

Imagine Monash in 2040

What do you want Monash to be in 2040?



Imagine Monash in 2040: draft Context Document

19 August 2021

This document provides the background municipal and deliberative engagement information that supports the Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan, Asset Plan, and other Plans and documents

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Monash City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, now known as Monash and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF

Country

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Introduction

The information in this document provides the background information that supports the Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan, Asset Plan, and other Plans and documents.

Consolidating the information that is consistent across all plans removes duplication and enables the plans to focus on plan-specific information.

Legislative context – Strategic Integrated Planning and Reporting

The Local Government Act 2020 requires that Councils adopt an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting. It involves the development of a Community Vision and the key plans – Council Plan, Financial Plan and Asset Plan, informed by deliberative community engagement. The other plans and strategies are informed by these key documents.



Imagine Monash in 2040

Imagine Monash in 2040 was a project run through 2021 to develop Monash's integrated and strategic planning: the Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan and Asset Plan. The Plans are structured together, with a consolidated 'introduction' section common to all plans.

City of Monash

The City of Monash is a culturally diverse community in Melbourne's southeast suburbs. We are home to an estimated population of around **205,000 residents** (30 June 2020), making us the 7th most populous municipality in Victoria. Monash's population increased by 2,040 residents in the year to 2020, the 11th largest increase across Victoria's 79 municipalities.

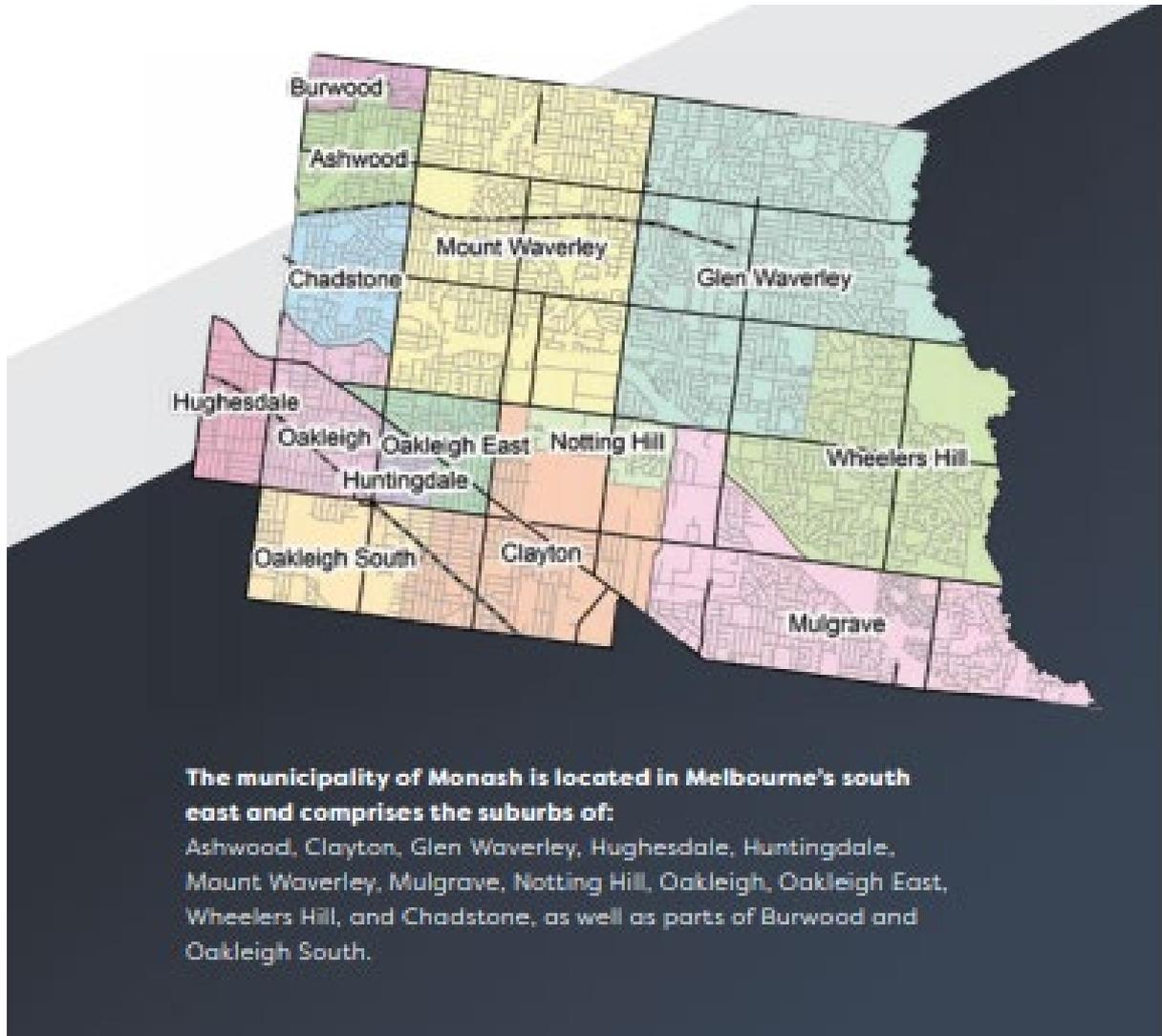
Our municipality includes the following **suburbs**: Ashwood, Clayton, Glen Waverley, Hughesdale, Huntingdale, Mount Waverley, Mulgrave, Notting Hill, Oakleigh, Oakleigh East, and Wheelers Hill. Parts of Chadstone, Burwood and Oakleigh South are also included in Monash.

More information about Monash including a community and economic profile as well as population forecasts are available at on [Council's website](#).

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Monash Municipality



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Monash Council

Monash is one of Victoria's leading councils, servicing a large and established community. Council provides a wide range of services to residents, businesses and visitors including:

- Waste collection
- Street cleaning
- Civic infrastructure and community buildings
- Libraries, arts and cultural events
- Recreation and aquatic centres
- Aged and community care services
- Playgrounds, parks, sports grounds and bushland reserves
- Community development and capacity building programs
- Health promotion initiatives
- Sports club development
- Economic development
- Planning and building permits
- Children, youth and family services
- Local laws, food inspectors and crossing supervisors

Council manages around \$2.6 billion in assets to support these services, including:

- 306 buildings
- 133 public playgrounds
- 82 sports grounds
- 1,548 kms of on road pedestrian footpaths and 54 kms of off-road shared and pedestrian paths
- 733 kms of local roads
- 198 off-street car parks
- 1,270 kms of underground stormwater pipes and 43,750 stormwater pits

Key insights:

- Lowest property rates per capita in Victoria, **33%** below the State average
- **7th** largest Council in Victoria by expenditure
- **775** Equivalent Full Time staff (EFT)
- Capital Works program - **\$44** million in 2016/17
- Services - **\$157** million expenditure in 2016/17

More information about the city and Council can be found at www.monash.vic.gov.au including the Annual Budget and Annual Report.

Roles of Council

Council has different roles in helping deliver Monash-wide services, facilities and assets. The different roles are outlined in the following table.

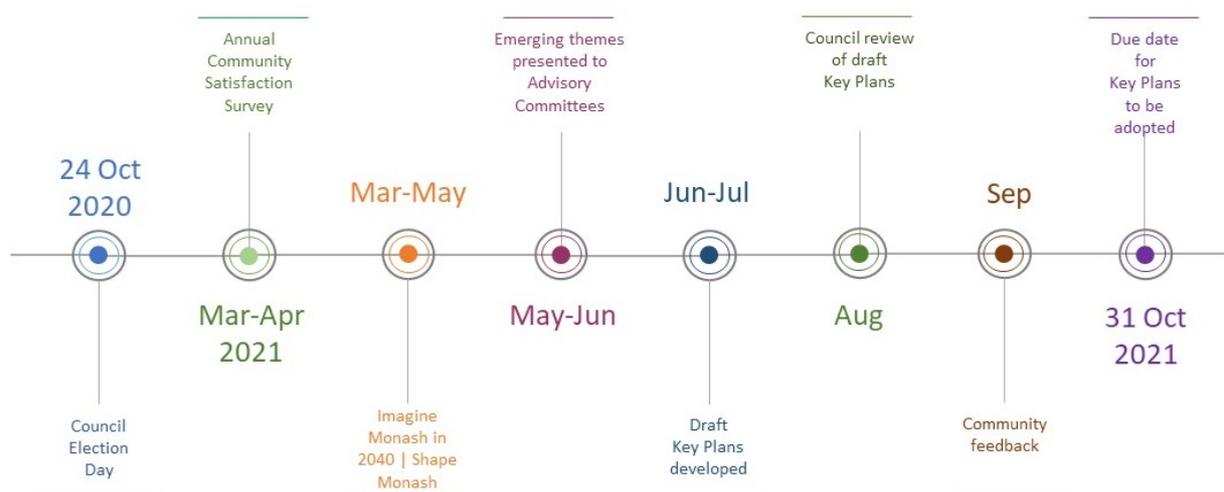
Role	Explanation	Example of role
Provide	Offer a range of services, supports, facilities and infrastructure, to individuals and groups	Maternal Child Health services, libraries, immunisation, recreation & leisure centres, community centres & halls, waste management
Educate	Share information, raise awareness and develop knowledge and skills to empower individual and groups	Environmental sustainability, recycling, small business support
Regulate	Provide governance and regulatory controls such as local laws, land use planning, health and building controls	Animal management, health inspections, building inspections, statutory planning
Partner	Develop formal and informal trusted relationships and alliances, working with others to achieve common goals	Neighbourhood Houses, sports, health and wellbeing, community grants, festivals
Advocate	Raise awareness in state and federal governments and other stakeholders of the issues and needs of Monash citizens, including initiating and supporting campaigns for positive change	Successful advocacy for a Headspace Centre located in Monash, campaign for homelessness support and social housing

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Monash IPP Engagement Process

Monash City Council undertook the Integrated Planning Project to develop the newly elected Council’s strategic direction and priorities for their term. This project needed to also comply with the Local Government Act’s requirements for Council to adopt a Community Vision (Section 88), Council Plan (S90), Financial Plan (S91) and Asset Plan (S92) that was informed by deliberative community engagement.

Process



Community engagement was approached as a multi-layered activity to ensure broad, as well as in-depth, community input. Contributions from each step informed the next activity. The initial engagement was focused more on the aspirations and vision, with later stages looking at what was important in how Council would implement this.

Originally officers had planned to engage the community face to face through community events and activities however the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns and restrictions made this unrealistic to deliver.

Method	Survey
How it operated	5 questions: 3 open ended, 2 ranking ten issues. Focus: what liked about Monash, how want it to be in 2040, what Council should so to achieve this. Annual Community Satisfaction Survey (ACSS): phone survey, March-April 2021, demographically representative of Monash: Imagine Monash in 2040 Shape Monash that that was open between 24 March - 31 May 2021
Outputs	ACSS 800 respondents & Online survey 245 respondents. Ability to compare results across two samples. Survey Summary report.
Outcomes	Largely consistent themes in both samples, thus greater confidence this reflects the general community’s views. Rich commentary to share with next engagement stages.

The initial consultation comprised a five question survey included in Monash’s Annual Community Satisfaction Survey (ACSS) administered during March and April as well as available online and promoted through Council newsletters, Monash Bulletin, website and Monash’s Community Panel, and were available at Monash’s libraries. The ACSS ensured a representative response, closely matching the demographic diversity of Monash. The online survey enabled those more interested in Council’s governance to contribute.

Method	Advisory Committees
How it operated	Presented emerging themes at seven Advisory Committee meetings between May and June 2021 *. Asked if these resonated with the group, and if there was anything missing.
Outputs	Discussion notes. Advisory Committee Summary report.
Outcomes	Discussion amongst diverse range of Monash community on what they value. Members were able to reflect on what others said and find shared experiences.

The emerging themes from the survey were then presented to Monash’s seven Advisory Committees to test that these themes resonated. Committee members were asked if there was anything else that needed to be considered.

Lastly, a group of residents were brought together to form the Imagine Monash Panel. Members were recruited through an Expression of Interest process drawn from the larger Community Panel as well as members of Council’s Advisory Committees. The Imagine Monash Panel reviewed the emerging themes, spoke to family, friends and neighbours on their vision for Monash and discussed key issues with Council officers to develop their own Vision Statements, Principles and goals to inform the integrated plans.

Method	Imagine Monash Panel
How it operated	Through an Expression of Interest process, 33 members of the Imagine Monash Panel were recruited from the over 200 members of the Monash Community Panel. 23 Panel members contributed in at least two sessions. The Imagine Panel met online 4 times between May and June.
Outputs	Vision statements, principles and goals. Deliberative Engagement Summary Report. Capire Consulting report on Imagine Monash Panel.
Outcomes	Imagine Monash Panel provided Council with guidance on community aspirations and how Council should work to achieve these. This guidance was reached through considering the issues facing the Council and community, emerging themes from the early consultation and discussion within the Panel meetings.

Themes

Broadly the themes that emerged from the early consultation, with the Advisory Committees and through the Imagine Monash Panel can be summarised as:

- Open space
- Development
- Access to services & places that matter
- Monash community
- Traffic
- Biodiversity, climate change & waste, and
- Inclusion.

These have been woven into the Community Vision and the Council Plan.

Notes

* Monash's Advisory Committees:

Environmental Advisory Committee
LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee
Gender Equity Advisory Committee
Youth Committee
Multicultural Advisory Committee
Disability Advisory Committee
Positive Ageing Reference Group

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