



GENERAL OVERVIEW

Melbourne's rapid population growth requires a decisive, clear response from the Government that will:

- Create enough homes to meet the demands of our rapidly growing population;
- Ensure that infrastructure and services are ready to support communities as they grow;
- Support the transport needs of communities and businesses;
- Strengthen Melbourne's affordability and liveability;
- Protect our city's highly-valued open space and biodiversity; and
- Give people a wide choice of housing options.

Delivering Melbourne's newest sustainable communities is part of the Government's response to this growth. It integrates land-use and transport planning in Melbourne's growth areas to ensure that the land and infrastructure needed by new communities is available as they grow.

Delivering Melbourne's newest sustainable communities is a set of initiatives designed to support growing communities with essential road and transport infrastructure and balance development needs with biodiversity protection.

Government agencies have worked together on an integrated package of long term land use and transport projects to manage the rapid increase in population predicted in the growth areas of Melbourne. They are:

- Changes to the Urban Growth Boundary in Melbourne's west, north and south-east;
- The twin-track Regional Rail Link (up to 50 kilometres) from west of Werribee to Southern Cross Station;
- The Outer Metropolitan Ring / E6 Transport Corridor between Werribee, Melton, Tullamarine and Craigieburn / Mickleham, and between the Metropolitan Ring Road in Thomastown and Donnybrook; and

- A Strategic Impact Assessment on Biodiversity across Melbourne, which will include the reservation of two areas of grasslands in Melbourne's west.

This package of initiatives has responded to the directions of *Melbourne @ 5 million* to accommodate an additional 600,000 new dwellings in Melbourne, of which 284,000 will need to be located in the growth areas. Most of this future growth will be in the north and west of Melbourne.

The program also addresses the need to service new communities with accessible, well-connected transport infrastructure as identified in *The Victorian Transport Plan*.

An agreement with the Commonwealth Government to undertake a strategic assessment of the likely impact of the projects on matters of national environmental significance has meant that biodiversity matters could be considered at a regional level.

The intention of integrating these project initiatives has been to manage Melbourne's growth responsibly, maintaining affordability and liveability, and protecting biodiversity.

The Government has now released reports and information about all four projects, and is calling for public and community submissions before making final decisions on each proposal. Submissions can be made until 17 July 2009.

Further information about *Delivering Melbourne's newest sustainable communities*, including maps, reports, and details of public information open days and the submissions process is available at www.vic.gov.au/planningmelbourne or by calling **1800 090 789**.

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?

A letter has been sent to all land owners and occupiers who are likely to be affected by the projects advising them of the proposals and inviting them to seek more information and make a submission.

Maps showing the location of property boundaries in all areas affected by the projects can be found on www.vic.gov.au/planningmelbourne. Information about the impact on specific properties is also available by calling **1800 090 789**.

HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

For copies of the reports on each project, maps, fact sheets and background information go to www.vic.gov.au/planningmelbourne or call **1800 090 789**.

Eight public information open days will be held in the growth areas between 24 June 2009 and 4 July 2009. Copies of the documents will be available and agency staff will be present to answer the questions of community members.

WHO CAN MAKE A SUBMISSION ABOUT THESE PROPOSALS?

Anyone can make a submission. Submissions can be made about one or more of:

- The review of the Urban Growth Boundary;
- The proposed west of Werribee to Deer Park route section of the Regional Rail Link;
- The proposed route of the Outer Metropolitan Ring / E6 Transport Corridor; and
- The recommendations of the strategic impact assessment into the impact on biodiversity of changing the Urban Growth Boundary, including the proposal to create two major grassland reserves in Melbourne's west.

HOW CAN I MAKE A SUBMISSION?

Electronic submissions can be made at www.vic.gov.au/planningmelbourne

Written submissions can be sent to:

Growth Areas Authority
PO Box 1166
Carlton Vic 3053

Written submissions can be hand delivered to:

Growth Areas Authority
Level 6, 35 Spring Street
Melbourne Vic 3000

WHAT WILL THE PLANNING PROCESS FOR EACH OF THE PROPOSALS BE?

Once submissions have closed, all submissions received will be considered before recommendations about planning scheme amendments are provided to the Minister for Planning. The Government will then consider these recommendations and the process to be applied in the context of the need to provide for Melbourne's future development.

Where land needs to be acquired, compensation would be made in accordance with the *Land Acquisition and Compensation Act 1986*.



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