

DRAFT CITY SPATIAL PLAN

JULY 2022



CITY OF MELBOURNE

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

The City of Melbourne respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we govern, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge and honour the unbroken spiritual, cultural and political connection the Wurundjeri, Bunurong, Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wadawurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin have to this unique place for more than 2000 generations.

We are committed to our reconciliation journey, because at its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples, for the benefit of all Victorians.

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19 July 2022

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DRAFT CITY SPATIAL PLAN

The City of Melbourne is a city of possibility. Where the world meets and the extraordinary happens.

Our vision is to be a city of possibility. To achieve the vision there are six high level goals:

- **Economy of the future:** Create a strong, adaptive, sustainable and thriving city economy supported by a diverse mix of industries and jobs that provide dignity and opportunity
- **Melbourne's unique identity and place:** Recognise and protect the places, people and cultures that make Melbourne a unique, vibrant and creative city with world-leading liveability
- **Aboriginal Melbourne:** Ensure that First Peoples' culture, lore, knowledge, and heritage enrich the city's growth and development
- **Climate and biodiversity emergency:** Reduce emissions and waste in order to protect public health, strengthen the economy and create a city that mitigates and adapts to climate change
- **Access and affordability:** Reduce economic and social inequality by ensuring universal access to housing, core services and information
- **Safety and wellbeing:** Enhance the safety and wellbeing of all who live, visit, work and do business in Melbourne

The following objectives will guide growth and change:

- Build a thriving and adaptive city economy and a sustainable future city
- Recognise the places, people and cultures that make this a distinctive, vibrant and creative city
- Ensure everyone feels safe and included as they participate in city life
- Reduce inequality by providing access to housing, core services and information
- Act immediately to reduce our emissions and waste, and adapt to climate change
- Ensure Aboriginal culture is central to Melbourne's identity
- Enable high-quality design and invite design excellence

Purpose

The City Spatial Plan seeks to realise the vision through a range of thematic and place based strategies. It does so by:

- Considering current and emerging trends at both global and local scales to identify opportunities and challenges
- Understanding the challenges facing the City and how areas, buildings and land uses will change in response
- Reflecting our endorsed strategies and analysis

Part One: Introduction

Part Two: Strategic Directions

Built Form and Public Realm	Environment	Water
Movement	Economy and Innovation	Culture and Heritage
Infrastructure	Land use	Community Wellbeing

Part Three: Areas

Hoddle Grid	Existing renewal	Transitioning
Evolving	Potential renewal	Established
Special areas		

Figure 1. Draft City Spatial Plan structure

Background

The City Spatial Plan has been developed through a review and analysis of:

- Our community aspirations and strategic objectives from our Council Plan 2021-2025
- Council's policies, strategies and plans
- Victorian Government projects, including significant transport infrastructure projects and State policy directions
- Global and local drivers of disruption and change and their impact
- Site surveys, research and population and economy data insights

The City Spatial Plan reflects the critical learnings through COVID-19 and will ensure that the Municipal Planning Strategy remains responsive to new and emerging conditions and opportunities.

SUMMARY OF STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

These city-wide directions will guide strategic growth and change across our municipality to help us achieve our vision.



Built Form and Public Realm

Support equitable, high quality, resilient and adaptable development in all places

- Ensure high quality buildings that enhance the public realm and reinforce the distinct built form character of each place
- Invite excellent design outcomes on significant sites and areas
- Ensure all buildings are built to the highest environmental standards
- Protect winter sun access to public spaces



Environment

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change

- Expand and enhance open spaces
- Strengthen biodiversity corridors and significant habitat areas
- Reach zero net emissions
- Develop a circular economy



Water

Embrace Melbourne's waterways, optimise water quality and fit-for-purpose water use and reduce exposure to flood risk

- Manage the impacts of inundation by creating a water sensitive city
- Embrace our waterways
- Build resilience to climate change through a whole of water cycle approach



Movement

Create places and redesign streets to encourage people to get around on foot, bicycle and public transport

- Design great streets for walking and cycling
- Review off-street parking policies
- Enhance and expand essential public transport services
- Supercharge Melbourne's tram network
- Support highly efficient and innovative solutions to freight delivery and waste systems
- Ensure new technologies deliver a net community benefit



Economy and Innovation

Enable a diverse network of productive, connected and vibrant places that create jobs and enterprises that focus on the needs of the future

- Maintain the primacy of the central city as the business and experience centre of Melbourne
- Deliver diverse global innovation precincts and local employment hubs
- Create vibrant and connected neighbourhoods that enable our economy and international attraction
- Protect spaces for start-ups, innovative and creative industries and artists
- Leverage Melbourne's diverse community as an asset
- Create a digitally enabled public realm that fosters engagement and collaboration



Culture and Heritage

Embrace creativity, ensure First People's culture and heritage enrich our growth, and celebrate Melbourne's unique heritage and character

- Celebrate Traditional Owner cultural values and heritage places
- Deliver inclusivity
- Celebrate our unique character and heritage
- Place art at the start
- Expand and enhance the Melbourne Arts Precinct
- Expand and enhance the capacity of Melbourne's venues and public spaces to host events of all scales.



Infrastructure

Maintain our liveability, prosperity and sustainability by identifying, advocating and investing in all types of infrastructure

- Deliver essential infrastructure that provides positive economic, social and environmental outcomes for the whole community
- Prioritise early infrastructure planning and delivery, and activation of key spaces in our urban renewal places
- Prioritise investment and delivery of infrastructure
- Manage infrastructure to maximise its benefits, realise our investments and contribute to our COVID-19 recovery
- Ensure infrastructure enables a transition to a low carbon, and a more environmentally sustainable future
- Collaborate to deliver infrastructure that is equitable and resilient



Land Use

Maximise the use of land for social, environmental and economic benefit

- Create a vibrant mix of uses
- Optimise urban renewal
- Deliver density in the right places with appropriate infrastructure
- Design in equity and access
- Balance the impact of residential development on economic use of land



Community Wellbeing

Promote community health, wellbeing and inclusion through considered approaches to design and infrastructure provision

- Support a people-centred approach
- Support high quality design, access and equity in public spaces and building design
- Expand and enhance our open spaces
- Empower a broad range of stakeholders through improved participation in place-based decision making
- Define appropriate solutions to affordable housing throughout the municipality

SUMMARY OF AREAS

Change is expected everywhere. Areas will change in different ways. Some areas will undergo complete transformations, while others will continue to evolve and adapt.

Areas within the municipality have been categorised by the degree of change expected and their role within the municipality - as individual areas as well as supporting a resilient City of Melbourne.

Areas within each change category will have a different character, density, use and built form. Within each local area there will be areas of higher and lower growth.

Special areas

Areas within the municipality that provide a distinct economic, cultural, recreational and environmental function and are unlikely to change for the foreseeable future.



Flemington Racecourse and Melbourne Showgrounds, Port of Melbourne, Sports Precinct, Domain Parklands

Central City

Hoddle Grid

The Hoddle Grid is the heart of our city and is a unique place category.



Hoddle Grid

Evolving areas

Maturing areas that will continue to change with infill development, public realm improvements and major projects.



Docklands and Southbank

Renewal Precincts

Existing renewal

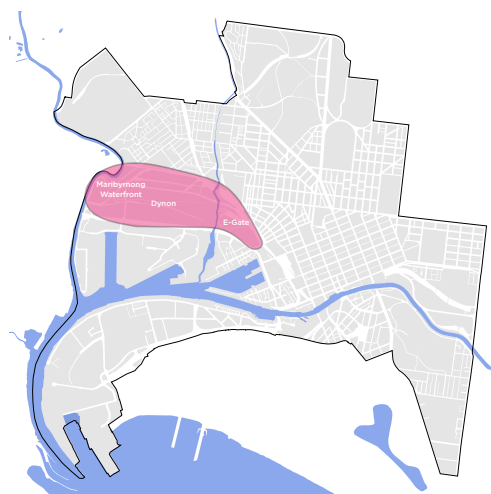
Current or former industrial areas that are undergoing, or will undergo, a significant change in function, form or character at a precinct scale.



Arden, Macaulay, Fishermans Bend: Lorimer and Fishermans Bend: National Employment and Innovation Cluster

Potential renewal

Active industrial areas that play an important strategic role in the current and future economy.



E-Gate, Dynon and Maribyrnong Waterfront

Neighbourhoods

Transitioning areas

Well established areas that are undergoing incremental infill development, modifying the existing built form and use.



West Melbourne and City North

Established areas

Predominately residential neighbourhoods that will accommodate some development as the city changes.



Carlton, East Melbourne and Jolimont, Kensington, Parkville, North Melbourne and South Yarra

PART ONE: INTRODUCTION

Melbourne's history, our key attributes and the context of change.





GUIDING OUR REVITALISATION

Rebounding from the COVID-19 pandemic provides an opportunity to ensure that the City's planning policy settings support a resilient growth strategy; growth which harnesses the productivity, prosperity and participation potential of all to support the delivery of exemplary local neighbourhoods, our on-going liveability, the resilience of the city, and which solves global challenges with on the ground solutions.

A Resilient City

Until early 2020, Melbourne was experiencing significant and sustained population growth. Not only was Melbourne Australia's fastest growing city, but also one of the fastest growing cities in the developed world. With a Greater Melbourne population of five million, pre-2020 projections indicated that Melbourne would surpass Sydney as Australia's largest city by 2026 and grow to eight and a half million by 2050.

This 'booming' population and construction activity created a strong basis for economic opportunities, however it also placed great pressure on the city's liveability - challenging infrastructure provision to support the population and placing upward pressure on affordability.

The arrival of COVID-19 in 2020 disrupted this trajectory. The intermittent implementation of restrictions in Melbourne to mitigate community transmission of COVID-19 resulted in the most significant public health, social and economic challenge Melbourne has faced in a century.

The impacts on Melbourne's central city economy were unique and profound. In August 2020 pedestrian activity in the central city reduced by 95 per cent compared to August 2019. At the time of preparing this Plan, the full extent of the impacts are still unknown.

This slowdown exposed some cracks in our existing infrastructure and systems, but also triggered a period of reflection on those things that help to sustain our city in periods of great uncertainty.

The city will continue to be challenged by future stresses and shocks, both known and unknown - things like climate change (including increasing frequency and severity of bushfires, heat exposure and flooding), economic tensions, and further health emergencies, as well as the local growing pains of economic transition and housing affordability and homelessness.

Our response and revitalisation following the pandemic presents new opportunities to create a resilient city that is prepared to absorb and recover from future shocks and stresses, to maintain the essential functions, structures, and identity that support the city and its population, and to be able to adapt and thrive in the face of continual change.

The definition of urban resilience adopted by the Victorian Government is "the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses and systems within a city to adapt, survive and thrive no matter what kind of chronic stresses

and acute shocks they experience, and to positively transform as a result".

The City Spatial Plan applies this resilience lens to the municipality's anticipated change and growth; it maps our challenges and outlines bold visions for our areas that identify change and adaptive capacity to foster greater resilience in place, and in turn, support the overall resilience of the municipality so that it continues to thrive and prosper amidst change.

The City Spatial Plan aims to establish a basis for creating a resilient thriving city, built on long term shared prosperity, social cohesion and resilience.

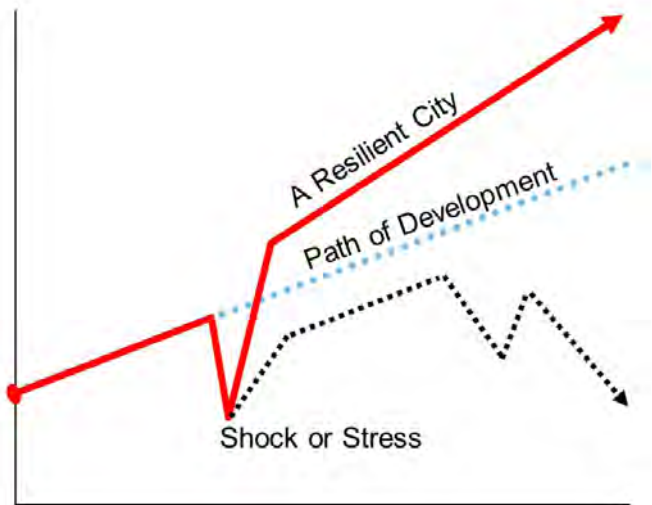


Figure 2. Illustration of a Resilient City's capacity to respond to shocks or stresses

A Liveable City

It is arguably Melbourne's renowned liveability that is its greatest asset. The city's sports and cultural events, bars and restaurants, large and small businesses and diverse neighbourhoods are its biggest drawcard.

Melbourne sits on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung people. For many thousands of years and to this day, the City has been an important meeting place and location for events of political, cultural, social and educational significance. This remains central to the city's identity and prosperity.

Council deeply values our relationship with the Traditional Owners and our vision is for Melbourne to be seen, experienced and thought of as an Aboriginal city. To bring this vision to life, Council is committed to ensuring that Aboriginal culture is central to City's identity through all aspects of our work. Council is seeking to build respect for Aboriginal heritage, culture and knowledge as we strive for reconciliation, recognition, respect and truth telling.

Melbourne's high quality physical and social infrastructure supports the city's liveability. The central city is a dense, integrated mix of commercial offices, hotels and residential accommodation, making it easy to walk, ride a bike, or catch public transport.

Melbourne's streets, laneways, parks and squares are the public spaces where people come together. The abundance of restaurants, cafés and shops of every kind along with music venues, theatres, galleries and festivals draw people to the municipality, creating vibrancy and distinction.

The result is an economic and cultural engine. We speak over 130 languages with over 50 per cent of the inner city's population born overseas, and in 2020, the City of Melbourne generated \$104 billion in economic value, representing just under a quarter of Victoria's gross state product. By 2031 we hope to grow this to more than \$150 billion per annum and to be a global leader in creating jobs and enterprises that focus on the needs of the future.

Fundamental to success is valuing our liveability and its components as an essential economic asset. Our challenge for the future is how to capitalise on the opportunities our liveability presents, enhancing our greatest attributes without compromising what we love about Melbourne.

A Global City - Local Aspirations

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

In striving to achieve a better and more sustainable future, the City has identified the opportunity to measure city performance against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to embed the SDGs into our strategies and activities.

Adopted in 2015 by all member nations of the United Nations, including Australia, the SDGs contain 17 goals and 169 targets. Council is committed to the SDGs as a guiding framework to ensure our initiatives achieve holistic sustainable development. This is achieved through a Voluntary Local Review, a key document to measure and track the municipality's performance against targets and indicators within the SDG framework, and guide future prioritisation and investment. The SDGs are a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. It enables all Melburnians to take stock of what is happening in our municipality, assess what we are doing, and how well and ask the question: "Are we pursuing a better future for all Melburnians?".

Key SDGs for the City Spatial Plan are:

- Goal 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Goal 10 – Reduced inequalities
- Goal 11 – Sustainable cities and communities
- Goal 12 – Responsible consumption and production
- Goal 13 – Climate Action

Importantly, grounding our work at the City of Melbourne in the SDGs will allow us to compare our progress with other cities, set measures and targets, and to learn from other global cities as to how we can better collaborate to address the challenges of our time.

We will conduct a review every four years, in the lead up to each new Council Plan.

Neighbourhood model

In 2021, City of Melbourne commenced work on a Neighbourhood Model to strengthen how we understand and work with different communities across our city as we emerge from the impacts of COVID-19. Using community development practice and a place-based approach, we seek to better understand the strengths, needs and priorities of our communities to guide our work. Ensuring opportunity of access and participation of diverse voices, views and people is key as we embed this work through neighbourhood planning processes and projects, developed in partnership with our communities.

The areas we have identified in Part 3 of the City Spatial Plan differ to our municipalities neighbourhood plan areas. The City Spatial Plan identifies that within a neighbourhood or suburb different degrees of land use and development change may be appropriate and the classification within the planning scheme ensures different parts of a neighbourhood are playing their distinct role. As an example Macaulay is an Existing Renewal Precinct within the Established Areas of North Melbourne and Kensington. The classification of the place types within the City Spatial Plan will ensure we are appropriately guiding growth and change within our municipality.

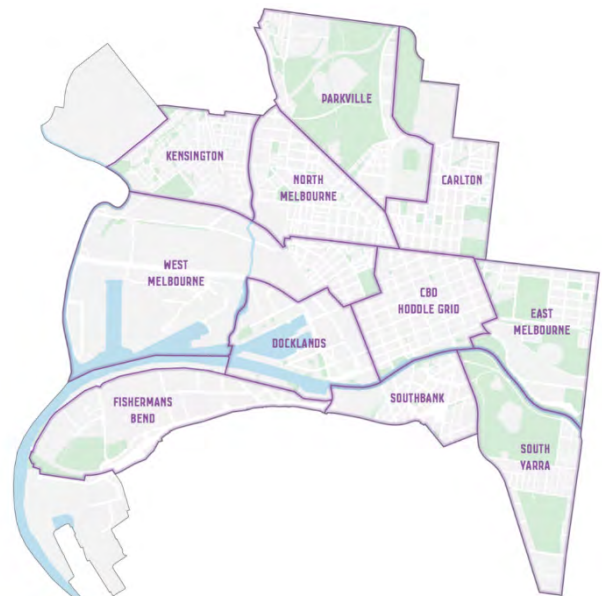


Figure 3. City of Melbourne Neighbourhood model



Figure 4. United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

WHERE HAVE WE COME FROM?

The City of Melbourne respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we govern, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge and honour the unbroken spiritual, cultural and political connection the Wurundjeri, Bunurong, Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wadawurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin have to this unique place for more than 2000 generations.

We are committed to our reconciliation journey, because at its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples, for the benefit of all Victorians.

We will undertake engagement with the Traditional Owners, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung peoples, prior to exhibition of this document and the Municipal Planning Strategy.

WHERE ARE WE TODAY?

Melbourne in context

The City of Melbourne is an economic engine for the metropolitan region, Victoria and the nation. It is home to a diverse range of industry sectors with a high concentration of knowledge-intensive jobs. Accessibility to the central city and the qualities of the urban environment are attractors for business and the talent that drives a successful economy.

Melbourne today is a vibrant, multicultural, modern, global city. Its diversified economy, world leading universities, global sporting and cultural events and distinctive, well connected neighbourhoods make it one of the most liveable cities in the world. Its ongoing transformation continues to present many great challenges and opportunities.

Greater Melbourne is a vast city of more than five million people stretching more than 50 kilometres from east to west. The focus of the City Spatial Plan is on the City of Melbourne, though it must be considered within the context of the wider metropolitan area.

Today, a key challenge for the City of Melbourne is ensuring a swift and inclusive recovery and reactivation of the City following years of COVID-19 restrictions on business activity and movement of people, while also responding to the growing threat of climate change and preparing the City for future shock events, both expected and unexpected.

Layout of the City

Over the past 200 years, Melbourne has transformed to the fast growing, global city we see today.

Our waterways

The rivers, creeks and waterways of the municipality are the centre of public life, providing distinct places for recreation, movement, biodiversity and cultural heritage.

The Birrarung (Yarra River) is synonymous with Melbourne. As the most recognisable natural feature of the city, the use of the Birrarung has reflected Melbourne's history and is an iconic cultural, environmental, recreational and social asset it is today. The Birrarung is the main structuring feature of Greater Melbourne, as it separates the city's northern and southern suburbs.

The salt water Maribyrnong River runs along the western boundary of the municipality. Generally, it has a port and industrial character, but in recent years it has been improved as a recreational and ecological asset. The Moonee Ponds Creek runs north-south through several urban renewal precincts. The creek has substantial ecological and recreational value but is compromised by existing and proposed freeway infrastructure. Other waterways, such as the stream that once ran along what is now Elizabeth Street, have been removed altogether.

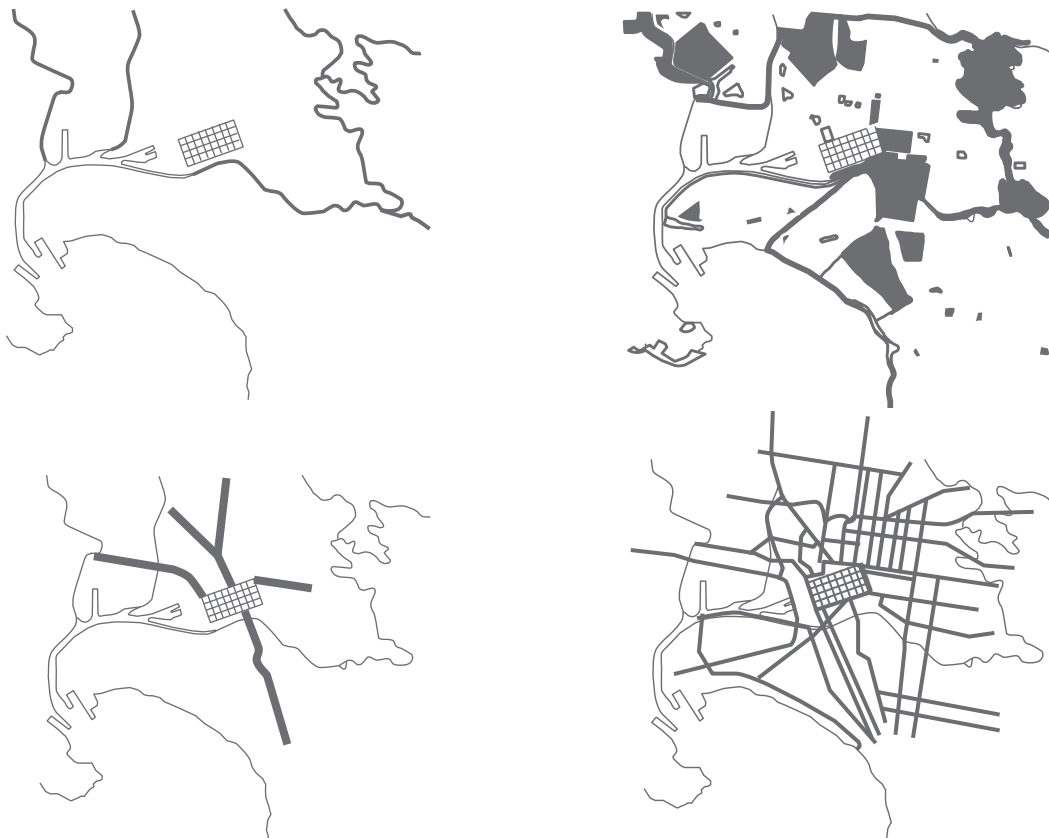


Figure 5. The key urban structuring elements of the City of Melbourne (clockwise from top left), the Hoddle Grid and waterways, the ring of parks and gardens, the network of streets, and the boulevards leading into the Central City.



Image 1. Melbourne today, facing east along Birrarung. Queensbridge Square is visible to the right of image with the Sandridge Rail Bridge now converted into a pedestrian and cycling bridge. Flinders Street Station and Federation Square are visible in the background.



Image 2. From left to right: the World Heritage listed Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens, informal meetings taking place in the city's laneways and an aerial view of Docklands looking south towards Yarra's Edge.

These waterways are all now in varying conditions and stages of regeneration. They will play an increasingly important role as cultural, environmental, recreational and social assets to Melbourne into the future.

Our waterways are also vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. They are at risk from flooding, which is likely to become worse as we experience more frequent and intense heavy downpours as a result of climate change and impacts of urbanisation upstream. Waterways are also vulnerable to the impacts of drought when low flows impact on riparian vegetation, biodiversity and water quality.

Our Parks and Gardens

Around the northern and eastern edge of the municipality is a ring of large parks, gardens and civic buildings. These green spaces are extraordinary assets that provide plentiful opportunities for people to be immersed in nature. They also provide important ecological services, habitat for wildlife and contribute to the cooling and air quality of the city.

The concentration of these spaces to the inner and eastern part of the municipality means they are less accessible to many people, particularly to the west where there is a lack of the green space that characterises the city as a whole.



Image 3. Hosier Lane's street art is a popular tourist attraction.



Image 4. Birrarung today, facing northwest towards the Hoddle Grid - Royal Botanic Gardens (on left) and Sports Precinct (on right).

As Melbourne's population continues to grow Melbourne's green spaces will face increased use from our residents, workers and visitors.

Our streets and laneways

Melbourne's consistent city grid comprises wide streets with a broad tree canopy, generous footpaths and high quality materials and furniture. Through the central city and inner suburbs, streets play different roles, with many accommodating trams, bike lanes, car parking and open space.

Space in the municipality is scarce and under pressure. Footpaths in the central city are increasingly crowded. Riding bikes on our streets feels unsafe for many. Trams require dedicated space to operate efficiently. Pedestrians, cyclists and trams are delayed at traffic signals, which are not programmed to maximise efficiency of movement. There is growing demand on street space to meet a variety of other uses such as greening and trading and an increased focus on the need for more public space as part of our City's adjustment to a post-pandemic lifestyle. At the same time, we must ensure that our streetscapes respond to challenges of urban heat to keep the community healthy.

A distinct characteristic of the city is our 'little' streets and network of narrow laneways and arcades. These smaller streets are one of the most iconic elements of Melbourne's character, social life and economy. They are home to many cafes, restaurants, bars and small shops and provide a contrast to the wider and more stately streets.



Image 5. Collins Street - one of Melbourne's tree lined streets.

The rediscovery of Melbourne's laneways as great places for people provides a useful reminder of the opportunities that exist to optimise our existing assets. The laneways are often filled with street art and enable a more intimate experience of the city akin to older cities around the world. Their change in use and character over time highlights the importance of establishing a resilient and adaptable network of streets and laneways in our renewal precincts.

Places

Melbourne's attractiveness to businesses, residents and visitors is in large part derived from the design of its buildings, streets and open spaces. This entices people and investment and generates economic prosperity.

Within the central city, the urban structure and laneway network provides the framework for a rich diversity of buildings and public spaces from the Victorian era to today. This fosters a dynamic range of economic activity. The high quality of these public and private spaces is paramount to the city's distinctiveness, vitality and renowned liveability. Our reputation as a design and cultural capital is indebted to the creativity of the contemporary architecture, urban design and landscape architecture that has complemented and integrated with the city's historic fabric.

The central city and Southbank have undergone rapid growth in recent years. The resultant influx of new residents, workers and visitors that has coincided with new development has had positive effects on the vitality of the city. However the resulting urban design outcomes

have not met the high quality design expectations of the City of Melbourne. Good design is paramount to central Melbourne's ongoing success and international competitiveness. As we continue to densify and develop our urban renewal precincts, the city will require increasingly well considered and innovative design solutions to maintain our high-quality public realm.

Surrounding the central city is a number of different neighbourhoods, each with its own character, from the industrial streetscapes of West Melbourne to the Art Deco apartment buildings of East Melbourne. Most neighbourhoods are focused on a distinctive local high street, a very 'Melbourne' phenomenon, where day-to-day shops, restaurants and cafes nestle alongside libraries, post offices and community services. Errol Street in North Melbourne is defined by its wide Victorian era awnings and Town Hall, Lygon Street in Carlton by its Italian restaurants and Domain Road in South Yarra by its park character.

Urban renewal precincts are the next evolution of the story of Melbourne and they must be designed and delivered to ensure the challenges of the future, such as climate change adaptation and affordability, are met, while retaining the character of Melbourne's unique place DNA.



Image 6. Melbourne's places (clockwise from top left): Docklands, Flemington Racecourse, MTC Theatre Southbank, Centre Place, Hoddle Grid, Port of Melbourne, Rathdowne Street Carlton North



Image 7. Melbourne's places (clockwise from top left): Royal Park Parkville, Lygon Street Carlton, West Melbourne, Errol Street North Melbourne, Melbourne Cricket Ground, Fishermans Bend, South Wharf

People and Economy

People

Melbourne has an extraordinary history. As cities around the world face increasingly complex and globalised challenges, communities are turning to the knowledge of First Peoples to learn from their unique understanding of place. A genuine engagement with Traditional Owner culture, knowledge and heritage will be fundamental for Melbourne to grow and flourish into the future.

The people of Melbourne are truly diverse and we seek to be a truly inclusive city. The municipality is home to people of varied age, race, faith, ability, gender and socio-economic backgrounds. This diversity is a defining feature of the activity and vitality of life in Melbourne and shapes the fabric of the city, and is a key driver of our economy.

Melbourne is an increasingly popular place for young and professional people to work and study due to the city's vibrant economy and world-class education institutions. Prior to COVID-19, Melbourne was a destination of choice for temporary and permanent migrants from around Australia and the world and we seek to return to this status.



Image 8. An artist in West Melbourne's River Studios.

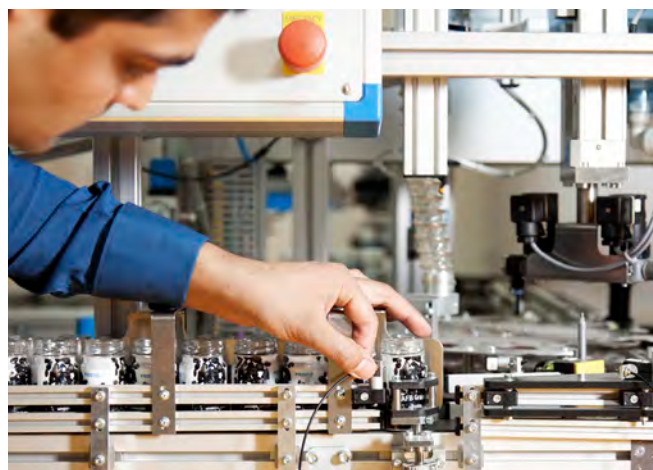


Image 9. Melbourne's growing advanced manufacturing sector.

We must continue to strive to be an equitable, accessible and inclusive city for all people to thrive. Housing affordability and a diversity of quality, accessible public spaces will ensure that the city welcomes and gives shelter to everybody.

Economy

Melbourne is one of the most important knowledge centres in Australia. The city's diverse economy reflects the activities of the people who live and work here. Concentrated in the central city, jobs in the finance and business services, health care and social services are the industries with the highest representation. New supply of A-Grade office space in Docklands and Southbank is seeing employment increase in those areas.

Precincts surrounding the city centre support a range of specialisations, strategic industries and local services. The growing biomedical research precinct in Parkville is a huge employment hotspot and potential innovator when collaborating with other major institutions in the area. Education is Australia's largest service export and, despite the challenges presented by COVID-19 restrictions on movement of international students, the city's world-class universities and research institutes are a major contributor to the local and national economy.

Melbourne's small-to-medium-sized enterprises are also taking up an increasing share of the city's economy. Melbourne's food and beverage sector comprises mostly small businesses and now employs more than 35,000 people in the municipality.

Small businesses are locating in areas like West Melbourne, Macaulay, Kensington and the Maribyrnong Waterfront where there is good access to clients, customers and suppliers, lower rents and a range of floor plates that support small-scale industrial activity. The transformation of traditional manufacturing to a range of advanced and high tech industrial activities that support the knowledge economy will mean that dedicated employment areas like Fishermans Bend and Dynon remain important places for the growth of future industries.

Creativity

Melbourne is internationally renowned as a creative city. These days, creativity in its broadest sense is a highly sought after commodity and the cities with creativity at their core are the ones that prosper.

Creative industries were a key spring board for the City's recovery from the pandemic. To harness its full potential, creativity needs to be integrated into the fabric of the city and its vision – not as an add-on but right at the start, when contemplating the urban changes and challenges ahead. We have an extraordinary creative community with a critical role to play in creating a great city for everybody, creating communities and shaping our cultural identity. Diverse, affordable, and collaborative workspaces that include creative industries is central to this. We want to ensure that the Melbourne of the future truly supports businesses, entrepreneurs and creatives across a range of disciplines, to prosper in an ever-changing environment.

A CHANGING CONTEXT

Global change, local change

The world around us is changing. We need to understand these changes and adapt to the influence of global social, environmental and economic megatrends. These megatrends present significant challenges and opportunities for Melbourne and will shape the decisions we make in planning for our long-term economic growth, liveability, social cohesion and environmentally resilient future of the city.

A changing climate

A 1.5 degree Celsius rise in global average temperatures would have a severe impact on communities around the world due to loss of agriculture, sea-level rise, and increased frequency of extreme weather events.

Many of the world's natural habitats, plant and animal species are also at risk of extinction as biodiversity globally declines.

Melbourne will need to adapt to more extreme weather, including hotter summers and a greater number of heatwaves, a drier climate resulting in more frequent periods of drought, heavier rainfall and severe storm events that increase the risk of flooding, particularly in renewal precincts.

As the world urbanises the role of cities in addressing biodiversity decline becomes more significant.

Digital innovation and economy

Advances in digital technology will continue to change the ways we interact with the city. While offering opportunity this also poses challenges around equity of access to high speed internet and other technology.

Online retail and mobile working styles in Australia are forecast to grow rapidly with impacts on labour markets, retail models, city design and transportation systems.

Melbourne has evolved from a daytime only business district to a place where people live, play and connect 24/7. Business has increased and diversified in the city over the last 30 years, developing a vibrant night time economy.

Growing emphasis on online retail and employment, and particularly remote working as a result of COVID-19, means that Melbourne will need to continue to adapt and be flexible to rapid digital disruptions. Access to digital technology for all will also need to be considered.

Social equity and inclusion

Social relationships will hold increased importance given the potential for social media and digital communication fatigue. The impacts of restrictions on social activity as a result of COVID-19 have also emphasised the importance of face to face interaction and social inclusion.

The demographics of the global population will change as people live longer and have fewer children, influencing housing types, employment markets, revenue bases and care services.

The demographics of the city's population are increasingly diverse, with a growing cohort of young international students living and studying in the central city. This population has changed the character of the city and made it a more vibrant and active place.

Melbourne will need to adapt to increased pressures on the central city as a result of the continued expansion of Greater Melbourne. This presents challenges in improving access and opportunities in the city for everyone.

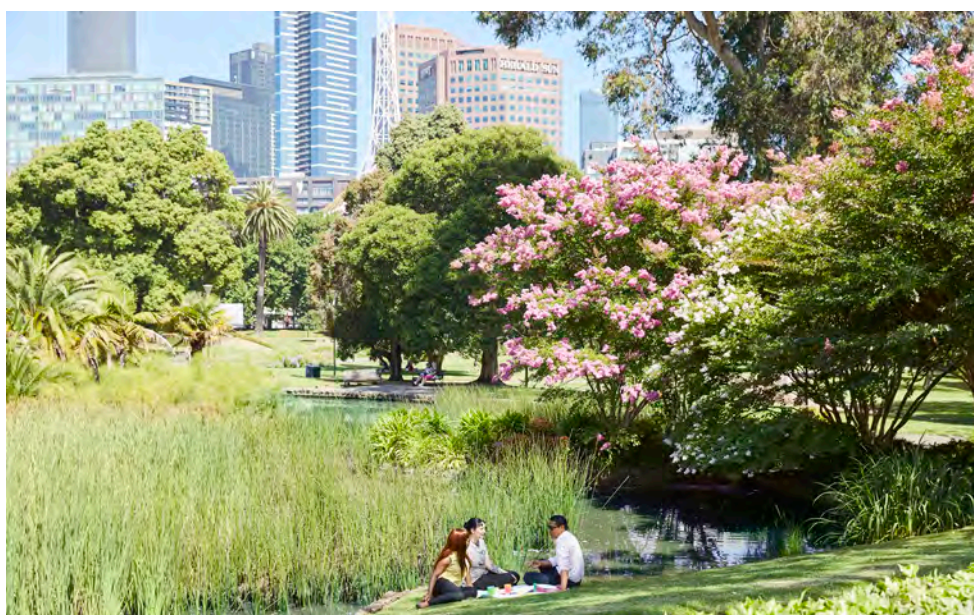


Image 10. Royal Botanic Gardens

Future growth

Melbourne's rapid population growth is expected to continue. Forecasts suggest the residential population of 183,756 in 2020 will grow to over 328,500 in 2040, a growth of 79 per cent.

Prior to COVID-19 approximately 972,000 people, including residents, workers and visitors were present in the municipality on an average weekday in 2019. In mid-2020, pedestrian numbers were 95 per cent lower than the benchmark. By 2040 we aim for our daily population to have increased to around 1.4 million people.

Melbourne's sustained growth can be seen as an ongoing endorsement of our popularity and liveability. It creates outstanding opportunities for our revitalisation and our city. However, the rapid expansion poses challenges for ensuring that our high level of amenity, infrastructure and service provision keeps pace with demand.

Pre-pandemic, Melbourne's infrastructure and services were showing signs of strain and now are faced with new challenges of adaptability and resilience. Trams and footpaths are crowded, schools and child care centres are full, and our open spaces and sport facilities are in increased demand.

The performance of these assets will be key to our recovery and revitalisation. As the municipality continues to grow, more and more people will be using Melbourne's parks and open spaces, catching trams and trains, using our services and walking along city streets.

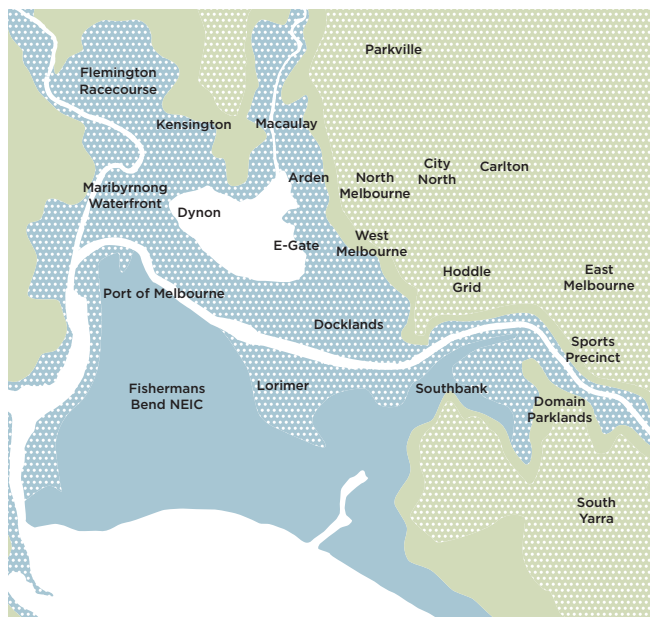


Figure 6. Melbourne's pre-European landscape types and present day suburbs, with the original course of the Birrarung

- Grasslands (pre-European)
- Woodlands (pre-European)
- Dunes (pre-European)
- Wetlands and Swamps (pre-European)

A changing landscape

In order to manage the expected growth and change of Melbourne, the city will need to continue to transform, evolve and adapt.

Melbourne was historically characterised by its rivers that separated two distinct landscape types; low-lying sand dunes, wetlands and swamps; and higher grasslands and woodlands.

The arrival of Europeans in Melbourne dramatically altered the landscape and accelerated the rate of change, but these diverse natural environments influenced the history of the city and will continue to shape its future. Our established suburbs were built on the higher drier ground to the north and east, and industrial areas on the wetter lower ground. This development pattern is also reflected in the location of most major parks and heritage overlays in more established areas.

The growth of the municipality is now moving west, onto the lower, wetter plains. The urban renewal precincts of the city which are transforming from industrial areas to mixed use areas offer unparalleled opportunities to reimagine our future landscapes and built form. However, to ensure that these places become high quality, sustainable neighbourhoods we must ensure these places are built to adapt, respond and celebrate known ecological characteristics associated with these landscapes.



Figure 7. Melbourne's pre-European landscape types with today's parks, heritage buildings and the current course of the Birrarung

- Rivers and bay
- Heritage buildings & places
- Parks

PART TWO: STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Strategic directions will guide growth and change across the municipality and provide a framework for area-based policy to achieve our vision.



Built Form and Public Realm

Support equitable, high quality, resilient and adaptable development in all places



Environment

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change



Water

Embrace Melbourne's waterways, optimise water quality and fit-for-purpose water use and reduce exposure to flood risk



Movement

Create places and redesign streets to encourage people to get around on foot, bicycle and public transport



Economy and Innovation

Enable a diverse network of productive, connected and vibrant places that create jobs and enterprises that focus on the needs of the future



Culture and Heritage

Embrace creativity, ensure First People's culture and heritage enrich our growth, and celebrate Melbourne's unique heritage and character



Infrastructure

Maintain our liveability, prosperity and sustainability by identifying, advocating and investing in all types of infrastructure



Land Use

Maximise the use of land for social, environmental and economic benefit



Community Wellbeing

Promote community health, wellbeing and inclusion through considered approaches to design and infrastructure provision







BUILT FORM AND PUBLIC REALM

Support equitable, high quality, resilient and adaptable development in all areas

Melbourne's mix of established neighbourhoods, the central city and large urban renewal precincts creates a huge opportunity to realise a dynamic, diverse and sustainable city.

Melbourne is the fastest growing city in Australia and one of the fastest of all the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries. As the municipality changes shape, so must the way we approach and manage change.

The typology of the municipality has changed significantly over the past few decades with high rise development accommodating a broad range of different uses and inner suburbs evolving as mid-rise, mixed use neighbourhoods.

Melbourne has a strong design identity and reputation for quality design. Our commitment to achieving high-quality design outcomes improves the function, safety and amenity of the City and attracts people to live, work, invest, study and play.

The extent of future change will vary throughout each place within the municipality. The challenge will be in accommodating change, while retaining and enhancing the individuality and diversity of neighbourhoods. The ways in which we approach and manage change will shape Melbourne and determine the legacy we leave for future generations.

Challenges facing the municipality include:

- Poorly designed buildings which individually and collectively detrimentally impact on the public realm and erode the character and distinctiveness of our places
- Buildings that do not respond to the impacts of climate change and are not able to adapt to different uses over time
- A lack of diversity of housing types and housing which is not affordable
- Overshadowing of public space by development
- Ensuring our city is safe at day and night

Opportunities for the future municipality:

Ensure high quality buildings that enhance the public realm and reinforce the distinct built form character of each place

Melbourne's buildings, streets and public spaces contribute to a strong design identity. In managing urban change we will enable buildings that are designed to the highest quality to complement the public realm and support safe and prosperous city life. All new buildings will help make Melbourne a great city for people to live, work and play.

Where raised floor levels are required for flooding mitigation, buildings will be designed to provide a high quality interface with the public realm.

Invite design excellence outcomes on significant sites and areas

We seek high quality design in all development. Design excellence refers to sites that demonstrate they deliver design excellence by participating in an endorsed City of Melbourne Design Excellence process. In managing change in our municipality we will support design excellence on significant sites and areas, including; large or consolidated sites, urban renewal precincts, heritage or cultural locations, civic infrastructure, State project collaborations, and other notable sites in the municipality.

Ensure all buildings are built to the highest environmental standards

New buildings will be delivered to the highest environmental standards with a focus on green infrastructure which will enrich the urban biodiversity, treat stormwater and assist in cooling the city. Older buildings will be retrofitted to ensure that they contribute to the city's goal of achieving net zero emissions.

Protect winter sun access to public spaces

Access to winter sun is important for our health and wellbeing, and biodiversity outcomes across the municipality. Built form controls will manage the scale and form of buildings to ensure that winter sun reaches our public spaces.

CoM Strategies

Affordable Housing Strategy 2030

Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Response 2020

Climate Change Mitigation Strategy to 2050

Central Melbourne Design Guide and Heritage Design Guide

Community Infrastructure Development Framework 2014

Heritage Strategy 2013

Place based Structure Plans and Master Plans

The New Academic Street, RMIT, designed by multiple architects and landscape architects is the recipient of a number of design awards and is an example of design excellence, validated through an independent, peer reviewed process.

RMIT NAS: Garden Building
Photo: NMBW Architects





Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change

The City of Melbourne declared a climate and biodiversity emergency in 2019. We will prioritise our environment and take urgent action to reduce emissions and waste and plan for climate hazards in order to protect our community, strengthen our economy and create a city that mitigates and adapts to climate change.

Melbourne has a number of environmental advantages over other cities including an extensive network of large public parks and well managed waterways and catchments.

Many of these advantages are legacies of the nineteenth century and do not provide equal access to the benefits of nature in the city. Melbourne's parks and gardens will face increasing pressure from a growing population. They need to provide recreation options for residents, tourists and workers alongside ecological services, including biodiversity, flood management and cooling the city.

Taking strong action on climate change by significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions is critical. A 1.5°C rise in global average temperatures is predicted to have a severe impact on communities around the world due to loss of agriculture, sea-level rise and increased frequency of extreme weather events. The effects of this are being felt locally. Victoria has had longer fire seasons since the mid-1990s and fire days are projected to increase by 42 per cent per year in Melbourne by 2050. The risk of fires is being compounded by worsening droughts with rainfall 40 per cent below average in 2019. The smoke from the tragic bushfires in 2019-2020 resulted in the worst air quality in the world in January 2020, causing severe health impacts.

Further increases in global temperatures would impact the health of Melburnians by exacerbating the urban heat island effect, increasing hospitalisations from asthma and other illnesses and contributing to thermal stress for vulnerable communities. The cost of property damage and insurance would rise due to increasingly severe storms and floods.

The design, construction and management of buildings, infrastructure and spaces need to be more adaptive and resilient to the impacts of climate change.

Challenges facing the future of our environment include:

- Increased urbanisation leading to a loss of biodiversity and impact on natural water flows
- Impacts of increased temperatures and heatwaves, including the urban heat island effect
- Lack of open space in renewal precincts and in the west of the municipality to support population growth
- Reaching zero net emissions by 2040 and 100 per cent renewable energy by 2030
- Dealing with the city's waste

Opportunities for the future city:

Expand and enhance open spaces

We will continue to expand and enhance the quantity, size, quality and diversity of public open space within easy walking distance for everyone. New open spaces must be integrated with the broader open space network.

Large new open spaces, including new municipal open spaces, will be delivered in renewal precincts to provide essential ecological and hydrological services, manage flooding risks and cater for the recreation needs of a growing population.

Strengthen biodiversity corridors and significant habitat areas

Melbourne will have 40% canopy cover by 2040. An expanded network of biodiversity corridors along streets, waterways and through the private realm will allow native fauna to move between habitat areas. The continued expansion of the urban forest, understory, and green infrastructure with a diversity of species will act to reduce the urban heat island effect, increase biodiversity functions, enhance resilience and allow people to benefit from a deeper connection with nature.

Reach zero net emissions

Renewal precincts offer the opportunity to embed resilience and adaptation in the design of all new buildings and public places. Integrating precinct based renewable energy, water, and circular waste systems will promote more efficient resource use, minimise waste and help to reach zero net greenhouse gas emissions.

Well designed, energy efficient and adaptable buildings with green walls and green roofs will help to create an environmentally and socially sustainable built and urban environment that will both reduce emissions and be more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Opportunities and spaces for local energy infrastructure, including installation of neighbourhood batteries should be considered across all places within the municipality.

In securing a thriving economic future, we will support industries that enable Melbourne to become a zero carbon and resilient economy.

Develop a circular economy

The principles of a circular economy are to design out waste, keep products and materials in use at their highest value, and preserve and regenerate natural capital.

The waste and resource recovery system is facing serious challenges. These threats present an opportunity to accelerate the move towards a circular economy where we maximise reuse, recycling and recovery, and minimise waste to landfill.

The City of Melbourne will work towards creating a food system that is secure, healthy, sustainable, thriving and socially inclusive. Organic waste should be collected and composted to become a resource for the city.

Melbourne Renewable Energy Project: A new generation of energy

The City of Melbourne has an ambitious agenda to create a carbon neutral city powered by renewable energy.

In 2017, we announced one of Australia's first renewable energy corporate power purchase agreements (PPAs). Led by the City of Melbourne, the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project (MREP) marked the first time in Australia that a group of local governments, cultural institutions, universities and corporations collectively purchased renewable energy from a newly built facility.

MREP1 purchased 88 GWh each year from 39 newly constructed wind turbines under a long term contract. MREP2 built upon the success of this project, focusing on large energy users and scaling the model up to purchase 110 GWh of renewable electricity each year over 10 years.

Together MREP1 and MREP2 have reduced the equivalent of five per cent of the city's emissions. These projects, and future pilots like Power Melbourne, play a key function in educating and empowering our community to reach 100 per cent renewable energy and achieve our net zero emissions target.



Towards a zero waste city

The City of Melbourne envisions a future where our city produces less waste and maximises the life of materials through reuse, recycling and recovery.

Our efforts can create a stronger circular economy that will reduce environmental impacts, improve the beauty and liveability of the city, and make the waste and resource recovery system more resilient.

CoM Strategies

Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Response 2020

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (Refresh) 2017

Climate Change Mitigation Strategy to 2050

Green our City Strategic Action Plan 2017 - 2021

Nature in the City 2017

Open Space Strategy 2012

Place based Structure Plans and Master Plans

Urban Forest Strategy 2012-2032 and Urban Forest Precinct Plans

Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030





Embrace Melbourne's waterways, optimise water quality and fit-for-purpose water use and reduce exposure to flood risk

The rivers, creeks and waterways of Melbourne are the centre of public life in the municipality, providing distinct places for recreation, movement, biodiversity and cultural heritage. These waterways and our parks rely on a healthy water cycle.

Recognising the city as a catchment celebrates water within the landscape and enhances the resilience and adaptation of the city to the effects of climate change. Integrated water management provides solutions that prioritises and optimises water use that is fit-for-purpose whilst minimising exposure to flood risk.

Managing flooding and sea level rise, particularly in areas that were once wetlands and swamps such as Arden, Macaulay and Fishermans Bend, will create opportunities to integrate water sensitive elements in the design of streets and open spaces and to rediscover our rivers and creeks.

A greater focus on waterways in the municipality will enable opportunities to improve access and movement, biodiversity corridors, and reveal the cultural stories of these important places.

Challenges facing the future of our waterways include:

- Managing the impacts of urban inundation from storm surge, sea level rise and flash flooding, particularly in renewal precincts
- Managing water resources to mitigate urban heat island, building resilience to flood and droughts while optimising water quality for fit-for-purpose water use
- Managing the social and environmental pressures on Melbourne's water resources

Opportunities for the future city:

Manage the impacts of inundation by creating a water sensitive city

Renewal precincts will embrace water and manage the impacts of inundation by celebrating water in the landscape, particularly in Fishermans Bend: Lorimer and Fishermans Bend NEIC, Dynon, E-Gate, Arden and Macaulay.

A nature-based climate adaptation and integrated water management strategy will increase resilience to flooding and sea level rise, improve water quality and biodiversity and provide a distinctive asset and point of difference for the municipality.

Embrace our waterways

Melbourne's waterways will be celebrated as thriving social places that provide essential cultural, ecological and hydrological services to the city.

Integrated water management practices at the Birrarung and harbour, Maribyrnong River and Moonee Ponds Creek catchments will enhance flood management, improve water quality and increase biodiversity.

Melbourne's waterways will provide opportunities for people to engage with the water and connect with the cultural history of place. Waterways will also provide continuous, high amenity pedestrian and cycle connections in the wider network.

Build resilience to climate change through a whole of water cycle approach

Our resilience to climate change risks, including drought, heatwaves, flooding and sea level rise, relies heavily on integrated water management solutions.

City of Melbourne considers the risks associated with climate change in planning and management decision making processes by identifying at risk inundation areas using the best available data and climate change science.

Increasing community awareness of whole of water cycle management and efficient use of our water resources, including intercepting stormwater before it goes down the drain and using it to keep our city green and cool and improve the health of our water system, will ensure we evolve as a climate change adaptable municipality.

CoM Strategies

Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Response 2020

Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (Refresh) 2017

Greenline Implementation Plan

Maribyrnong Waterfront: A Way Forward

Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Opportunities Plan

Municipal Integrated Water Management Plan 2017

Place based Structure Plans and Master Plans

Yarra River - Birrarung, Strategy 2019

Good Design for Buildings in Flood Affected Areas in Fishermans Bend, Arden and Macaulay 2021

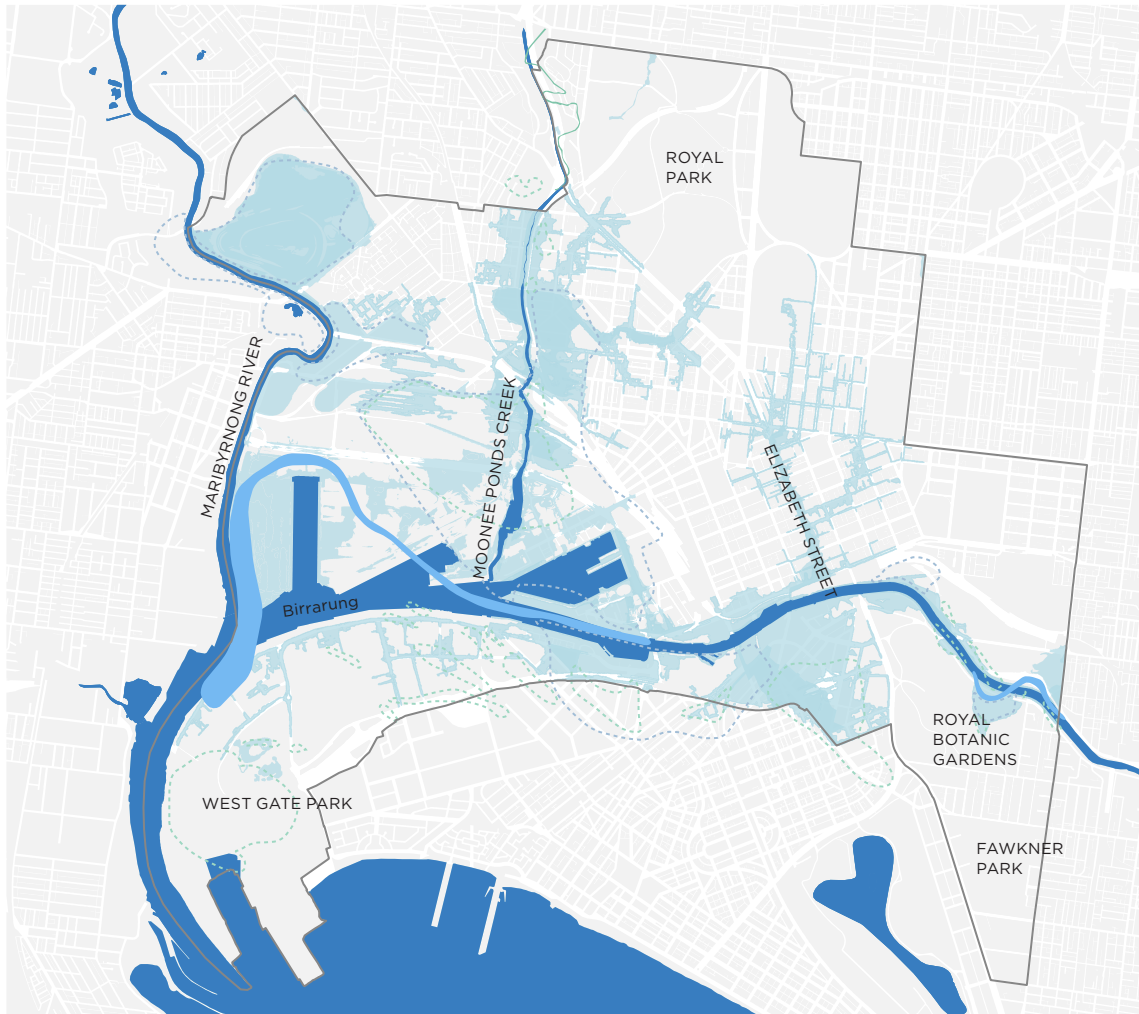


Figure 8. Existing and historic waterways and areas subject to flooding

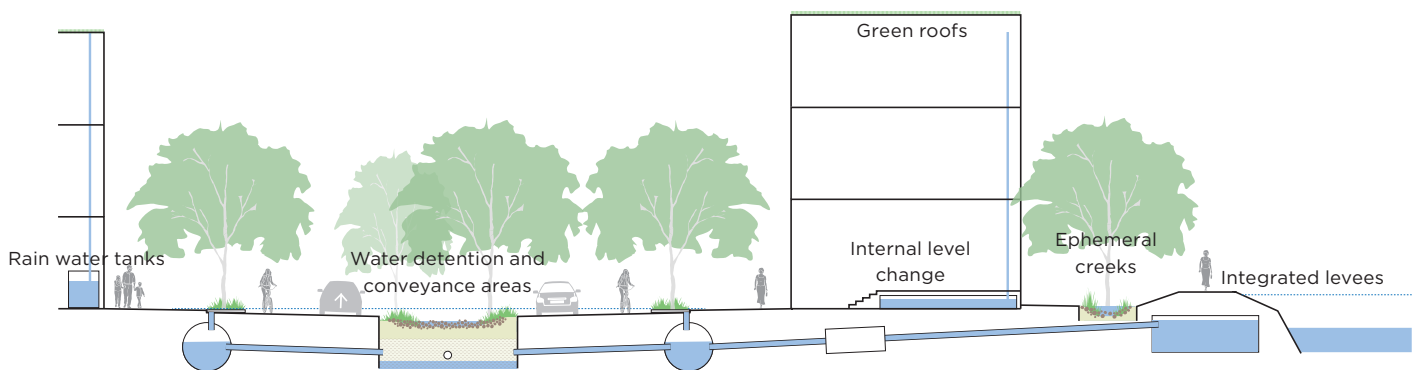
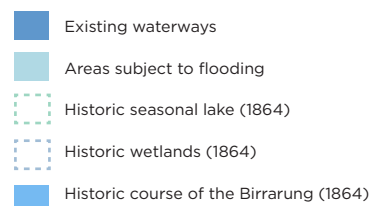


Figure 9. Section: Nature-based climate adaptation and integrated water management strategy in street



Create places and redesign streets to encourage people to get around on foot, bicycle and public transport

Melbourne's ongoing prosperity depends on the quick and efficient movement and exchange of people, knowledge and goods.

These exchanges are enabled by a network of transport services that give people options to choose how they move around. As Melbourne grows more people will need to move around using the same amount of transport space as today. The design of these movement networks must prioritise the most space and energy efficient modes; walking, cycling and public transport.

Prioritising active and sustainable transport reduces pollution, improves physical health outcomes, and makes more efficient use of space and public funds. These are the modes that enable Melbourne to flourish as a great place and are fundamental to achieving the future vision for the municipality. Transport decisions need to work towards enabling all Melburnians to transition to a less car dependent life.

Challenges facing the city include:

- Our streets are not optimised for the way we travel today with the majority of space dedicated to vehicle movement and parking, rather than people
- Transport network space and time inefficiencies are undermining the city's productivity and liveability
- New technology will affect cities and the way people travel

Opportunities for the future city:

Design great streets for people walking and cycling

All streets and spaces will be designed as great places for walking and cycling. Safety is prerequisite. A comprehensive, safe, comfortable, accessible and convenient walking and cycling network is essential to Melbourne's growth and amenity. It will encourage incidental physical activity, contributing to our improved health and wellbeing. This network will be supported by high amenity end-of-trip facilities.

More street space and time at intersections must be allocated to people walking, and a continuous, physically protected cycle network will be essential in connecting urban renewal precincts and neighbouring municipalities. Improvements to pedestrian amenity and capacity are particularly important in the most crowded areas, such as around train stations.

Review off-street parking policies

Efficient car parking management which supports the delivery of a high-quality public realm and sustainable transport is required.

Enhance and expand essential public transport services

An enhanced and expanded integrated public transport service will support the growth, liveability and economic development of all areas. Public transport services must align with the density of development to optimise access around the municipality while enhancing the amenity of local places. For example the provision of mass transit, including Melbourne Metro 2 and tram extensions is essential for achieving the vision for Fishermans Bend as a vibrant, liveable, prosperous and connected place. Public transport should be guided by a comprehensive, integrated transport plan for Victoria.

Supercharge Melbourne's tram network

Get the most out of Melbourne's existing tram network by supporting trams with signal priority at intersections and separating them from traffic. Melbourne's tram network is one of the largest in the world, but is also one of the slowest. It can be optimised with relatively limited resources. Dedicated lanes and traffic signal priority are also required for the bus network.

Support highly efficient and innovative solutions to freight, delivery and waste systems

Low-impact delivery models, such as cargo bikes and small vans, will allow deliveries to be made faster, at a lower cost and with greater efficiency.

The Port of Melbourne will play an important and ongoing role in our economy which we must recognise while ensuring the mitigation of future amenity impacts of freight and port related infrastructure on adjoining renewal precincts and the central city.

Decisions on infrastructure and projects that facilitate the long-term function of the Port of Melbourne will be informed by strategic consideration of the Port's position and role within the central city context.

Ensure new technologies deliver a net community benefit

New technology will deliver a range of transport benefits for Melbourne including improved access to transport choices, new transport modes, lower emissions, more efficient use of existing assets and new forms of movement by air. Appropriate regulation will ensure that new technologies are well integrated into the municipality and not undermining amenity, efficiency and liveability.



CoM Strategies

Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Response 2020

Place based Structure Plans and Master Plans

Skate Melbourne Plan 2017-2027

Transport Strategy 2030

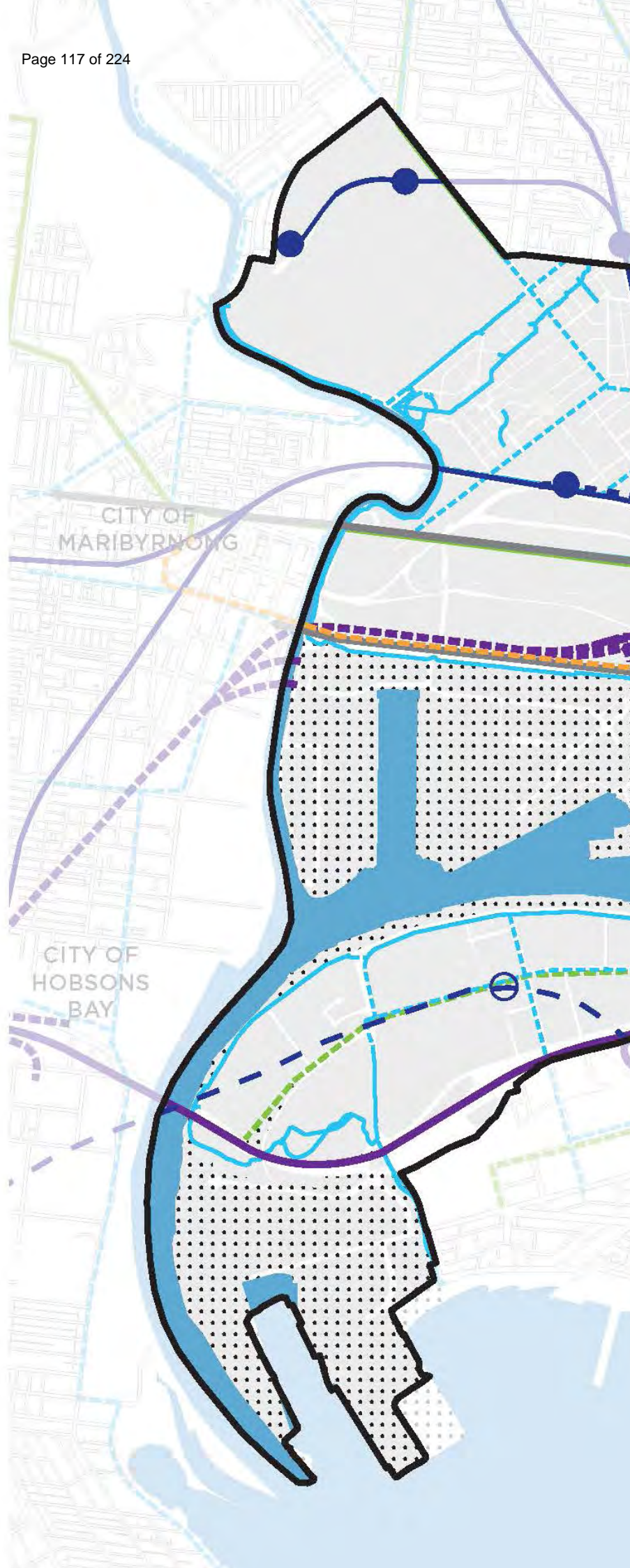
Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030

2030 Proposed Transport Network

-  City of Melbourne
-  Port of Melbourne
- BIKES**
 -  Slow zone - existing
 -  Slow zone - future
 -  Protected lanes - existing
 -  Protected lanes - future
- BUSES**
 -  Priority routes - future
- TRAINS**
 -  Rail - existing
 -  Melbourne Metro 1 - under construction
 -  Melbourne Metro 2 - future
- TRAMS**
 -  Existing
 -  Future extensions
- ROADS**
 -  Shared
 -  Traffic bypass and tunnel
 -  Westgate Tunnel Project



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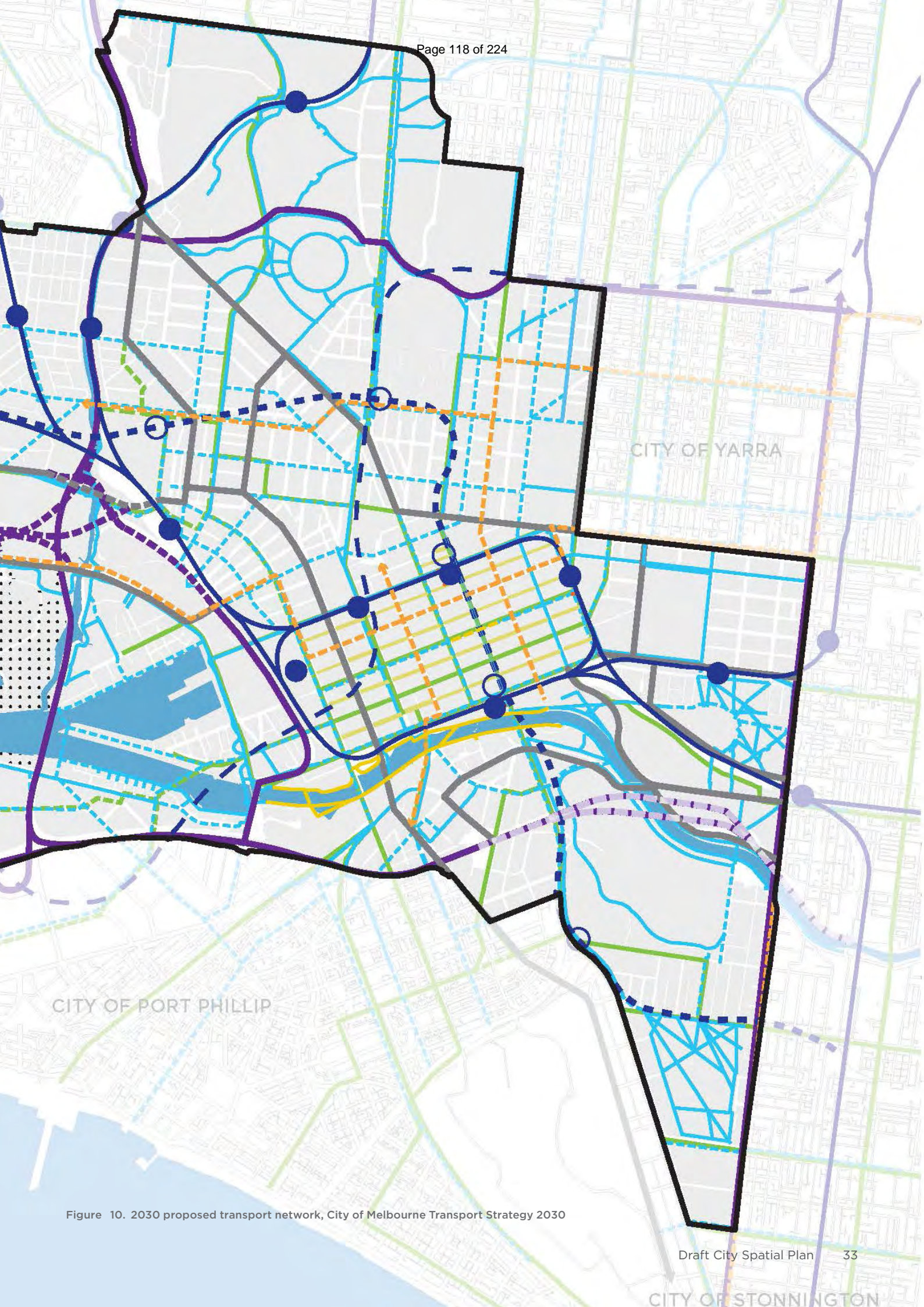


Figure 10. 2030 proposed transport network, City of Melbourne Transport Strategy 2030



ECONOMY AND INNOVATION

Enable a diverse network of productive, connected and vibrant places that create jobs and enterprises that focus on the needs of the future

With a \$104 billion economy, the City of Melbourne is an economic engine for the metropolitan region, Victoria and the nation. It is home to a diverse range of industry sectors with a high concentration of knowledge-intensive jobs. Melbourne is perfectly positioned to continue to grow as a global hub of innovation, knowledge and creativity.

We are a diverse place with many different types of global and local economic clusters and activity. Melbourne's reputation for liveability has been a magnet for international talent, which has supported our world-leading strengths in life sciences, international education and knowledge intensive services. The growth and diversity in our community and business landscape will create new opportunities for the ongoing innovation in our knowledge, creative, and visitor economies.

Growing a diversity of established and new economic and innovation hubs to complement the central city will be key to a resilient future economy. Growth in these areas will be enabled by creating high amenity places that are connected by excellent transport choices and offering affordable workspaces and homes, providing access to a wide range of people, including suppliers, customers, and collaborators.

Challenges facing the municipality include:

- Ongoing economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic
- Attracting international students back to Melbourne and worker and visitor populations back to the central city
- Delivering transport connections to Fishermans Bend and between clusters
- Ensuring that infrastructure is delivered early in Renewal Precincts
- Maintaining affordable and suitable workspaces
- Equitable access to knowledge and economic opportunity
- Rapid growth and uncoordinated deployment of emerging technologies, including 5G.

Opportunities for the future city:

Maintain the primacy of the central city as the business and experience centre of Melbourne

The central city will remain the cultural and economic centre of the municipality, Greater Melbourne and Victoria. Supporting its density, connectivity, diversity and vibrancy will ensure its ongoing position as the most desired place to do business. Investment and support in our creative industries and the visitor economy will demonstrate its value as a place for ideas and experiences.

Deliver diverse global innovation precincts and local employment hubs

Diverse innovation districts and local employment hubs are key to economic growth and local job creation. Supporting the growth of a range of precincts and industry specialisations that complement the central city will be key to our long term economic success. This includes supporting local activity centres that foster cohesion and provide local services and employment, curating innovation precincts that help grow industries of the future, and maintaining industrial land to service these industries, our city function and our population.

Create vibrant and connected neighbourhoods that enable our economy and international attraction

Active and public transport connections will deliver a connected spine of innovation districts. Early delivery of infrastructure, including Melbourne Metro 2 and trams to Fishermans Bend and Arden is required to support existing renewal precincts to realise their vision. Sustainable transport will support a high quality public realm and create vibrant places that attract and retain talent. Affordable housing and workspaces will be key to ensuring our economic prosperity is shared and inclusive.

Protect spaces for start-ups, innovative and creative industries and artists

Designate precincts and use planning mechanisms to create co-working and incubator spaces for creative industry practitioners, including in Fishermans Bend NEIC, City North and the Melbourne Arts Precinct. Properties with particular attributes such as large floor plates, low rents and existing heritage structure will be protected as affordable spaces for small to medium sized start-ups, innovative businesses, creative industries and artists to flourish.

Leverage Melbourne's diversity as an asset

Our diverse population is one of our greatest strengths, and economic inclusion is critical to unlocking this and sharing the benefits of our economy. Knowledge institutions such as libraries, museums and universities will be reimaged to ensure learning is open to everyone. Economic participation will be boosted by facilitating affordable housing and workspaces and creating diverse job opportunities.

Create a digitally enabled public realm that fosters engagement and collaboration

Precinct based initiatives such as the Melbourne Innovation District will promote the design of public spaces that encourage institutions to open up with the public. This will be supported by partnered trials and roll-outs of emerging technology that enable new ways for businesses and the community to spend time in the public realm to foster innovation and knowledge sharing.

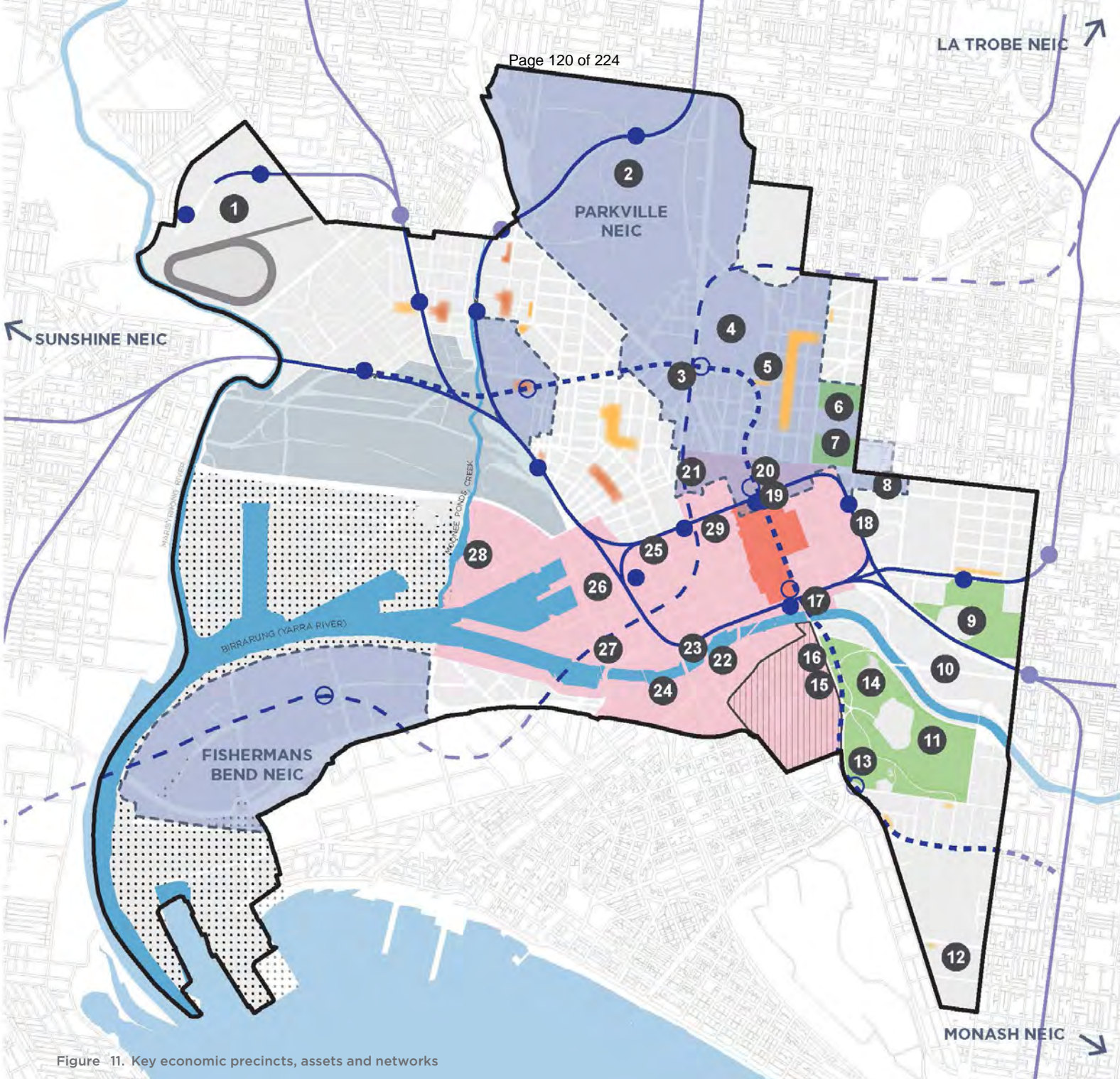


Figure 11. Key economic precincts, assets and networks

- City of Melbourne
- Rail
- Melbourne Metro 1
- Melbourne Metro 2
- Central City
- Retail Core
- Existing local centre
- Future local centre
- Arts Precinct
- Innovation Precincts
- Industrial Precincts
- Port of Melbourne
- 1 Flemington Racecourse and Melbourne Showgrounds
- 2 Melbourne Zoo
- 3 Parkville Hospital Precinct
- 4 University of Melbourne
- 5 Melbourne Connect
- 6 Melbourne Museum
- 7 Royal Exhibition Building
- 8 East Melbourne Hospital Precinct
- 9 Melbourne Cricket Ground
- 10 East Melbourne Hospital Precinct
- 11 Melbourne Cricket Ground
- 12 East Melbourne Hospital Precinct
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- 29 Melbourne Cricket Ground

CoM Strategies

Economic Development Strategy 2031

Melbourne Innovation Districts City
North Opportunities Plan 2020

Start Up Action Plan 2017



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CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Embrace creativity, ensure First People's culture and heritage enrich our growth, and celebrate Melbourne's unique character

We have a remarkably rich and diverse heritage, which is of importance locally, nationally and internationally. Traditionally the country of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin, the land on which the municipality was built has many places of importance to Traditional Owners and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander diaspora, some relating to the ancient past, some are more recent.

Melbourne was the place where Victoria's colonial settlement officially started, and the first seat of government in Australia. It is renowned as one of the world's great Victorian-era cities. The municipality contains many intact streetscapes, parks and buildings recognised as important heritage places. The city also has some outstanding architecture and collections from the 20th century. In addition to telling us about the past, heritage places are adaptable, facilitating new and creative uses for a changing city.

Along with our world class sporting and cultural events and festivals, we have an extensive creative community with a critical role in creating a great city for everybody. Creativity will be integrated into the very fabric of the municipality and our long-term vision – not as an add-on but right at the start, when contemplating the changes and challenges ahead of us.

Challenges facing the city include:

- Lack of visibility of Traditional Owner cultural heritage
- Ensuring that the municipality remains inclusive for all
- Retaining a mix of uses in the municipality
- Providing an affordable and appropriate diversity of accommodation and spaces for creative uses
- An erosion of character and heritage
- Supporting emerging artists and midscale arts in the public realm
- Maintaining our status as a leading creative city, including supporting and facilitating appropriate locations for live music
- Provision of local community arts spaces

Opportunities for the future city:

Celebrate Traditional Owner cultural values and heritage places

Through its Reconciliation Action Plan 2021-23, the City of Melbourne is providing practical guidance for how we can achieve our vision to support the voice and ambition of Aboriginal communities through best-practice leadership and role modelling.

We will recognise, protect and promote Traditional Owner culture, values, heritage and places. Applying the Aboriginal Cultural Values process to the heritage assessment of all Renewal Precincts, waterways and identified places of significance will help to embed recognition of Aboriginal heritage in all places.

Deliver inclusivity

The City of Melbourne is committed to creating a place which is accessible, affordable, inclusive, safe and engaging. Planning for the future of our municipality puts people, families and community at the forefront.

Celebrate our unique character and heritage

Much of what makes our municipality distinctive comes from our rich history as a capital city. The urban fabric of the city reflects significant periods in Melbourne's history and its uniqueness is a strong driver of our sense of place and belonging. Places and precincts of identified cultural, social, environmental and built heritage significance and special character throughout the municipality will be conserved and enhanced. New development will respond to context and strengthen the unique character of place. We will encourage public art in new development and recognise the role of street art in contributing to our character.

Place art at the start

We will engage creative practitioners of all kinds to work with subject experts on compelling city opportunities and challenges. When beginning a project we will ask ourselves *If Melbourne were the world's most creative city, what approach would we take to this challenge?*

We will advocate for live/work spaces and support provision of affordable housing and workspaces for creatives across the municipality, with a focus on delivering creative spaces infrastructure in renewal precincts.

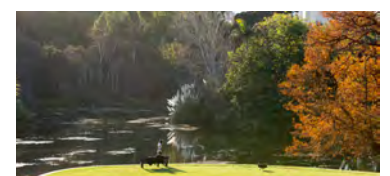
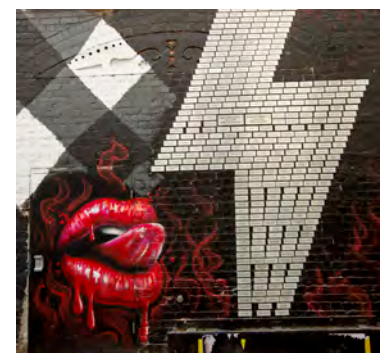
Expand and enhance the Melbourne Arts Precinct

We will continue to work with the Victorian Government to expand and enhance Melbourne's world class Arts Precinct in Southbank as a destination for institutions, artists and the public to come together in an environment that fosters tolerance, collaboration and discovery. Connection and integration of the Melbourne Arts Precinct with the local Southbank community and local creatives will also be strengthened.

Expand and enhance the capacity of Melbourne's venues and public spaces to host events of all scales

Melbourne will continue to host world class sporting, cultural and arts events, conferences, conventions, festivals and performances that stimulate the local economy and contribute to a vibrant city life. We will also deliver arts hubs that include mid-sized performance spaces and community arts spaces and enable entertainment and live music venues and studios in appropriate locations.

We will also support community arts spaces developing across all places in the City of Melbourne.



CoM Strategies

Arts Infrastructure Framework 2016

Creative Strategy 2018-2028

Heritage Strategy 2013

Open Space Strategy 2012

Reconciliation Action Plan 2021-23



INFRASTRUCTURE

Maintain our liveability, prosperity and sustainability by identifying, advocating and investing in all types of infrastructure

Infrastructure projects should deliver positive economic, social and environmental outcomes for the whole community. Through data and analysis we are planning and developing strategies for how we want our city to grow and how the City of Melbourne and external partners prioritise the infrastructure our city needs.

Nine overarching infrastructure principles will help guide the delivery of infrastructure in the municipality. These should be considered once non-build and build solutions have been explored and existing infrastructure maximised. Maintaining Melbourne's liveability, prosperity and sustainability through a period of sustained growth will require continued strategic investment in all types of infrastructure.

Challenges facing the municipality include:

- Rapid population growth will place significant daily demand on infrastructure.
- The delivery of sustainable and resilient infrastructure.
- There are a number of entities planning for and delivering infrastructure within the municipality. Infrastructure needs to be well managed to realise its full potential.
- Places within the municipality will transform. There is a need to better align growth and density with infrastructure planning to ensure there is an early commitment to infrastructure and it is delivered to enable liveable communities.
- Funding and financing the scale of committed infrastructure needed to keep pace with our municipality's population and visitation growth, reinforcing the need to partner with other levels of government and the private and community sectors.

CoM Strategies

Climate and Biodiversity Emergency Response 2020

Municipal Integrated Water Management Plan 2017

Place Based Plans, Structure Plans and Master Plans

Infrastructure principles

1. Lead with infrastructure

Early infrastructure planning and delivery is essential before population growth, especially in Renewal Precincts.

2. Innovate in delivery

Future delivery of infrastructure will require infrastructure providers to innovate, adapt and pursue non-built solutions. New and existing infrastructure must serve multiple purposes.

3. Ensure infrastructure funding is sustainable and equitable

The City of Melbourne will need access to significantly more funding from a range of sources to deliver the infrastructure required for the city. Parties who benefit from infrastructure must contribute a fairer share of funding.

4. Prioritise sustainable transport

The pandemic has highlighted the importance of sustainable transport in supporting the city's economy, equity, environment and growth.

5. Boost city liveability with social infrastructure

Social infrastructure is vital to sustaining people's quality of life. As the city densifies and the population diversifies, social infrastructure will need to keep pace.

6. Plan for flooding at the city scale

A significant proportion of the municipality's future growth and development will occur in low-lying urban renewal precincts that are subject to flooding.

7. Deliver infrastructure that achieves a city that cares for its environment

To mitigate and adapt to climate change the city's infrastructure must increase climate resilience, enhance environmental values and ecosystems services, and facilitate rapid emissions reduction.

8. Increase affordable housing

Affordable housing has been identified by the Council as a priority action, recognising that more affordable housing is required to meet the needs of the most vulnerable in our community.

9. Prioritise people in the competition for street space

Rebalancing the use of street space toward the most efficient modes of transport will allow more people to access and move around the city safely.



By 2040, 21,089 residents are forecast to be living in Fishermans Bend: Lorimer, Arden and Macaulay



In 2016-17 only **25 per cent** of household waste was recycled. Half of all household waste to landfill is food waste



Metro 2 is essential to meet future passenger demand and connect Fishermans Bend to the transport network

Flood mitigation is integral in all urban renewal precincts and requires significant capital investment



Urban renewal precincts provide unique opportunities for **renewable and precinct scale energy**



Parties who benefit from infrastructure must contribute **a fairer share of funding**

Social infrastructure

is often at capacity upon delivery and must be provided early in urban renewal precincts



New and existing infrastructure must serve **multiple purposes** rather than a single purpose



There are limited planning mechanisms to deliver **affordable housing**



In the Hoddle Grid around **60 per cent** of street space is allocated to vehicles, however private vehicles account for only **one third** of all trips

Larger open spaces

should be secured in Arden, Fishermans Bend NEIC, E-Gate and Dynon to provide a network of capital city and municipal scale open space in Renewal Precincts



All infrastructure

can improve the city's ecosystem health, ecological connectivity, and biodiversity





LAND USE

Maximise the use of land for social, environmental and economic benefit

The City of Melbourne's 37.7 km² is home to the densest and most diverse range of land uses in Victoria, including cultural, commercial, environmental, retail, residential, community, educational and industrial activities. The sum of these parts distinguishes our capital city role. Demand for land in the municipality is increasing, emphasising the need to optimise the use of the space we have.

The City of Melbourne today is a truly mixed use place. As high density residential and commercial development dilutes the diversity of the city, there is an increasing need to proactively balance the use of land to ensure it delivers the greatest possible social, economic and environmental benefit and promotes our role and advantages as a capital city. A higher intensity of use also requires an increase in infrastructure to support growth. People in lower income brackets require support to maintain access to affordable places to live and work.

Challenges facing the city include:

- High volume residential development impacting on the overall mix of uses within the municipality
- Mitigating the challenges of flooding in urban renewal precincts to deliver high amenity places
- Very high density places which do not have appropriate infrastructure to service an increasing and diverse population
- Balancing public and private use of open space

Opportunities for the future city:

Create a vibrant mix of uses

The Hoddle Grid, together with Southbank and Docklands, will continue to provide excellent opportunities for commercial offerings in a high amenity environment. This will ensure Melbourne remains globally competitive and attracts the right mix and diversity of commercial tenants and land uses.

In areas outside the Capital City Zone, work with the State Government to implement land use zones which allow a true mix of uses which deliver a diversity of jobs and living opportunities and ensure they remain distinguished from the central city. Creating more destinations and permeable and active streets is key to the walkability of the city and an essential part of planning for new and existing neighbourhoods.

Optimise urban renewal

Transforming areas of the city include the existing renewal precincts of Fishermans Bend, Arden and Macaulay. These areas offer great potential for delivering a diversity of affordable housing, high quality public

realm, well designed and sustainable buildings, early delivery of community infrastructure, excellent transport links and abundant wildlife and biodiversity.

We will unlock these areas of the municipality by leveraging the unique qualities of place, managing flooding through integrated water management solutions and supporting the delivery of catalyst infrastructure. New open spaces and active transport links will connect existing renewal precincts to the central city, with a reimagined Spencer Street as a gateway to the west.

In Arden and Fishermans Bend NEIC we will support the growth and development of high quality, sustainable and globally competitive innovation districts.

In potential renewal precincts, in the short to medium term we will protect employment generating land uses and encourage improved efficiencies of employment land. Any change in use in these areas must reconcile demand for open spaces and integrated water management and reflect City of Melbourne vision and principles.

Deliver density in the right place with appropriate infrastructure

Different places within the municipality will have different characters, densities, uses and built form types. Density should be accommodated in areas with very high amenity and excellent access to public transport. All areas will experience some change and development.

Mechanisms will be explored and identified to ensure that the city remains liveable and all people have easy access to public transport, a high quality public realm, an expanded open space network and the social infrastructure required to support daily lives.

Design in equity and access

Public spaces should promote equity in the municipality. The more diverse and lively urban spaces are, the more equal, prosperous and democratic society becomes. We will expand public spaces and ensure that all residents and visitors are able to access public spaces in easy walking distance of their homes and places of work. We will discourage the privatisation and private temporary occupation of public open spaces unless it delivers an acceptable community benefit.

Balance the impact of residential development on economic use of land

We will ensure that the loss of any central industrial zones does not displace the range of specialised manufacturers, creative producers, and small businesses that create quality jobs and vital services that support the function of the inner city.

We will undertake detailed investigations into the need for industrial areas that support our growing knowledge economy to ensure we have the employment generating land required to support the function and prosperity of the municipality.

CoM Strategies

Affordable Housing Strategy 2030

Climate and Biodiversity Emergency 2020

Community Infrastructure Development Framework 2014

Economic Development Strategy 2031

Heritage Strategy 2013

Place based Structure Plans and Master Plans

Yarra River - Birrarung Strategy 2019



COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Promote community health, wellbeing and inclusion through considered approaches to design and infrastructure provision

The City of Melbourne is committed to creating a city which is accessible, affordable, inclusive, safe and that promotes the health and wellbeing of its community so that all can thrive.

As the city grows and changes, there is a need to ensure that growth is inclusive of all and has a particular focus on promoting community wellbeing. Providing community and social infrastructure and services is key to improving quality of life and strengthening social cohesion in a growing and diverse city. Refreshed, expanded and new facilities are needed including: social, family and early childhood services, open/green spaces, multi-purpose facilities that support a variety of sports and recreation needs across their lifespan, play areas for children, affordable housing, active transport and food production infrastructure. These must be accessible, inclusive facilities that support life skills and promote benefits to individuals and the community.

The significance of open space for community wellbeing in a dense urban environment has been highlighted during COVID-19. With higher density living comes less private open space and additional pressure and importance on both the quality and quantity of public open spaces as safe and accessible places for refuge and recreation.

We must continue to grow a broad network of open spaces across the municipality that provides for a variety of recreational, sporting, play and social activities to meet the needs of the growing population. The resilience of these open spaces to the effects of climate change and high density development will also need to be managed to ensure the quality of these spaces is maintained. Open spaces will need to be supported by the provision of active recreation space, including indoor facilities.

Challenges facing the city include:

- Housing affordability and housing stress
- Homelessness, as a growing and complex issue
- Loneliness and isolation, 53.6 per cent of residents in the municipality live alone and this is increasing. Around half of the elderly population (those aged 75 or older) live on their own, with 69% of women living alone.
- Community infrastructure to meet growing and diverse population needs

Opportunities for the future city:

Support a people-centred approach

Council will foster a people-centred approach to its planning for places, ensuring an integrated approach that considers the health impacts of the physical environment and the changes we make, as well as social service delivery and encouragement of strong local social connections.

Support high quality design, access and equity in public spaces and building design

In the development of our city, we seek to achieve high quality design in all places. To support this, we will continue to support and pursue high standards in apartment and dwelling design to optimise the wellbeing of inhabitants through considered design that maximises natural light, ventilation and privacy, and offers protection from effects such as noise and light-spill, as well as the highest standards of environmental sustainability. We will ensure we deliver accessible and inclusive community infrastructure that benefits individuals and the broader community.

Expand and enhance our open spaces

We will explore opportunities to expand and enhance access to high quality open spaces across the municipality. Our public spaces should promote equity. We will ensure that all residents and visitors are able to access public spaces in easy walking distance of their homes and places of work and enjoy a high level of amenity, including winter sunlight within these public spaces.

Empower a broad range of stakeholders through improved participation in place-based decision making

A diversity of ideas supports better decision-making and solutions for social equity and economic growth. We must align with all levels of government, and work in partnership with the community to better understand local needs and aspirations and target our efforts to support those and build resilient places and neighbourhoods. We will work with our communities through our neighbourhood planning framework to build a vision for their neighbourhood and activate communities to lead their own change.

Define appropriate solutions to affordable housing throughout the municipality

Housing is recognised as a fundamental human right and affordable housing is vital for an inclusive, diverse and prosperous city. All areas are expected to deliver a diversity of affordable housing. Renewal precincts have the capacity to deliver a greater amount. A range of housing types and tenures are needed to support our diverse community, including older people, families, students, people with disabilities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, low income earners and those at risk of homelessness. New affordable housing that is delivered must reflect the sizes, design, and quality of the broader housing market to meet the needs of our community.

We will continue to collaborate with state and federal governments, statutory agencies, the private and community housing sectors to enable well-designed, appropriate, accessible and sustainable social and affordable housing across the municipality.

CoM Strategies

Affordable Housing Strategy 2030

Health and Wellbeing Plan (Council Plan 2021-25)

Inclusive Melbourne (Draft)

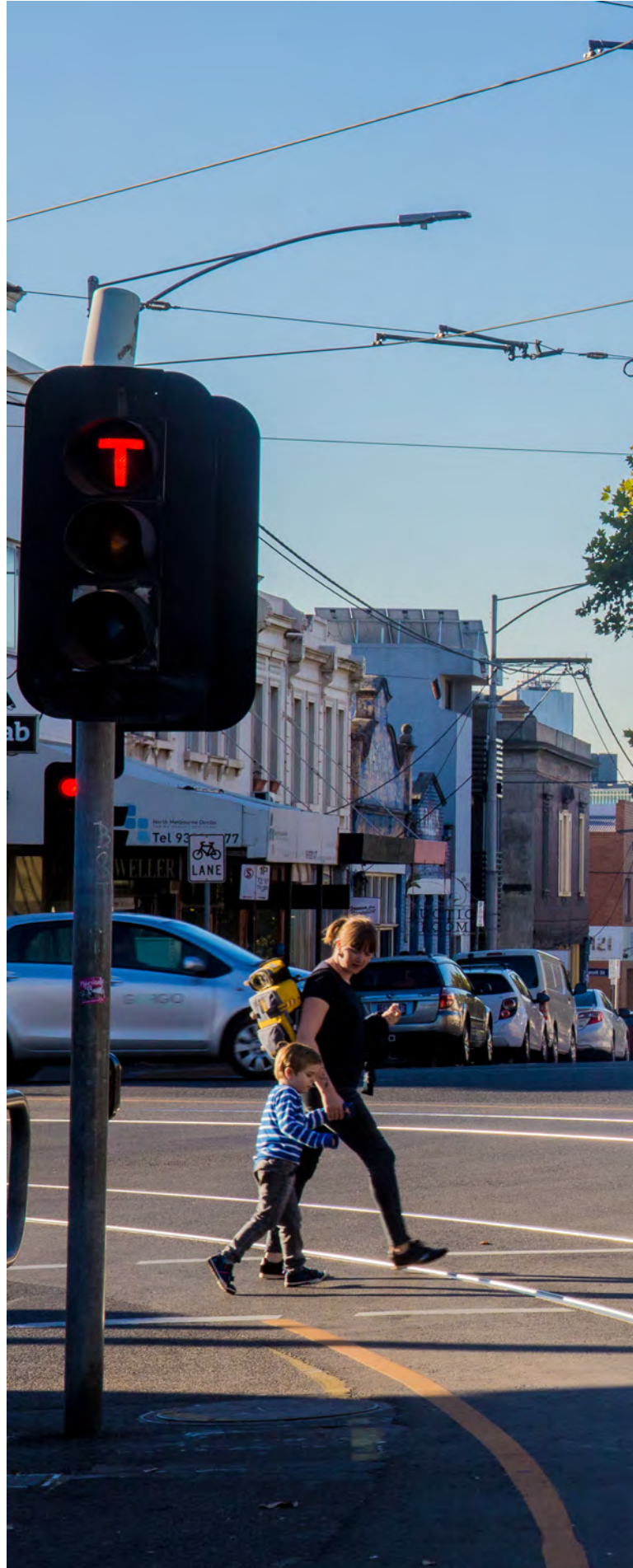
Neighbourhood Plans (under development)

Place Based Structure Plans and Master Plans

PART THREE: AREAS

Different scales of change are expected across the municipality over the next 20 years. This section presents a future vision and how the strategic directions will be realised for each of our areas.

As Melbourne grows and develops, our areas will change over time. Some will change more rapidly than others. Some will experience significant changes to built form, land use and density while others will see only minor or moderate change.





CHANGE BY PLACE

Six broad change types, outlined on the map opposite, describe the general characteristics of expected change that are common across different areas in the municipality.

Areas have been categorised based on their existing character and function, local conditions and their expected role in accommodating future growth.

Areas have different roles to play

Our areas will continue to play a variety of roles within the municipality. Location, transport links, land use, employment markets and ecological systems help to define the unique character and function of an area, and each is an important complementary piece in the wider city. It is within this context that the future role and function of each area will be considered.

Drivers for change and capacity for growth

The drivers for change vary, as does each area's capacity to accommodate growth. Drivers for change may include the growth or decline of local economies, shifting employment markets and residential development trends, and the impact of megatrends such as responding to climate change. Each area's capacity to accommodate growth is determined by factors including land availability and suitability, heritage fabric, infrastructure provision, transport networks, proximity to the central city and local jobs markets, its role as employment generating land and existing local amenity.

Due to the extent of projected future growth, all areas will need to accommodate some form of growth and change into the future. Within each local area there will be areas of higher and lower growth. Change must be managed to achieve high quality design outcomes and support design excellence, and celebrate the city's cultural and built heritage. The challenge is enabling the municipality to grow in a way that maintains and reinforces our liveability, character, resilience and prosperity, while facilitating ambitious energy and waste reduction as well as housing diversity and affordability.

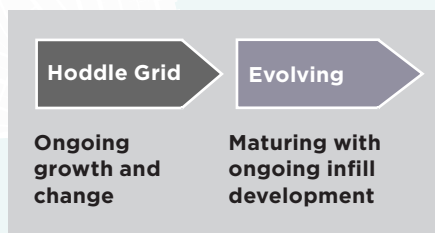
Enabling growth through infrastructure investment

The level of public investment in infrastructure to support the vision will vary for each area, depending on its existing amenity, stage of development and growth projections. By grouping the areas into change types, we can provide a general overview of the key infrastructure and actions required to support change. This may include upgraded transport services, new and expanded open space, street improvements, community facilities, and water management infrastructure.

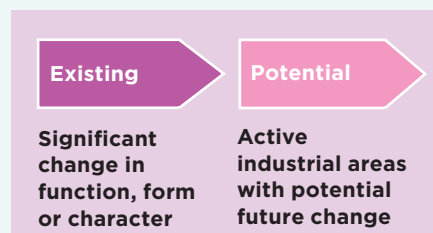
Some infrastructure will be delivered by federal and state governments, some led by the City of Melbourne and some wholly or partially delivered by the private sector through development contributions and other means such as Public-Private Partnerships.



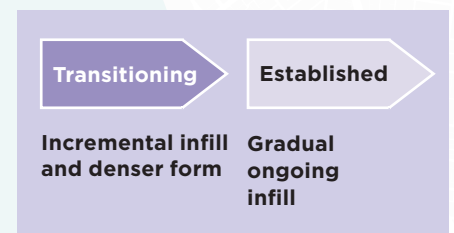
Central City



Renewal Precincts



Neighbourhoods



Special area

Areas unlikely to change in the foreseeable future due to distinct municipal functions

Figure 12. 'Change types' in the City of Melbourne: Central City (the Hoddle Grid and Evolving places), Renewal Precincts (Existing and Potential), and Neighbourhoods (Transitioning and Established places).

CENTRAL CITY

Hoddle Grid

Hoddle Grid

Evolving

**Existing
renewal**

**Potential
renewal**

Transitioning

Established

The Hoddle Grid is the heart of our city and is a unique area category.

The **Hoddle Grid** will continue to experience ongoing growth and change as existing building stock is renewed and business models and infrastructure adapt to changing technology and demands. Growth will build upon its established structure and heritage assets. High quality building design, together with relationship and enhancement of the public realm will be essential.

Infrastructure requirements

Continual improvement of the public realm, including reconfiguring streets to give more space to people, an enhanced public and active transport network and a reduction in private vehicle traffic and on-street parking.



Hoddle Grid



Image 11. Flinders Street, Hoddle Grid



Image 12. Hosier Lane, Hoddle Grid

Evolving areas

Hoddle Grid

Evolving

Existing
renewalPotential
renewal

Transitioning

Established

Evolving areas are maturing areas that will continue to change with infill development, public realm improvements and major projects.

Southbank and Docklands are former port and industrial areas directly adjacent to the Hoddle Grid that have undergone deliberate, government-led urban renewal programs over several decades. These areas are now maturing as they enter the fourth and third decades of their renewal respectively and are home to significant residential and worker populations. The extent of commercial and residential growth has slowed as the majority of sites have now been developed. High quality building design and enhancement of the public realm will be essential to their future.

Infrastructure requirements

Addressing deficiencies in social and transport infrastructure and major improvements to the public realm, including greening, biodiversity and public realm projects focused along the Birrarung (Yarra River) and the Moonee Ponds Creek.



Evolving areas: Southbank and Docklands



Image 13. Boyd Community Hub, Southbank



Image 14. Jim Stynes Bridge, Docklands

RENEWAL PRECINCTS

Existing renewal

Hoddle Grid

Evolving

Existing
renewalPotential
renewal

Transitioning

Established

Existing renewal precincts are current or former areas of predominantly industrial, warehousing and logistics uses that are undergoing, or will undergo, a significant change in function, form or character at a precinct scale. They will accommodate a significant portion of the growth and change in the municipality over the next 20 years.

Melbourne has large reserves of industrial land in close proximity to the central city. Many traditional large scale industrial uses have now moved out of the inner city, creating a significant opportunity for new distinct, vibrant, mixed use neighbourhoods and employment precincts. The ecological and heritage characteristics of these places are defined by their location on, or near, rivers, creeks, wetlands and sand dunes. Due to these ecological and industrial histories, the land has not been used for residential uses in the past as it is largely contaminated and flood prone.

Macaulay, Fishermans Bend (Lorimer and the NEIC) and Arden will accommodate a significant portion of the growth and change in the municipality over the next 20 years. With residential and worker populations projected to increase significantly, substantial infrastructure investment and the retention of existing industrial character will be required to create high amenity environments. Some of these areas will remain important employment lands which accommodate new kinds of industries that support Melbourne's growing knowledge economy and the needs of the population.



Existing renewal precincts: Arden, Fishermans Bend: Lorimer, Fishermans Bend: NEIC and Macaulay

Infrastructure requirements

Significant public and private investment in infrastructure is needed to support new communities. Integrated water management, such as solutions to optimise stormwater detention and flows in the landscape and new recreations facilities, will be essential to ensure the safety and high quality of the future built environment. Public transport and a high amenity public realm will be essential enablers of change.



Image 15. Former Factory, Macaulay



Image 16. Westgate Park, Fishermans Bend

Potential renewal

Hoddle Grid

Evolving

Existing
renewalPotential
renewal

Transitioning

Established

Potential renewal precincts are active industrial areas and play an important strategic role in supporting our current and future economy.

E-Gate, Dynon and Maribyrnong Waterfront are well located industrial areas that predominantly support transport and logistics uses. Into the future these areas have the potential to accommodate a greater intensity and diversity of employment uses, and will continue to be essential inner-city employment lands that supports the municipality's function and growing knowledge economy. Detailed investigations into the future need for industrial areas that support the knowledge economy will be needed.

These areas provide an opportunity to accommodate large open spaces, addressing ecological, water management, and active recreation needs. Resolving environmental risks and community infrastructure needs are prerequisites to any successful renewal. The Maribyrnong River, Moonee Ponds Creek, and Dynon Road Tidal Canal and nature reserve are key locations for building an ecological network.

Detailed investigation is required to determine the potential for future urban renewal as these areas have significant flooding and contamination risks. In the long term, development for residential use will be carefully considered against the needs of the city economy. Addressing contamination and flood risk and regional open spaces and infrastructure needs must be done early to ensure new neighbourhoods are safe and high quality.



Potential renewal precincts: E-Gate, Dynon and Maribyrnong Waterfront

Infrastructure requirements

Foundational infrastructure will be required and will focus on integrated water management, environmental systems, land remediation, significant open space provision, social infrastructure and active and public transport. Large areas of government owned land create the potential for precinct scale carbon positive development and the provision of affordable housing.



Image 17. E-Gate railway yard



Image 18. Maribyrnong River

NEIGHBOURHOODS

Transitioning areas

Hoddle Grid

Evolving

Existing
renewalPotential
renewal

Transitioning

Established

Transitioning areas are well established areas adjacent to the Hoddle Grid that are undergoing incremental infill development, modifying the existing built form and use.

West Melbourne and City North are areas with established street and transport networks, an identifiable local character and sense of place and a historic mix of residential, commercial, light industrial and other uses. The City North area hosts a range of major health, education and research institutions. These areas will continue to undergo a transition from their historic warehousing and light industrial uses to a greater diversity of residential, institutional and commercial uses and denser built form, building on their residential and economic role while retaining their character. Change is putting pressure on the existing infrastructure and transport network to maintain a high level of amenity in these areas.

As part of the Parkville NEIC, City North accommodates Melbourne's major universities, research centres and bio-medical institutions and a large startup ecosystem.

Infrastructure requirements

Parkville Station on Grattan Street and the West Gate Tunnel project will drive change in the transport network in the area. Wide, underutilised streets reflecting the industrial history of the areas will be transformed into new open spaces and improved public realm. Nuanced infrastructure investment will support transition and growth, while maintaining the character of the existing area. Identified deficiencies in social infrastructure provision will be addressed.



Transitioning places: City North and West Melbourne



Image 19. New Hawke Street Playground, West Melbourne

Established areas

Hoddle Grid

Evolving

Existing
renewalPotential
renewal

Transitioning

Established

Established areas are predominantly residential neighbourhoods that will accommodate some development as the city changes.

These are well established, predominately residential areas with a strong heritage character and which support our diverse local centres. These areas will undergo some change into the future due to their proximity to significant change areas in the remainder of the municipality. Change will be much more subtle and gradual in these areas than in other areas of the municipality.

Much of the change will occur around existing activity centres such as high streets, where mid rise development will sensitively respond to existing character.

As resident and worker populations significantly increase in surrounding areas, existing infrastructure in these areas will be enhanced to meet increased demand.

Infrastructure requirements

Investment will be focused on maintaining and upgrading local infrastructure such as parks, streets, schools and community services to ensure that the existing level of service is maintained, and gaps are addressed.

Opportunities will be identified to optimise underutilised assets, such as redundant street space, and the co-location and integration of community services in dedicated hubs to achieve greater efficiency and higher quality services, for example the Kathleen Syme Community Hub in Carlton.



Established places: Carlton, East Melbourne and Jolimont, Kensington, Parkville, North Melbourne and South Yarra



Image 20. Kathleen Syme Library and Community Centre, Carlton

Special Areas

These are areas within the municipality that provide specific economic, cultural, recreational and environmental functions. They are important to the municipality and State and are unlikely to change for the foreseeable future.

These areas are the Sports Precinct, Domain Parklands, Port of Melbourne land and Flemington Racecourse and Melbourne Showgrounds. These areas provide specific economic, cultural and environmental functions that service the whole of Melbourne and Victoria, and will continue to perform these roles for the foreseeable future. As such they are not discussed in detail in the City Spatial Plan. Any unforeseen change in these areas will need to be planned in accordance with the strategic directions identified in the City Spatial Plan.



Special Areas: Flemington Racecourse and Melbourne Showgrounds, Port of Melbourne, Sports Precinct, Domain Parklands



Image 21. MCG, Sports Precinct



Image 22. Swanson Dock, Port of Melbourne

CENTRAL CITY

Hoddle Grid, and Evolving areas of Southbank and Docklands.





HODDLE GRID

Context and character

The Hoddle Grid is a unique and evolving place. There is no equivalent in Australia that provides the density of activities, mix of building styles and rich collection of experiences. It is a place where culture, events, business, food and exchanges occur. The Hoddle Grid is an ephemeral place where almost one million people live, work and visit from all over the world, every day.

The Hoddle Grid forms the historic, cultural and economic heart of Melbourne. It is the magnet of growth in Victoria, with the highest density of jobs and activity in the state and the greatest connectivity. It is home to many of Melbourne's most iconic buildings and places.

Birrarung (Yarra River) lies to the south of the Hoddle Grid and is visually connected to the Hoddle Grid from Flinders and Swanston streets. The Hoddle Grid is defined by its rectilinear street grid, most recognised for its grand boulevards, little streets and laneways. Its streets are easy to navigate and generally allow space for wide footpaths, different transport modes and car parking. The city's network of laneways and arcades encourage the exploration of bars, cafes, galleries and shops. The quality and generosity of the public realm is essential to support the intensity and diverse mix of business, residential, tourism, cultural and entertainment uses.

The Hoddle Grid functions today as a truly mixed use area with a number of different neighbourhoods and sub-precincts, including Chinatown (Little Bourke Street), the legal precinct (William Street), and the government precinct (Spring Street). Each street has its own character yet contributes to an overall cohesive place. The Hoddle Grid forms the centre of Melbourne's public transport and road networks, making it by far the most accessible destination in Greater Melbourne and Victoria.

The built form of the Hoddle Grid varies from one and two storey Victorian shopfronts to high rise residential and commercial towers. The influx of new residents, workers and visitors that has coincided with new development has had positive effects on the vitality of the Hoddle Grid; however there is evidence to suggest that some of the more recent urban design outcomes have not met the City of Melbourne's expectations of design quality.

Challenges and opportunities

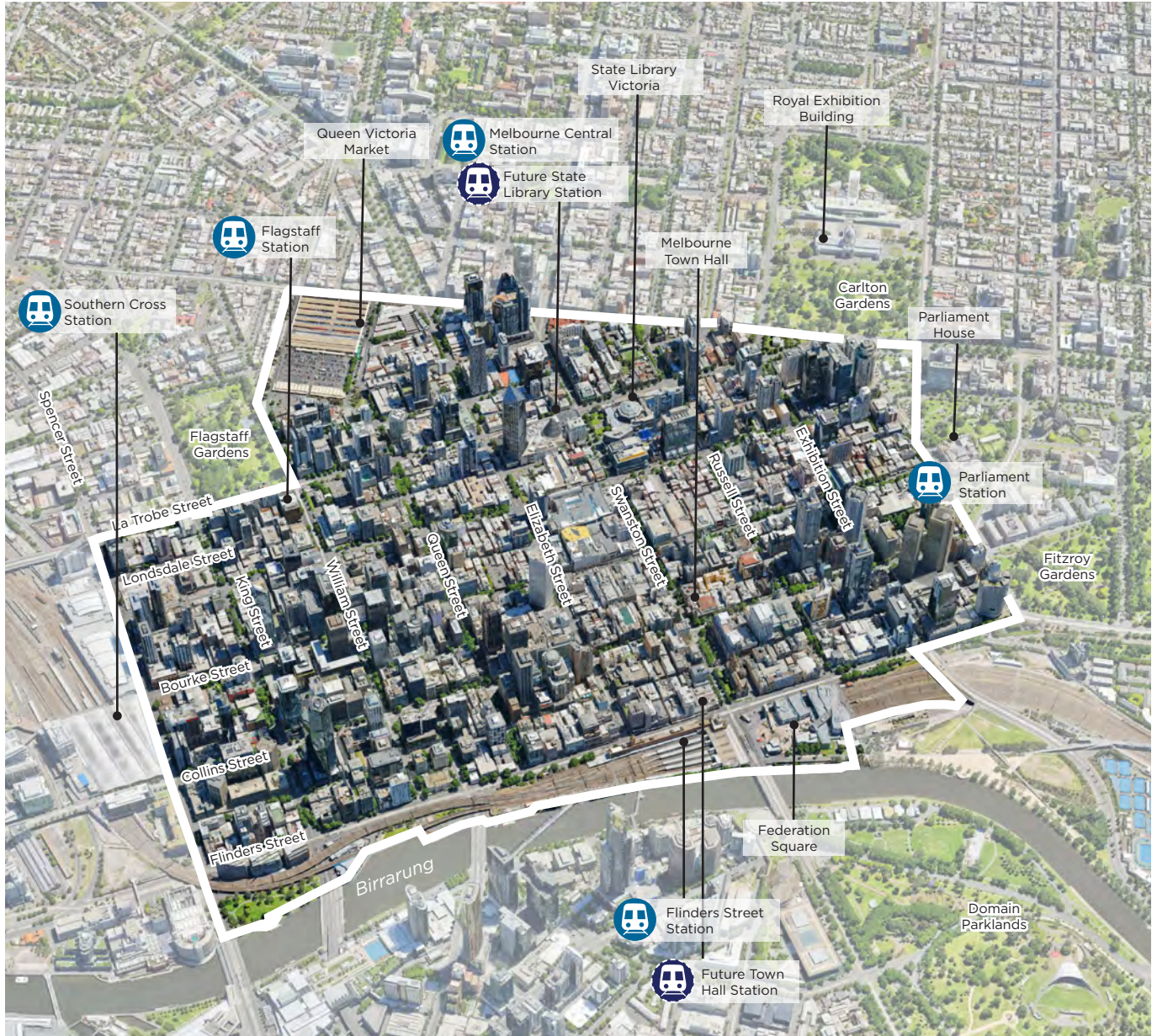
- Streets are not optimised for the way they are used today, with the majority of space allocated to the private vehicle and pedestrians overcrowding on footpaths
- Pressure on street space and open space from large numbers of residents, workers and other city users
- Differing state and local government responsibilities for development applications
- Preservation and conservation of heritage buildings
- Development of poor design quality impacting on the amenity of the public realm
- Strong built and cultural heritage assets
- Prioritisation of active forms of movement, including the new and growing network of protected bike lanes
- Increasing street tree planting and providing green infrastructure to cool the city's streets
- Re-establishing an ecological corridor by delivering the Greenline project on the northbank of the Birrarung
- New Metro Tunnel train stations



Image 23. Princes Bridge and Federation Wharf



Image 24. Federation Square



In the Hoddle Grid...



There are around
211,830
jobs



There are approximately
29,230 dwellings



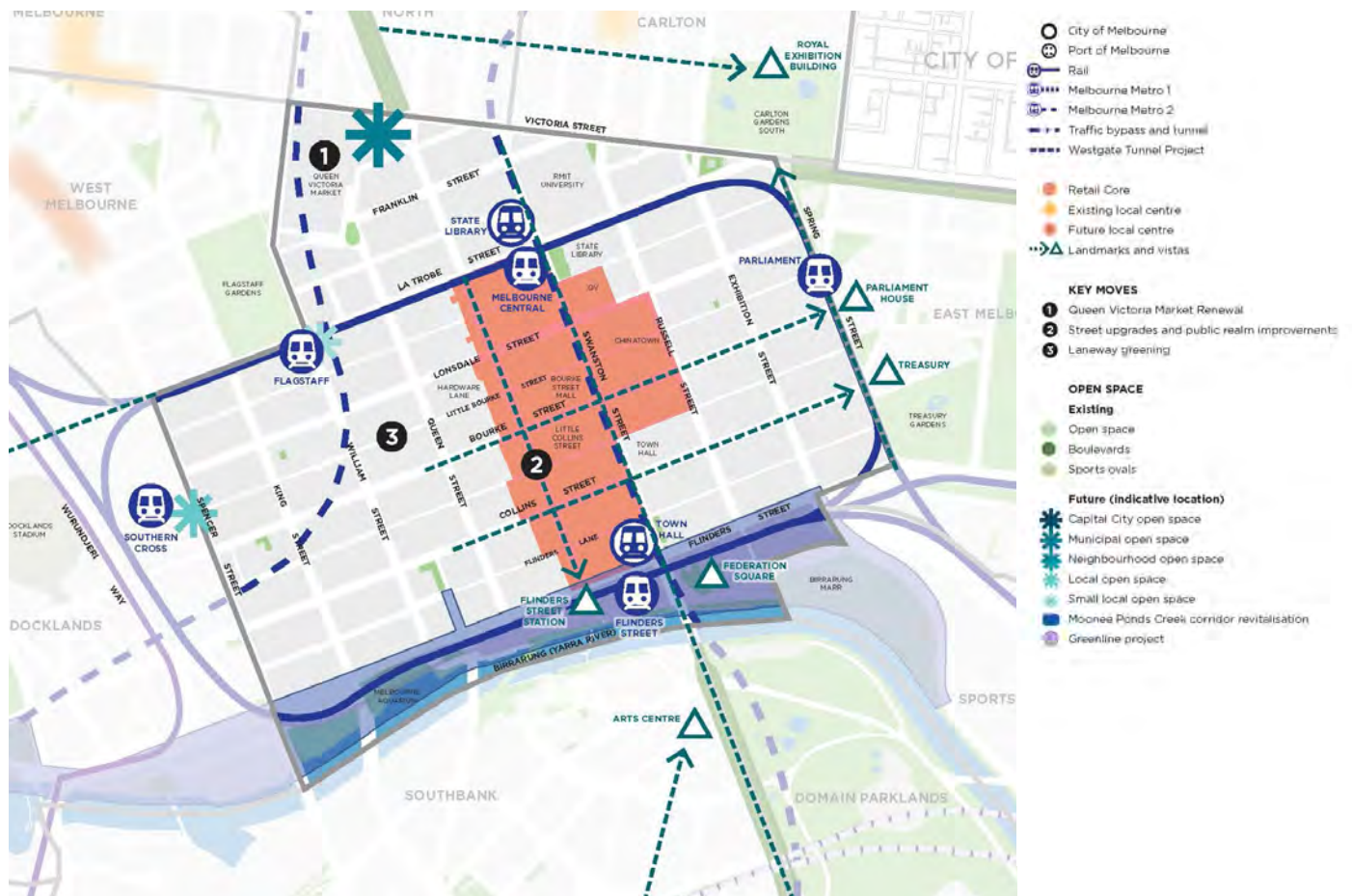
78 per cent of residents
speak a language other than
English

HODDLE GRID

Vision

The Hoddle Grid, as the heart of Melbourne, will continue to grow and service Victoria as the economic and cultural capital. A mix of contemporary and heritage buildings will respect the Hoddle Grid's history and help create great streets and public spaces to ensure the city is a place for all to live, work and visit.

YEAR	RESIDENTS	WORKERS
2020	54,808	211,826
2040	99,872	309,593



Key moves

- 1 Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal including new municipal open space and social infrastructure (CoM led)
- 2 Street upgrades and public realm improvements including Elizabeth Street, Flinders Street, Exhibition Street and the 'Little Streets' (CoM led)
- 3 Green Our Laneways project (CoM led)

Melbourne Metro 1 - new Town Hall and State Library stations (Victorian Government led)

Melbourne Metro 2 - connecting to Southern Cross and Flagstaff stations (Victorian Government led)

Birrarung (Yarra River) greening, biodiversity and public realm improvements including Greenline project (CoM led)



Built Form and Public Realm

New development in the Hoddle Grid will be well considered and finely detailed. Building design at street level will contribute to a positive public realm experience. Towers above street level will be well spaced to protect a high quality public realm, with sunlight access to streets, views to the sky and architectural interest through variation and detail. New buildings will also be respectfully integrated with the existing heritage buildings and special character areas.

The traditional street character will be strengthened by new buildings that respectfully integrate with existing heritage and ecological assets including the Birrarung.

Activation of the fine grain laneway and little streets will be maximised through human-scaled public interfaces. Where possible new, open to sky through block links will be created to increase the permeability of the urban structure throughout the Hoddle Grid.



Environment

Tree planting, urban greening, the transformation of asphalt to green and open space and the integration of water sensitive urban design into the public and private realm, through initiatives such as Green Your Laneway and Green Our Rooftop, will help to create streets and spaces that are more resilient and more comfortable for people. The Greenline project will bring new additions and improvements to green space and ecology in the city.



Water

The recreational, ecological and cultural values of the Birrarung (Yarra River) will be enhanced with increased access for pedestrians and a stronger connection to the cultural heritage of the Traditional Owners.



Movement

Walking, cycling and public transport will be prioritised in the Hoddle Grid to move more people efficiently, safely and conveniently.

As Flinders Street Station, Southern Cross Stations and other city train stations transform and with the emergence of Melbourne Metro, the Hoddle Grid's public transport network will become world-class, with public spaces that celebrate arrival to our municipality.

Streets and laneways will be places for people that feature generous footpaths, safe speeds, strong pedestrian flow and a high quality public realm.

Protected cycle paths will allow all people to ride a bike safely and confidently through the Hoddle Grid.



Economy

The Hoddle Grid will continue to grow and change as Victoria's economic heart. This will be served by knowledge, visitor and creative economy's which are currently the largest employers in the Hoddle Grid.

A vast array of types and sizes of businesses will choose to locate in the Hoddle Grid. Office space that supports a large number of jobs in financial and professional services sectors will be encouraged, and the city's diverse dining, entertainment, events and retail offering will be enhanced.



Culture and Heritage

The Hoddle Grid tells the story of Melbourne's cultural evolution, as a historical and significant meeting place for Aboriginal people of the Eastern Kulin and a cosmopolitan global city.

The distinct attributes of the special character areas within Hoddle Grid, such as its bluestone laneways, former industrial and grand gold rush era buildings, as well as our celebrated uses, including the celebration of music, arts, heritage and culture, will be protected and enhanced to continue to portray Melbourne's past.



Infrastructure

The unique infrastructure offer of the Hoddle Grid will be continually improved and enhanced to maintain Melbourne's reputation as one of the world's most liveable cities and as an arts, sporting and cultural destination. This will include social and transport infrastructure to accommodate an increased residential, worker and visitor population.



Land Use

An incredible diversity of uses will continue to define the Hoddle Grid, including Premium and A-Grade office space, growing residential, arts, retail, entertainment, food and drink, community, public institutions, universities and other education facilities. The varied land uses, built form and street network of the Hoddle Grid reflect this place's significance in all aspects of Melbourne life.



Community Wellbeing

Facilities to support the Hoddle Grid's diverse and growing community of residents, workers and visitors will be enhanced through city shaping projects, including the Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal and Greenline. These works will complement improvements to state significant community spaces such as the State Library of Victoria and Federation Square and local infrastructure that supports our communities health and wellbeing.

SOUTHBANK

Context and character

Southbank is a high density residential, entertainment, commercial and tourism precinct to the south of the Hoddle Grid.

Southbank's image is influenced by the Southbank Promenade and its abundance of dining and entertainment choices. Pedestrian and cycling access is available along the south side of the Birrarung (Yarra River) which complements the hive of activity in the area.

Southbank is connected to the Hoddle Grid via a number of bridges, the most iconic of these being Princes Bridge, which connects Swanston Street with St Kilda Road.

The Melbourne Arts Precinct has one of the highest concentrations of arts, cultural and creative organisations anywhere in the world. It is home to the most visited art gallery and busiest performing arts centre in the country, and includes education and training institutions, iconic architecture, galleries, theatres, music venues, studios, and creative co-working spaces. Melbourne Arts Precinct Transformation aims to build on the success of the Precinct. The National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne Arts Centre, Hamer Hall and Victorian College of the Arts on St Kilda Road, as well as theatres, the ABC, Australian Centre for Contemporary Art and the Australian Ballet Centre along Sturt Street all form part of the Melbourne Arts Precinct.

To the west is the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre which hosts a calendar of major events, as well as the casino complex and South Wharf shopping and entertainment precincts.

The remainder of Southbank is defined by high rise residential apartment buildings and commercial land uses that have increased dramatically over the past five years to 2022. Many of these buildings include large podiums with multiple levels of car parking, creating poor quality street interfaces. Large blocks mean that there is a lack of pedestrian permeability throughout Southbank, making walking access more difficult.

There is a lack of local open space within Southbank and the increase in residential development has driven up demand for local open spaces and community services. Existing services are limited, with only the Boyd Community Hub and a few other small open spaces serving the local community. Residents and workers rely on nearby areas for basic local services such as large parks (Domain Parklands) and supermarkets (South Melbourne), which are not easily accessible from much Southbank.

High vehicle volumes and a poor quality, car dominated public realm on City Road, Kings Way and the West Gate Freeway have a significant impact on pedestrian and cycling amenity in much of Southbank. New upgrades and open spaces on Southbank Boulevard has created a more people-oriented street that connects the neighbourhood and some of it's key attractions including Southbank Promenade, the Melbourne Arts Precinct, and Domain Parklands.

Challenges and opportunities

- Lack of open space and social infrastructure
- Opening up inward facing arts and cultural institutions to the public realm, including through the development of the new NGV Contemporary
- Improving the pedestrian and cycle experience, permeability and connectivity, within and to, Southbank
- Reducing the impact of major vehicle thoroughfares and car parking on safety, movement and amenity
- Improving overall design quality
- Improving the public realm and delivering local spaces



Image 25. City Road underpass



Image 26. Melbourne Recital Centre



In Southbank...



There are around
38,950
jobs



There are approximately
16,260 dwellings



59 per cent of residents
speak a language other than
English

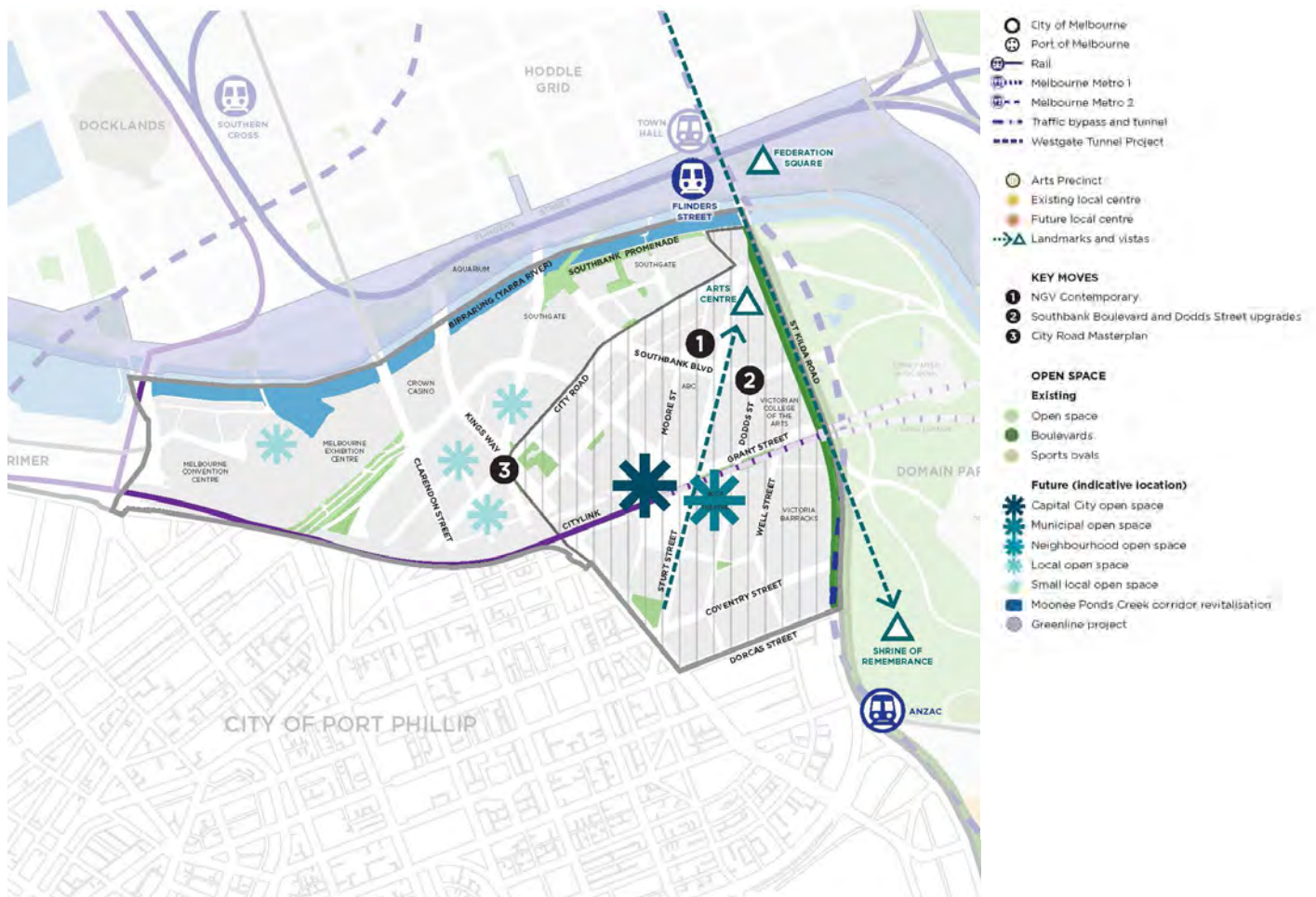
SOUTHBANK

Change type: Central City (Evolving)

Vision

Southbank will continue to grow as Melbourne's premier arts precinct and an extension of the central city, focused on the Birrarung (Yarra River). It will develop into a truly walkable neighbourhood that provides a great environment for people.

YEAR	RESIDENTS	WORKERS
2020	27,839	38,954
2040	50,041	60,302



Key moves

- 1 Melbourne Arts Precinct transformation, including NGV Contemporary, new affordable creative spaces, open space and public realm (Victorian Government led)
- 2 Transforming Southbank Boulevard and Dodds Street open space and public realm enhancement (CoM led)
- 3 Deliver the City Road Masterplan (CoM led)

Birrarung (Yarra River) greening, biodiversity and public realm improvements (CoM led)

Southbank Promenade public realm revitalisation (CoM led)

Boyd redevelopment including affordable housing, public open space and social infrastructure (CoM led)



Built Form and Public Realm

A renewed focus on Southbank's public realm will deliver enhancements that support the established mid to high rise buildings. A transition in scale will be maintained from the lower scale form along the Birrarung (Yarra River) corridor and Arts Precinct to the higher form along City Road.

New development will provide through-block links to promote a fine grain walking network. Towers will be well spaced to maintain a high quality public realm and views to the sky. Buildings will respect viewlines to, and visual dominance of, key sites including the Shrine of Remembrance and the Arts Centre Spire. New buildings within the Arts Precinct will demonstrate design excellence befitting of this area's national significance. Streets and spaces will celebrate public art.

Existing development will be adapted over time to improve the interaction with the public realm, including the repurposing of above ground car parking.

Opportunity for any new development in the Kings Way and Sturt Street triangle will improve the street interface and mitigate the impact of freeway infrastructure.



Environment

New local parks, enhanced streets and recreation infrastructure will be prioritised for Southbank's growing population. This will begin with the transformation of Southbank Boulevard and Dodds Street and include implementation of the City Road Master Plan.



Water

The Birrarung (Yarra River) will be enhanced as an environmentally and culturally significant place. Upgraded streets and open spaces will integrate innovative water sensitive urban design solutions to mitigate the impacts of flooding and increased planting of diverse species will improve biodiversity and resilience.



Movement

An upgraded cycling network will provide permanent new protected lanes on Queens Bridge Street, City Road and St Kilda Road. Pedestrian amenity will be enhanced throughout Southbank as low speed spaces are facilitated.



Economy

Southbank will continue to attract global businesses and tourism due to its accessibility, Premium and A-grade office space and high amenity public realm. Sturt Street will play an increasingly important role as the home for arts and creative industries, to support Southbank's status as home of the internationally renowned Melbourne Arts Precinct. The Arts Precinct transformation will provide affordable homes, workspaces and exhibition spaces for creative industries to complement the world-leading galleries.



Culture and Heritage

Ongoing major investment in arts, entertainment, cultural and educational assets will see Southbank grow as a destination for all. Re-landscaping and new art installations will reflect Traditional Owner's connection to the area. The area's remaining industrial and manufacturing heritage will be retained and adaptively re-used, providing links to its recent past. Significant heritage buildings, particularly Hamer Hall, the Arts Centre and National Gallery of Victoria, will be preserved and enhanced.



Infrastructure

Opportunities to address deficiencies in social and sustainable transport infrastructure and major improvements to the public realm include Melbourne Metro 1, investment in Melbourne's Arts Spine and the creation of new civic spaces. Improvements to Southbank Boulevard, Dodds Street, City Road and other streets will provide new open spaces and public realm. Significant investment in integrated water management and the public realm will further enhance this precinct.



Land Use

Southbank's land use will continue to diversify with residential and commercial uses increasingly complemented by a growing retail, food and drink and entertainment sector beyond the Southbank Promenade. Southbank's significant arts institutions will be supported by a greater range of arts uses, particularly in lower levels of buildings along Sturt Street, encouraging its growth as a centre of arts activities.



Community Wellbeing

The ongoing redevelopment of the Boyd site will include provision of affordable housing to complement the existing library, maternal child health centre and other community services at the site.

DOCKLANDS

Context and character

Docklands is located to the west of the Hoddle Grid, separated by Wurundjeri Way, the railway lines and Southern Cross Station.

Docklands is one of the biggest projects, and transformations, our municipality has experienced in modern times. It has significantly transformed the central city, bringing the city to the water and creating new precincts for living, working and entertaining.

To the north of Docklands is Footscray Road and E-Gate. The length of Docklands' waterfront is over 7 km, from Yarra's Edge in the south to the Ron Barassi Snr Park and mouth of the Moonee Ponds Creek in the north. Yarra's Edge plays an important role connecting the future residents of Lorimer to Birrarung and should be protected as a public asset.

Many streets of the Hoddle Grid extend into Docklands, including Collins Street and La Trobe Street. Bourke Street is extended as a pedestrian bridge providing access to Southern Cross Station. Lonsdale Street terminates at Spencer Street.

Docklands has been designed to make the most of Victoria Harbour, taking advantage of views to the heritage listed marina which is separated from the Birrarung (Yarra River) by North Wharf. The western edge of Docklands is defined by the Bolte Bridge, which runs above the Moonee Ponds Creek across the river to the West Gate Freeway.

Victoria Harbour was once one of Australia's busiest ports. The evolution of containerised cargo rendered the dock and it's long sheds, that still line the wharf edges, redundant in the 1960s. The redevelopment of Docklands began the process of reconnecting the central city with the water and its maritime history.

Today, the Harbour comprises numerous marinas which together are capable of berthing 300+ vessels for visitors and residents. The Docklands waterways function as an active space, servicing approximately 200,000 people per year for various charter purposes, as well as providing space for recreational activities and on-water events.

A number of on-land attractions act as draw cards to the area, such as the 'The District' retail and entertainment area in New Quay to the north, and community and recreation facilities at Library at The Dock in Victoria Harbour and the Hub @ Docklands adjacent to Docklands Park. New Quay also supports the Docklands Media Precinct which attracts global creative talent in film, technology, screen and media.

Development in Docklands is generally high rise podium towers, with some medium rise blocks and townhouses adjacent to the rivers' edge. Some streets and public spaces are windy and open to the elements, whereas others are smaller and more sheltered, creating intimate spaces for the community.

Challenges and opportunities

- Redefining Central Pier and Harbour Esplanade as the gateway to Docklands
- Using the Docklands' waterfront to create a showpiece destination for visitors to Melbourne
- Encouraging a diverse range of land uses to be accessible before, during and after working hours
- Promoting a defined vision and identity of the area
- Promoting maritime heritage
- Identifying opportunities to reduce commercial and residential vacancies
- Leveraging initiatives within the southern catchment of the Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Opportunities Plan
- Improving the design quality of buildings to address visual bulk and windy microclimates
- Improving connections to Renewal Precincts north (Arden and Macaulay) and south (Fishermans Bend) of Docklands and improving integration with surrounding areas and the Birrarung
- Increasing built form diversity and affordability
- Integrating with the Greenline project to identify strategic open space opportunities



Image 27. Victoria Harbour and New Quay

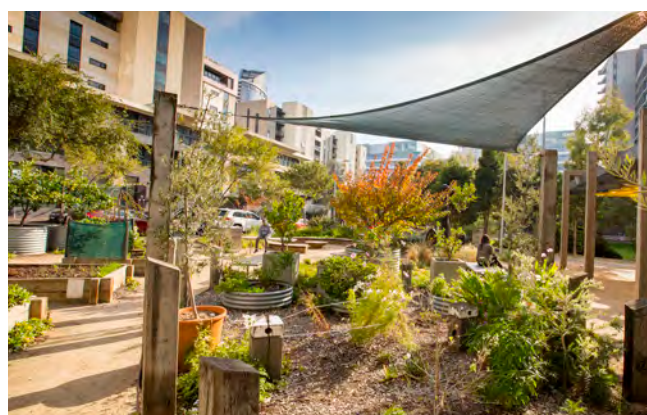
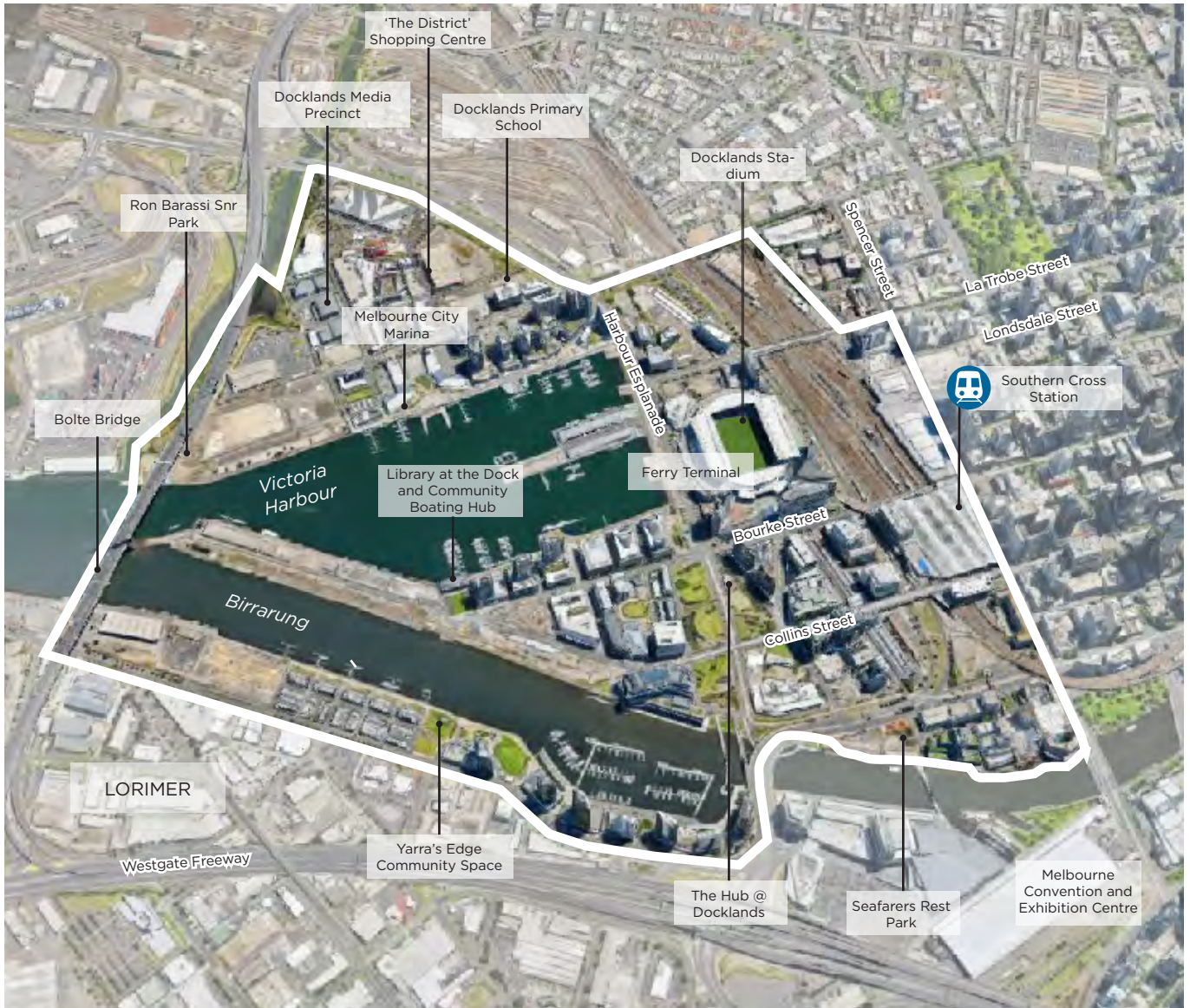


Image 28. Community Garden



In Docklands...



There are around
66,250
jobs



There are approximately
8780 dwellings



65 per cent of residents
speak a language other than
English

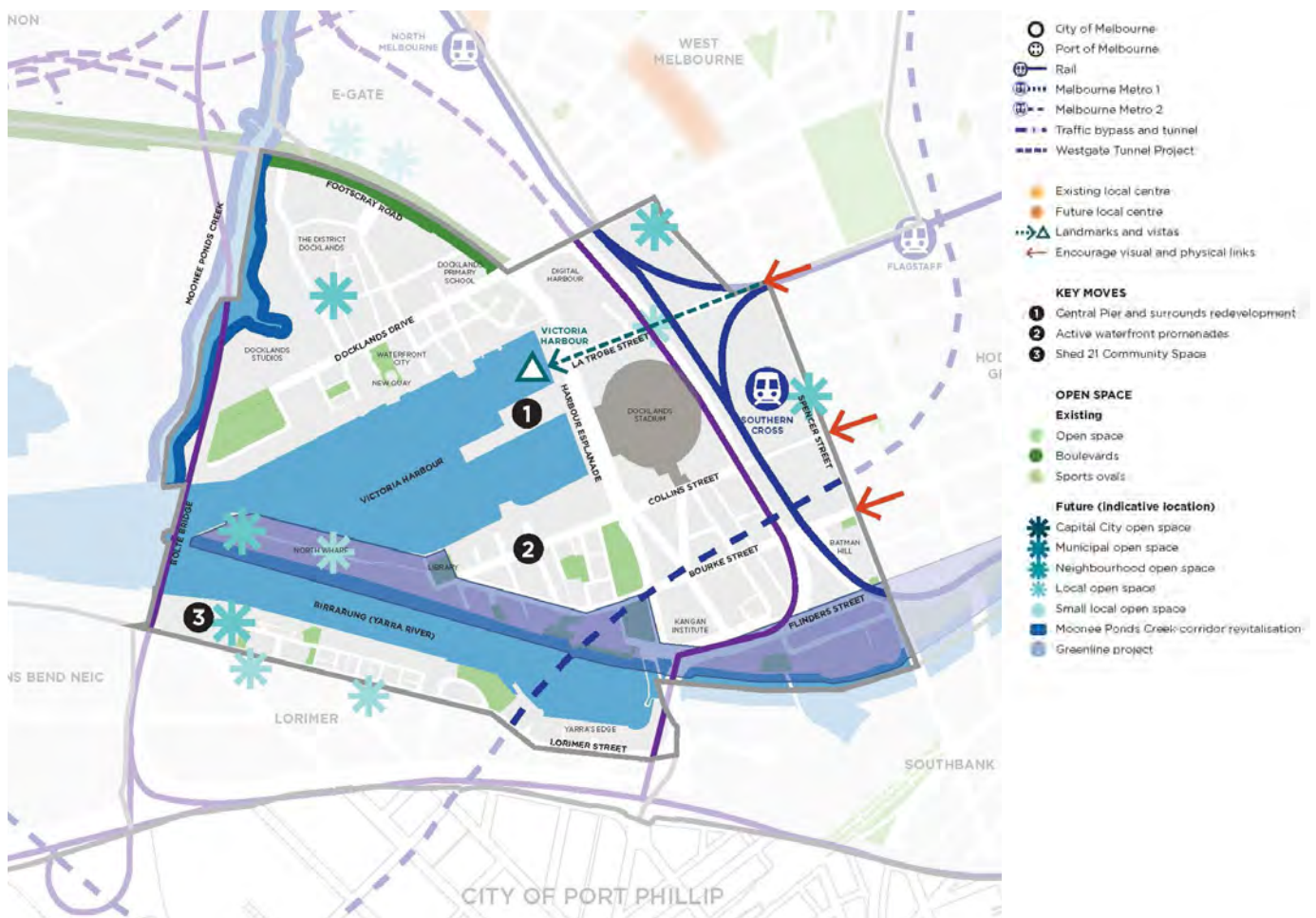
DOCKLANDS

Change type: Central City (Evolving)

Vision

Docklands will embrace its distinct waterfront location and evolve as a place for people to live, work and visit. Docklands will see a greater diversity of uses, a high quality and comfortable public realm, and improved connections with surrounding areas.

YEAR	RESIDENTS	WORKERS
2020	16,035	66,250
2040	29,791	91,002



Key moves

- 1 Central Pier and surrounds redevelopment as a lively, interactive public hub (Victorian Government)
- 2 Activate the waterfront with small scale structures and retail and entertainment uses at day and night (Victorian Government and CoM led)
- 3 Shed 21 adaptive reuse for community space (Victorian Government and CoM)

Fishermans Bend tram extensions and active transport connections (Victorian Government)

Birrarung (Yarra River) greening, biodiversity and public realm improvements including Greenline project and Seafarers Rest Park (CoM led)



Built Form and Public Realm

Docklands' built form will evolve to support a more cohesive urban fabric and the enhanced amenity and walkability of its public realm. New buildings will reference and celebrate the maritime character and history of the precinct. Towers will be designed to optimise vistas and avoid the appearance of 'walls' of buildings from the public realm.

Building interfaces will mitigate wind impacts. Smaller scale urban elements such as kiosks and pavilions will be introduced to break down the scale of the existing built form and create a comfortable human scale public realm. A cohesive public realm will bring Docklands together.

The build-out of Docklands' vacant land will ensure a seamless urban experience, including the completion of street edges along Collins and La Trobe street bridges, to better integrate with the Hoddle Grid.

Redevelopment of Central Pier and surrounds will create a new destination that attracts visitors from the stadium and city at all times of day and improve connections between the Hoddle Grid and Docklands.



Environment

Yarra's Edge will become an important area of public open space, connecting Fishermans Bend with the Birrarung (Yarra River). A network of smaller, sunny, sheltered and more intimate public spaces that encourage interaction will be delivered throughout Docklands. Urban greening and water management will create a cooler, more resilient environment.



Water

Moonee Ponds Creek will be enhanced as a biodiversity and recreation corridor with integrated flood mitigation infrastructure. The edges of the Birrarung (Yarra River) and Victoria Harbour will be upgraded as important components of the wider Yarra River - Birrarung Strategy. Opportunities to increase activation along the river will be sought. The Docklands waterways will be promoted to invite more on-water activity, in turn drawing population into the area and enhancing awareness of the precinct.



Movement

The Greenline along the Birrarung (Yarra River), extending onto Harbour Esplanade, will improve walking and cycling access along the river and through Docklands. In the longer term, the potential extension of Lonsdale Street from the Hoddle Grid across the train lines and new public transport connections to Fishermans Bend will better connect Docklands to surrounding areas.



Economy

Docklands' maturing commercial precincts along Collins Street at Batman's Hill and at Victoria Harbour will continue to develop, attracting high-end tenants. New and maturing neighbourhoods will draw in a greater range of residents and visitors to support local services, such as the redevelopment of Central Pier and surrounds, and 'The District' retail and entertainment precinct.



Culture and Heritage

Docklands' relationship with Victoria Harbour, Moonee Ponds Creek and the Birrarung (Yarra River) will be strengthened by incorporating elements of its rich maritime history and the past, present and ongoing Aboriginal cultural significance of these waterways.



Infrastructure

Major improvements to the public realm, including new public open space and integrated water management will be realised. Expansion of the public and active transport network provides the opportunity to improve connections to surrounding precincts.

Central Pier and surrounds will be redesigned to become a great post industrial waterfront which will include improved connections and new events and recreation spaces that celebrate the industrial and maritime heritage of the precinct and activates the streets surrounding Docklands Stadium.



Land Use

Docklands will continue to evolve as a preferred location for high-end corporate office space as well as the home of a growing residential population. Ongoing improvements and maturation of the public realm, including in New Quay and North Wharf and around Central Pier, will further expand Docklands retail, entertainment and tourism uses, providing a more diverse offer for both locals and visitors. Docklands' unique water frontage will continue to be enhanced to promote greater access to, and activity on, the water.



Community Wellbeing

Community wellbeing and resilience in Docklands will continue to be supported through the provision of new and upgraded social infrastructure, including the recently completed Docklands Primary School, active recreation opportunities and improved connections to adjoining areas.