

Melbourne 2030

Implementation bulletin

Spring 2005

Revitalising Central Dandenong

A fresh future for Dandenong is being created as part of the *Melbourne 2030* Transit Cities program

From its beginnings as the 'gateway to Gippsland' in the 1850's, Dandenong has enjoyed a rich and prosperous history. Home to more than a million people, one in every three jobs in Melbourne is located in the south east corridor. However, the benefits brought by Dandenong's development over the years have also been accompanied by traffic congestion and other factors that hold back the growing city.

In partnership with the City of Greater Dandenong and VicUrban, the government has announced a major \$92.8 million infrastructure-funding program of urban renewal to position Dandenong for the future while capturing the best of Dandenong today.

The *Revitalising Central Dandenong* project includes:

- \$50.3 million to purchase and redevelop land in a declared area in central Dandenong
- \$17.5 million to build the George Street Bridge linking southern Dandenong with the CBD
- A \$25 million housing development at the former saleyards.

To maximise the benefit of the government's up-front investment in infrastructure, a development contribution of around five per cent will apply to all new commercial developments within the declared project area.

Revitalising Central Dandenong boosts significant works already underway as part of the *Melbourne 2030* Transit Cities program. Transformation of the old Dandenong Saleyards into the "Metro 3175" redevelopment has already begun, with construction of over 1000 dwellings adjacent to Dandenong's rail station and bus interchange commenced. The first new residents are expected to move in next year.

Other work underway in the community includes:

- Transformation of the Dandenong Town Hall into a Performing Arts Centre
- A new public park and pedestrian link between Lonsdale Street and the pedestrian mall
- A \$14 million upgrade of the Dandenong Produce Market as well as improved traffic management and pedestrian access as the Market is integrated with the Dandenong Central Activities District and Plaza Mall.

For more information, visit:
www.revitalisingdandenong.com



Concept plan for Dandenong CBD



'Reverie' modern sculpture on the corner of Walker and Lonsdale streets in Dandenong



Minister for Finance and Major Projects, John Lenders MP; Cr Maria Sampey, Mayor, City of Greater Dandenong; and Member for Dandenong, John Pandazopoulos MP at the Revitalising Central Dandenong launch

Creating vibrant urban centres

A multi-million dollar entertainment, leisure, commercial and residential redevelopment in the heart of Greensborough is set to become a model of Melbourne 2030 in action

The Greensborough Principal Activity Centre structure plan details a range of options to revive the heart of the suburb, including a new aquatic and gymnasium facility, Banyule Council civic centre, a 'creative common' for holding outdoor performances, gallery, cinema complex, shopping and housing developments.

The vision for the project has been described as similar to Acland Street in St Kilda – designed for pedestrians, but providing access for cars. *Melbourne 2030* funding of \$90,000 was announced by Minister for Planning, Rob Hulls MP, to go towards a new \$180,000 pedestrian crossing in Main Street. The Mayor of Banyule, Cr Greg Ryan, called the project "a blueprint for how to do urban renewal properly. This will revolutionise how we build cities in suburban Melbourne and beyond."

To ensure the future needs and demands of residents for aquatic and health facilities were catered for, a range of community surveys were conducted by Banyule Council and a Community Consultative Committee was formed. The project is now open for further feedback from the community, with final decisions to be announced in March 2006. A State Government development facilitator will work closely with the council and developers to ensure the momentum generated by the project continues into the future.

For more information, visit: www.banyule.vic.gov.au



Images show design intent only and will be subject to change during the ongoing design development process and consultation with Council, community and stakeholders. All images © Cox Architects and Planners.



Ringwood station is the focus of a new public transport study

Ringwood's railway station revamp

Ringwood's railway station precinct will benefit from a \$150,000 boost for an upgrade of the popular Ringwood Clocktower Park and a study into future public transport improvements around Ringwood Station. Minister for Transport, Peter Batchelor MP, said the projects would improve public transport facilities in Ringwood and provide benefits for many community groups which use the Clocktower Park, like the local RSL.

For more information, visit: www.maroondah.vic.gov.au

Boost for Broadmeadows

Broadmeadows has received \$444,000 in government funding for a new civic plaza as part of the Melbourne 2030 Transit Cities program. To be matched with \$220,000 from Hume City Council, the plaza will link the already existing Global Learning Centre, municipal offices and new retail developments. The new plaza will provide a pedestrian-friendly environment for residents, visitors and businesses and complement Hume City Council's new environmentally sustainable municipal office complex.

Did you know?

- Forecasters BIS Shrapnel are predicting a 'mini-boom' in medium and high density housing in a number of Melbourne's middle suburbs.
- The report predicts the next wave of apartment dwellers will be made up of 'empty-nesters' – people aged 50+ who are currently living in detached housing but will want to downsize when their children move out.

Source: Australian Financial Review, 17/10/05

Working in partnership with Local Government

Regional Housing Statements underway

Between now and 2031, Melbourne is expected to grow by almost 900,000 people and around 540,000 additional households. To help manage this growth and provide guidance for councils in their strategic planning for housing, services and infrastructure, Regional Housing Statements are being prepared for five areas across metropolitan Melbourne.

The statements will identify opportunities for housing in new greenfield developments, strategic redevelopment sites (including activity centres) and dispersed residential locations. Due to the statements' regional focus, they will not identify specific local sites or be used to make decisions on individual planning applications.

The statements are being prepared by working groups with representatives from councils, the Department of Sustainability and Environment and the Office of Housing.

The Inner Regional Housing Statement was adopted by the Inner Regional Housing working group on 30 November. Draft statements for the Southern and Eastern regions are being finalised following a period of public comment. Draft statements for other regions will be completed in 2006.

For more information, visit:
www.melbourne2030.vic.gov.au

Snapshot – Southern Region:

Includes Bayside, Cardinia, Casey, Frankston, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Kingston and Mornington Peninsula.

Between now and 2031 the Southern Region of Melbourne is projected to grow by 350,000 people bringing its population to around 1.3 million.

Most of the extra households will be made up of people aged between 65-69 years, while the number of people in the 80-84 and 85+ age brackets will more than double.

Almost 197,000 new dwellings will be needed to accommodate these people.

Changes and Challenges for Local Government

The Victorian Local Governance Association ran the third of its *Changes and Challenges* courses for councillors in September. The free 2-day course focussed on land-use planning and policy development and included presentations from Marcus Spiller, National President of the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA), Trevor Budge, PIA Victorian President and Professor Michael Buxton from RMIT.

Councillors also participated in computer workshops on medium density development, featuring commercial, retail and rural case studies. The next *Changes and Challenges* training course is scheduled for February 2006.

For more information contact the VLGA,
www.vlga.org.au.

Structure planning forum

A local government forum in August on Structure Planning for Activity Centres provided another opportunity for senior council planning officers and state government to share knowledge and experience of planning for Melbourne's future. Structure plans assess local area needs like housing, shops, schools and parks and set out how to meet future growth while creating liveable communities. Jointly organised by the Municipal Association of Victoria and the Department of Sustainability

and Environment, the event included presentations on structure planning case studies and a facilitated workshop.

The forum was a successful information sharing day and identified key areas for improvement to structure planning processes. A program is being developed to address these areas and will soon be available.

For more information, visit:
www.melbourne2030.vic.gov.au

An image from the new Safer Design Guidelines – clear sightlines along pedestrian and cycle routes assist navigation and provide visibility for potential hazards

New guidelines for liveable communities

The State Government has produced two new sets of guidelines to assist planners and developers:

- *Activity Centre Design Guidelines* demonstrate how *Melbourne 2030* policies and objectives apply to common scenarios including shopping strips, malls and housing in and around activity centres.
- *New Safer Design Guidelines* which provide practical suggestions to improve community safety and well-being across Victorian neighbourhoods.

For more information, visit:
www.melbourne2030.vic.gov.au



Young people planning for the future

Students imagine "Living in 2030"

Up to 100 primary and secondary school students and their families in Hobsons Bay will take part in a sustainable living trial. The "Living in 2030" project will help students in grades five to nine and their families find ways to cut their greenhouse emissions and reduce water consumption. The schools will follow a new curriculum that will see students imagining what living in the year 2030 will be like if people don't live more sustainably.

The program follows the *Our Environment Our Future* framework unveiled by the State Government in April. The program is being run in conjunction with Global Green Plan, who have enlisted "Home and Away" star Isabel Lucas as their first ambassador (below, with Williamstown Primary students and Global Green Plan president, Hal Hewett).

For more information, visit: www.globalgreenplan.net



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A Plan for Melbourne's Growth Areas

A new plan for Melbourne's growth areas has been released. A plan for Melbourne's growth areas involves a new and more strategic approach to development in Melbourne's growth areas. The plan covers residential, commercial and industrial land uses, parks and open space networks, the good design of new communities and the staging of land release so services and infrastructure can be provided in a more timely way to new communities.

For more information check out the story in the upcoming *Melbourne 2030* Annual Community Update or visit www.dse.vic.gov.au/growthareas

Creating Better Places – Urban Improvement and Heritage grants

Councils have been invited to apply for grants in the new Creating Better Places Program. The program provides \$12.5 million over four years to fund projects that implement Melbourne 2030 and protect heritage assets across Victoria.

In 2005-06 Creating Better Places will provide \$2 million for urban improvement projects and \$1 million for heritage conservation projects in and around metropolitan Activity Centres and in the cities and towns along

the Networked Cities Corridors. An additional \$1 million has been allocated for the 2005-06 financial year to fund the conservation of heritage assets on public land, located anywhere in Victoria. Grants will be available in four annual funding rounds, beginning this financial year.

For more information, visit: www.dse.vic.gov.au/planning/cbp



The Big Picture

Jennifer Dawson helps a competition entrant at the *Melbourne 2030* mural on display at this year's Department of Sustainability and Environment stall at the Royal Melbourne Show. Around 100,000 people visited the stall, with many entering the "Big Picture Challenge" by finding characters in the mural and going into a draw to win a family pass to Zoos Victoria.