3.1 Overview and Design Intent

The 'Rest Point' scenario is an extension of the 'Snap Shot' arrangement but with the addition of bus parking further to the east of the current car park. This is an area currently disturbed and identified under existing GORCC Management plans for weed eradication. There is also an existing roadside lay over in the vicinity. The two parking areas are linked via a boardwalk and bridge, with a similar raised viewing lookout provided to capture views and photo opportunities of the Arch. The 'Rest Point' scenario is predicated on maintaining the current experiences and amenities at the Memorial Arch across a larger area to reduce conflicts and congestion.

In developing the 'Rest Point' proposition, the utilisation of the existing V-Line bus stop for tourist bus parking rather than creating a park to the east was considered, however it was felt that this location was less suitable. It is located on the departure rather than arrival side of the Arch for the majority of users, would create conflicts with public buses, may encourage visitors to access the Arch along the road or shoulder, and would not provide separation from tourism and local uses.

The 'Rest Point' proposition considers the precinct more broadly, and looks ahead towards the potential of future inter-connected walks with a series of nodes and destinations - including the Memorial Arch. It is envisaged that this scenario may be a longer term consideration, with the ability to be developed in stages.

Specific elements include:

- The addition of roadside barriers as per other scenarios.
- The existing Diggers Memorial statue and Great Ocean Road bronze plaque is retained but re-located in a position integrated with the boardwalk and lookout. Other existing historical and interpretive signs near the Arch would be removed in their current form and re-interpreted as part of a combined narrative and integrated within the structure rather than stand alone.
- The existing beach access path from the carpark will be closed and re-vegetated, with the local beach access adjacent to Golf Links Road retained and dune area protected (fenced). Additional definition and traffic control measures will be provided to create a safer pedestrian crossing at this point.

The existing V-line bus stop to the west of the Arch will be moved slightly west (approx. 25m) to resolve the conflict with existing beach access and to deter use of the stop for visitation of the Arch.

- Under this (and all) scenarios the existing Cypress Trees are to be removed and the area re-vegetated.
- Under this (and all) scenarios there are no toilet facilities included.
- The speed limit is reduced to 60km/hr under this scenario.

4.3.2 Broader Context

A key aspect in relation to the broader context is the consideration of future planned **walks** including a potential long term extension of the Surf Coast walk to Cumberland River. This provides the opportunity to see the Great Ocean Road as not only a driving route, but as a walking route with a new range of experiences, discovery and lower impact tourism.

Historical and interpretive signs and monuments including the Diggers Memorial statue and Great Ocean Road bronze plaque would be retained and re-configured at the Arch, as per the 'Snap Shot' scenario.



The above images are precedents, or examples of how materials and design of any new elements would be chosen sensitively to complement the natural features of the site.

4.3.3 Assessment criteria

The 'Rest Point' option addresses the assessment criteria as follows:

Access and mobility

Vehicular and pedestrian access to the Arch has not been reduced, but controlled and dispersed to respond to the safety and accessibility conflicts which currently exist. All vehicle types are catered for. More defined and well-designed boardwalk and viewing areas have the opportunity to create safer and improved all abilities access. Direct access to the beach for visitors may be a future addition. Local beach access is maintained and controlled.

Facilities and Amenity

Whilst current access levels and anticipated visitor numbers may be maintained, toilet facilities have not been deemed appropriate. The opportunities to better utilise and promote existing facilities nearby and en-route would need to be taken. There are opportunities within this scenario for improvements to general facilities and amenities at the site such as bins, signage, barriers, viewing areas.

Cultural Heritage

The Diggers Memorial statue and bronze plaque is retained within this scenario, and the opportunity for a more integrated location exists. The aggregation and re-interpretation of other historical and informative signage into a more single narrative is an opportunity to consolidate the unique symbolism and visitor experience of the Arch.

Ecology and Environment

The overall footprint of the existing parking area may not be reduced, and further bus parking infrastructure would be provided that will limit any net gains for re-vegetation. The inclusion however of barriers, separated walking and viewing areas and reduced beach access all intend to improve the protection and quality of the environment. The provision of extensive constructed boardwalk, bridges and viewing areas may be at risk of future climate change impacts including storm surge and sea level rise.

Management and Broader context

This option does not reduce overall access and anticipated visitor numbers. The dispersion of facilities and infrastructure does expand the site area which may present more onerous requirements, issues and overheads for on-going management.

Financial and commercial

This option, with expanded and more dispersed facilities and infrastructure may present more scope for commercial ventures at the Arch.