PLAN MELBOURNE REFRESH

AT A GLANCE
OCTOBER 2015
## CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR MELBOURNE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PEOPLE</th>
<th>HOMES</th>
<th>JOBS</th>
<th>TRIPS</th>
<th>WEATHER EXTREMES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+3.3m</td>
<td>+1.5m</td>
<td>+1.7m</td>
<td>+7m per day</td>
<td>13 days per year over 35°C by 2030</td>
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**PEOPLE**
- Melbourne’s population is expected to increase from 4.4 million to 7.7 million by 2051.

**HOMES**
- There is expected to be an extra 1.5 million homes by 2051.
- In 1996, 29% of low income households renting privately paid more than half their income in rent. By 2011, this had increased to 39%.

**JOBS**
- By 2031 there is expected to be another 1.7 million jobs.
- One third of these additional jobs will be in Melbourne’s central region.

**TRIPS**
- 7 million extra road, public transport, cycling and pedestrian trips per day on Melbourne’s transport network by 2040.

**WEATHER EXTREMES**
- 13 days per year over 35°C by 2030 (CSIRO and the Bureau of Meteorology).

The Garnaut Review found that the costs of unmitigated climate change are expected to reduce Victoria’s Gross State Product by approximately 2% by 2050.
MINISTER’S FOREWORD

PLAN MELBOURNE IS MORE THAN AN OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD A CITY, IT’S AN OPPORTUNITY TO PLAN THE FUTURE OF OUR CITY.

Melbourne is at an exciting time in its history with unparalleled opportunity for growth, development and prosperity.

We need to prepare for that growth now, and with sensible and sustainable planning we can provide the foundation for Victoria’s economic vitality and liveability throughout the 21st century.

The Plan Melbourne refresh is about making sure our strategy for the city’s growth and development gives our present and future citizens an even better quality of life, a higher standard of living and access to greater opportunities.

I want to see us build a city that sets an example to the world for environmental sustainability, social equity, enhanced liveability and economic strength.

Melbourne is facing some big challenges. Our projected population growth, changing economic conditions and the pressures of climate change mean we need to think and act thoughtfully about how to grow and develop our city.

Much of Plan Melbourne 2014 has bipartisan support and this refresh does not propose a comprehensive revision. Rather, it allows us to revisit the plan in light of new information and incorporate some ideas that planning experts and ordinary citizens alike have raised during the consultations and lively public debates over the last few years that had been omitted.

And having refreshed Plan Melbourne, we will be in a better position to answer the big questions that can no longer be ignored: How do we make sure there is a steady supply of housing that is affordable for the next generation of Victorians? How do we manage investment in transport infrastructure to keep this city moving? How do we avoid the sorts of geographical inequalities that plague many of the world’s fastest growing cities? How do we prepare for climate change?

The discussion paper presents options for consideration during the public consultation process. These options have been informed by the work of the Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAC) which I re-formed in 2015 to provide me with independent expert advice on how to refresh Plan Melbourne. It has also benefited enormously from submissions and information collected during an earlier extensive community and stakeholder engagement program.

I encourage you to read it, discuss it, circulate it via social media, and be part of a lively public debate. Melbourne is our city, so together let’s set its course for a positive future.

Information at the end of this At a Glance document tells you how to be part of the discussion.
WHY PLAN MELBOURNE MATTERS

DEVELOPING THE RIGHT CITY STRUCTURE IS ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS AND WILL KEEP MELBOURNE PROSPEROUS, LIVEABLE AND SUSTAINABLE FOR EVERYONE.

Great cities don’t just happen. And they don’t stay great without serious thought and effort, especially in an era of rapid population growth.

Success takes strategic planning and long-term action and investment. The task is to provide a vision and direction to manage the city’s growth as its population almost doubles over the next 35 years.

That’s why it is so important that the plan for our city, Plan Melbourne, is kept fresh and up to date.

Plan Melbourne is the strategic land use document that outlines measures to support jobs close to homes, services and transport and identifies the areas that will accommodate much of Melbourne’s growth.

It aims to build on Melbourne’s role as an efficient business services city, tourism destination and freight and manufacturing hub, while maintaining the city’s globally-recognised liveability and protecting what we value about our city – its natural and built beauty, its lively and democratic culture, its social diversity and its economic equality.
GROWTH MEANS OPPORTUNITY

We can make growth work for us by planning a city that can change the lives of Victorians for the better.

Melbourne is one of the world’s great city success stories – consistently ranked one of the world’s most liveable cities. This means more people want to live here. Record numbers of people are moving to Melbourne from other Australian states and the number of overseas migrants is growing. Combined with our natural population growth, this is projected to almost double Melbourne’s population in just a few decades. By 2051, Melbourne will likely be Australia’s biggest city with a population of almost 8 million people. In the next five years alone, there will be no fewer than 450,000 new Melburnians. So while we need to plan for the long term, we also need to get started right away.

Well-managed population growth offers huge benefits for a city and its people. The extra demand for goods and services generates economic growth, productivity and innovation. There are more jobs, higher incomes and more life opportunities for people. A well-planned bigger city can increase housing diversity and help reduce social and economic inequality. Efficient public transport networks can reduce road traffic and greenhouse gas emissions. Strategic planning can create vibrant and walkable neighbourhoods with housing close to workplaces, infrastructure, facilities, services and open spaces.

GROWTH ALSO BRINGS CHALLENGES

Through good planning, we can keep true to everything we love about Melbourne in 2015 while embracing growth.

Population growth also generates challenges for a city. Melbourne is experiencing significant changes: widening geographical inequalities and greater pressures on transport, health, education and other vital social services. We need to build Melbourne’s capacity to maintain and improve the standard of living of all our people as our population grows. This means increasing our housing supply in the areas that best support population growth. It means providing more housing in established areas rich in infrastructure and services, while retaining neighbourhood character and improving liveability.

Development in greenfield growth areas requires careful planning and significant infrastructure investment to give residents equitable access. Melbourne needs to double the capacity of its transport system and improve its connectivity and efficiency and the planning system needs to support this. Protecting our natural environment is a priority, and we must reduce our greenhouse gas emissions while the population grows and prepare for the future challenges of climate change.
WE HAVE TO ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE THAT OUR CITY WILL CHANGE.

City planning must reflect community priorities and expert knowledge and endure well beyond political cycles. But to endure it must occasionally be updated to reflect the city’s rapidly evolving needs and changing government priorities, including the long-term effect of major infrastructure developments. That’s why Plan Melbourne 2014 is being refreshed rather than replaced.

Much of Plan Melbourne 2014 enjoys bipartisan support. Its main priorities will be retained. These include:

- More jobs in the central city and designated locations across the suburbs
- An efficient transport system across the metropolitan region that links to regional cities
- A fixed urban boundary and compact urban form
- Housing growth and greater density in the right locations
- Protected natural and agricultural values on the city’s fringe.

The Plan Melbourne refresh will address the important issues of housing supply, diversity and affordability and climate change and will reflect current transport network priorities.

While the major elements of Plan Melbourne 2014 will remain, refreshing it to meet our city’s growth challenges and clarify some fundamental principles and concepts is needed.

Plan Melbourne 2016 should better explain the opportunities, challenges and tensions for the city’s future development, possibly with reference to the UN Sustainable Development Goals which embrace the three key pillars of sustainable development: economic prosperity, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.

The concept of an Integrated Economic Triangle should be replaced with a better representation of the key directions for the city, which is a polycentric city with 20-minute neighbourhoods.

Housing affordability and the importance of people, place and identity should be given greater prominence. More focus will be given to the importance of partnership with local government in sub-regional planning and the implementation of Plan Melbourne 2016. A refreshed Plan Melbourne will expand upon and better define these important concepts.
WHAT PLAN MELBOURNE MEANS FOR YOU

**BETTER LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

Applying the principles of 20-minute neighbourhoods will mean better planned local communities, more provision for walking and cycling, better distribution of community facilities and parks and a reduction in the need to travel long distances to find services.

People will have more choice to live closer to their workplaces and be able to meet their everyday needs mainly within a 20 minute walk.

**PROTECTION OF GREEN WEDGES**

The existing urban growth boundary will be locked down and the planning rules for green wedges will improve protection of key values.

More attention will be given to the rural areas surrounding Melbourne to avoid negative spill over effects and to protect environmental assets and agricultural land.

**BETTER TRANSPORT**

The Melbourne Metro rail project will transform the Dandenong to Sunbury corridor – linking major activity centres to the city and providing five new central city stations, including ones serving the Parkville university and hospital precincts and the new activity centre planned for Arden.

This will also enable other lines to carry more trains through the underground loop. Easier interchanges between frequent services will create a true Metro service with a huge boost in capacity.

**MORE AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE HOUSING**

Plan Melbourne 2016 is being given a stronger emphasis on getting more diverse and affordable homes built and achieving a better balance between development on underutilised land in existing suburbs and new homes in growth areas. This will be achieved within the framework of the new three tier residential zones, precinct structure planning or possibly new zones to facilitate development in urban renewal, greyfield areas and mixed use employment clusters.

**BUILDING RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

Plan Melbourne 2016 will take stronger action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce our exposure to climate change impacts. Strategic environmental principles, improved hazard mapping, environmentally sustainable design, greening the city and encouraging renewable energy can help us respond to climate change challenges and build resilience.

Plan Melbourne is all about growing our city while keeping the things we value.

We have eight million reasons to get it right.
COMMUNITY AND LIVEABILITY AS WELL AS GROWTH AND PROGRESS. THIS IS OUR AIM.

What will a refreshed Plan Melbourne mean for Victorians? The following sections outline the main points in Plan Melbourne refresh: discussion paper in the crucial areas of jobs and investment, transport, housing and climate change.

Whether you’re a planning expert or an everyday citizen, we want your views.

JOBS AND INVESTMENT

We must plan for growth without sacrificing liveability. Taking innovative options will be crucial.

Planning for the expanded central city, and particularly in the major urban renewal areas, needs to preserve commercial development opportunities and deliver transport infrastructure.

The six National Employment Clusters of knowledge based businesses and institutions – Parkville, Monash, Latrobe, Sunshine, Werribee and Dandenong – are critical to Melbourne’s economic and social future and underpin Melbourne’s global city status. Innovation is likely to be included in their title to recognise its importance.

Planning for long-term options for the major airports, ports and freight facilities is recognised as important and will be determined after independent expert advice from Infrastructure Victoria.

Update of the designation of some activity centres and review the planning area boundary for some National Employment Clusters.

Planning tools to help protect strategic agricultural land are being investigated.

The recommendations of the Extractive Industries Taskforce will be implemented.

A MORE CONNECTED MELBOURNE

Smart planning means you spend less time travelling to and from work so you have more time to spend doing what you want to do.

Plan Melbourne 2014 will be updated to reflect revised and new transport projects. It will, for example, include the Melbourne Metro Rail Project and the improvements to the Cranbourne Pakenham and Mernda rail lines, and remove the East West Link.

While the refreshed Plan Melbourne should outline the broad transport needs of the city over the next 35 years, the detail and timing of projects should be subject to transparent assessment and approval processes.

Plan Melbourne 2016 will reincorporate the Principal Public Transport Network to help guide decision-making.
HOUSING

Our city must be built on the idea of social equity. That’s the Victorian way.

Plan Melbourne 2016 needs to articulate long-term land use policies and reforms to meet projected housing needs and expand housing choice and affordability.

The 2015 MAC report proposes a large number of initiatives relating to housing supply, diversity and affordability. For example: goals to increase the proportion of new housing in established areas; exercising greater control on the timing and sequencing of greenfield land release; and facilitating the supply of social and affordable housing through changes to planning rules and processes.

The Plan Melbourne refresh: discussion paper canvases options for new housing development goals, to increase certainty for housing development, to facilitate an increase in affordable housing and housing supply in established areas and to develop comprehensive data and strategies to better guide housing planning.

The Plan Melbourne refresh: discussion paper proposes to increase certainty to generally favour change in defined locations except where heritage precincts or other existing values should be protected.

Further initiatives to support housing diversity and the provision of more social and affordable housing are discussed. These include streamlined planning approvals, clarifying the definition of affordable housing, regulatory change to reduce the cost of building social housing and requirements to provide affordable housing in new developments.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Making our city a leader in climate change action.

The planning system can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build our resilience to reduce our exposure to the effects of climate change.

Strategic environmental principles – for example, promoting a metropolitan structure that minimises greenhouse gas emissions, greening the city to help with cooling and protecting the most vulnerable people from climate change risks – improving hazard mapping and new planning tools can help respond to climate change challenges and build resilience.

Environmentally sustainable design and options to encourage renewable energy are put forward to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create a more sustainable Melbourne.

NEW PLANNING TOOLS

The right planning tools are needed to create great places.

The MAC recommended new planning scheme tools for National Employment Clusters and designated urban renewal precincts, however, existing planning scheme mechanisms may achieve the intended purpose.

A ‘code assess’ approach – which would embrace good building design and urban design – to multi dwelling developments may provide greater certainty and investment. It would need to be carefully crafted.
AN ENDURING STRATEGY WITH A SEPARATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

THIS IS NOT TICK-A-BOX PLANNING; IT IS PLANNING THAT POSES AND ANSWERS THE DIFFICULT QUESTIONS.

It is proposed that Plan Melbourne 2016 will be an enduring strategy with a long-term focus supported by a ‘rolling’ implementation plan.

Plan Melbourne 2014 actions will be reviewed and refreshed and its monitoring framework will be rationalised and include issues like the environment and climate change.

The role of and partnerships with the Metropolitan Planning Authority and sub-regional planning groups will be more clearly articulated in Plan Melbourne 2016 implementation.

NEXT STEPS

WE NEED TO BRING THE COMMUNITY VOICE BACK INTO THE PLANNING PROCESS SO THAT WE GET THE PLAN FOR MELBOURNE WE WERE MEANT TO HAVE.

A refreshed Plan Melbourne will be published in the first half of 2016 informed by advice from the MAC, a review of updated data and submissions on the discussion paper.

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<td>Ministerial Advisory Committee review</td>
<td>Release of discussion paper for public consultation</td>
<td>Release of revised Plan Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community engagement</td>
<td>Revised Plan Melbourne introduced into planning schemes</td>
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YOUR VIEWS AND IDEAS ARE IMPORTANT AND WILL HELP SHAPE A REFRESHED PLAN MELBOURNE. IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY FEEDBACK, WORKSHOPS WITH INDUSTRY, LOCAL COUNCILS AND HARD TO REACH GROUPS WILL ALSO PROVIDE INPUT TO THE REFRESH OF PLAN MELBOURNE.

You are encouraged to make a submission and respond to the options raised.

Submissions will be made public unless confidentiality is requested. Submissions that are defamatory or offensive will not be published.

The MAC report and the full Plan Melbourne refresh: discussion paper are available at www.planmelbourne.vic.gov.au

Comments and submissions on the refresh of Plan Melbourne 2014 will close on 18 December 2015 at 5.00pm AEST

Provide comments online

Visit www.planmelbourne.vic.gov.au
- make a submission via an online form
- discuss your ideas in the online forums.

Request a printed submission form

Email planmelbourne@delwp.vic.gov.au
Phone (03) 9098 8921

If you would like to provide comments and are unable to use the online form, please email or telephone to request a printed version of the submission form.

Accessibility

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