MUNICIPAL STRATEGIC STATEMENT

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VISION AND STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Municipal profile

The City of Kingston is located within Melbourne's south eastern band of middle suburbs, approximately 17km southeast of the Central Business District. It is framed by the Port Phillip coastline to the west and major arterial road corridors to the north and east.

Kingston is one of the largest and most physically diverse municipalities in metropolitan Melbourne, comprising an area of approximately 91 square kilometres. It combines substantial residential areas with vibrant activity centres, agricultural and non-urban areas, as well as an industrial sector which forms one of the largest and most concentrated manufacturing regions in metropolitan Melbourne.

Its diverse natural environments incorporate significant parklands, wetlands, open space and waterways, as well as the largest stretch of coast in a single municipality in metropolitan Melbourne. The City's regional prominence is also heightened by the presence of the Moorabbin Airport, which is recognised as one of the busiest airports in Australia.

The Estimated Resident Population of Kingston in 2015 was 154,477 people, with approximately 60,682 households and an average household size of 2.5. Over the 2006-2011 census period, the population of Kingston increased by 8,117 residents. Much of this growth was driven by family households. Kingston's population is projected to reach approximately 185,000 by 2036, making up an anticipated 75,000 households. Consequently over the 20 year period, 15,000 new households are expected to establish in the municipality.

Kingston is a major employment destination for local residents and those of neighbouring municipalities. Of the 70,000 jobs within the municipality, over 30% are held by local residents with a further 37% held by residents in the council areas immediately abutting Kingston. The largest economic sector in the municipality is manufacturing.

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Key issues and influences

The following critical land use issues and influences are likely to challenge Kingston's future growth and development:

- Projected population increases, including an ageing population, creating a demand for new and varied housing opportunities;
- There is a need to address the imbalance between the existing housing stock available in Kingston and the actual housing needs of the population;
- A continued need to conserve built form elements that are valued by the community while accommodating change. This includes elements of local heritage, neighbourhood character, as well as areas of environmental or landscape value;
- Ensuring open space areas are of sufficient size and form to meet the needs of the changing population;
- Adapting to the impacts of climate change;
- Recognising the economic, social and environmental benefits of incorporating environmentally sustainable design into new built form and integrating land use and transport planning to create a more sustainable community;
- Adapting to the changing nature of the local economy and employment so as to continue to provide a vibrant local employment base. This includes a need to revitalise older industrial areas so as to remain viable locations for modern businesses;
- Balancing tourism, recreational and commercial related opportunities so as to enhance the overall foreshore experience while protecting the integrity of natural coastal ecosystems;

- Rehabilitation of landfill sites in a way that is viable and sustainable;
- Continuing to manage the green wedge area and the Moorabbin Airport as key features of the municipality that are sought to be retained into the long term.

21.01-3 Strategic vision

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The One Vision Council Plan 2013-2017 identifies the vision for Council as:

A diverse, dynamic community where we all share a sustainable, safe attractive environment and a thriving economy.

The Municipal Strategic Statement supports and delivers the specific strategic plans and documents listed in the Council Plan.

The Council vision is directed into strategic land use principles for Kingston as follows:

Settlement

- The network of activity centres is reinforced to facilitate the provision of a diverse range of retail/commercial experiences as well as enabling public transport patronage and the access to services and facilities is optimised through integrated transport and land use planning.
- Providing a settlement pattern that can positively influence the health and well being of the community.
- An urban settlement pattern that can accommodate a sustainable rate of growth commensurate with the constraints associated with local areas.
- Green wedge land is effectively managed to achieve sustainable land use outcomes.
- The long-term role of Kingston's green wedge is established and progressively implemented.
- Open space provision meets the changing leisure and recreation needs of Kingston's growing population.

Environmental and landscape values

- The competing demands on Kingston's foreshore are effectively addressed.
- Areas of ecological significance and the biodiversity they support are protected and where possible, restored.
- Areas of landscape value are protected and enhanced.

Environmental risks

- Identified environmental risks, including climate change impacts, are effectively managed and considered in all land use planning and mitigation decisions.
- Risks associated with extreme weather events on human health are recognised and addressed.

Natural resource management

- Water resources are holistically managed to improve the efficiency of water use and the quality of water.
- Former extractive industry and land fill sites are restored and rehabilitated to best practice standards.

Built environment and heritage

- High standards of urban design form the cornerstone of all land use and development decision making enhancing community safety, creating vibrant places and preserving areas of significant character.
- Environmentally Sustainable Development principles and new approaches to contemporary design are embraced in all new developments.
- Places of built and cultural heritage are identified, recognised and conserved for future generations.

Housing

- Greater diversity of housing types and dwellings are provided to meet the needs of the changing population.
- Access to affordable housing is facilitated.

Economic development

- Local employment provision matches the needs of the changing workforce and economy.
- The manufacturing sector continues to play a major employment role in both a regional and State context.
- New employment opportunities are created by the reuse and redevelopment of old industrial sites.

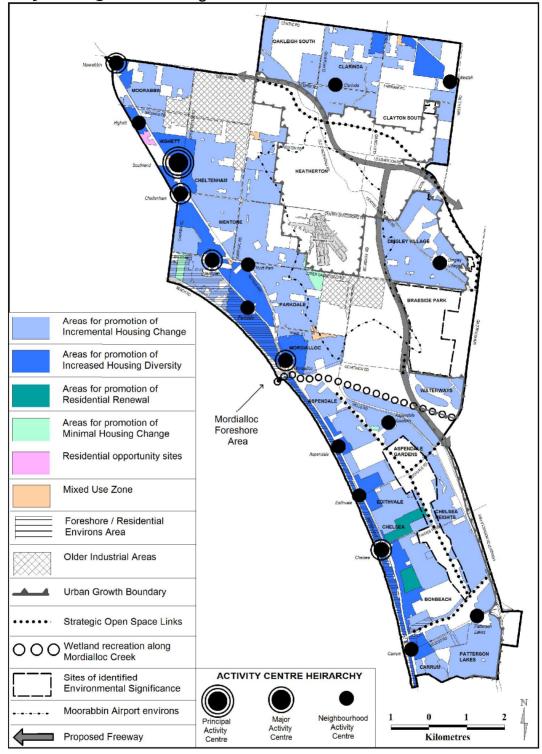
Transport

- A balanced transport network is established to provide a range of options to meet the transport and freight needs of Kingston's residents, businesses and through traffic.
- Activity centres are the focus for integration of public transport, pedestrian and cycle systems with community and social infrastructure.
- Planning and renewal of community infrastructure is managed to achieve optimal community benefit and to meet the long term needs of the community.
- Strong community hubs are established at locations next to activity centres and public transport to provide integrated services, programs and activities to the community.

21.01-4 Strategic framework plan

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Council has prepared a Strategic Framework Plan which identifies the major strategic directions for the municipality that are derived from the principles and vision. The objectives and strategies of the following sections seek to implement the key elements of the Strategic Framework Plan.



City of Kingston Strategic Land Use Framework Plan