



24 October 2019

The Hon. Richard Wynne MP
Minister for Planning
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
Level 16, 8 Nicholson Street
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3008

Dear Minister,

UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE - FISHERMANS BEND CAMPUS, 221-245 SALMON ST, PORT MELBOURNE

The University of Melbourne (University) has been working with the Victorian State Government (Government) and a range of partners to develop the vision and concept for a new campus, set within the Fishermans Bend National Employment and Innovation Precinct.

In December 2017, the Andrews Labor Government announced the agreement between the Government and the University around the purchase of the land for a large scale research and innovation campus.

The University's proposal for a new Fishermans Bend campus is to establish a vibrant place of large-scale research and project-based learning that creates interdisciplinary collaboration and partnerships with industry. The campus will be a key catalytic project that will invigorate and activate the renewal of Fishermans Bend, deliver against key employment and innovation agendas, and establish a high-quality benchmark for innovation, design and partnerships.

The University is moving forward with plans to realise the vision, with the remediation of land for Stage 1 of campus to be underway later in 2019, and a target date for opening Stage 1 of the campus for semester 1 of the 2024 academic year.

We request your assistance to facilitate the planning approval for the University's Fishermans Bend campus on the site.

Vision, planning and investment certainty for the entire site is required for the University to commence Stage 1, which we propose is best achieved through the use of a site-specific control at Clause 51.01 of the Melbourne Planning Scheme. Our team has prepared:

- A proposed Incorporated Document
- A Masterplan, for endorsement under conditions of the Incorporated Document
- A package of full amendment and supporting documentation.

Supporting the transformation of the Fishermans Bend National Employment and Innovation Cluster

Government has identified the 230ha Employment Precinct as a significant opportunity to create 21st century jobs on the doorstep of the CBD. Government is supporting the transition of the Precinct in many ways, including through its investment in the 37ha former General Motors Holden (GMH) site, which has also been identified as a catalytic project.

The University has purchased a 7.2ha portion of the site from Government, which will settle by April 2021. Universities and major research institutions have been identified as the key lever for transformation of the Precinct, with a focus on high-value, future-focused industrial firms.

The University's proposed investment will contribute to the liveability and economic uplift of Victoria. The University was honoured to be awarded Victorian Exporter of the Year at the 2019 Governor of Victoria Export Awards and this investment will allow the University to significantly expand its international student numbers and education exports. ACIL Allen's economic modelling forecast growth of **\$2.46 Billion** in additional economic activity and the creation of **11,287 jobs** to 2040 from the University's investment.

What is proposed?

It is proposed that the Fishermans Bend Campus will provide for development in the order of 200,000sqm of gross floor area. Land use and development will include facilities such as:

- New world-class facilities for the University's Melbourne School of Engineering and Faculty of Architecture Building and Planning
- The University's Home for Making and Doing
- Full-scale prototyping and pilot scale research
- A global hub for industry engagement and research
- A showcase for innovation focused teaching, learning and large-scale interdisciplinary research
- A living laboratory that actively demonstrates state-of-the-art technology and transformative systems and is an international exemplar in sustainability and campus experience

The campus will require a broad range of land uses, including education and research, partner industries and supporting services such as food and drink. No sensitive land uses are proposed in order to protect the integrity of existing and emerging uses in the Employment Precinct.

A Masterplan has been prepared by the University, with Grimshaw Architects. The following principles are embedded into the Masterplan:

- Walkable and permeable campus
- Active edges
- Efficient and safe loading and access
- Industrial legacy – including appropriate protection of the GMH Social Centre and industrial history of the site
- Healthy and generous open space (approximately 16,000sqm)
- Comfortable campus microclimate

Stage 1 is planned to deliver approximately 55,000sqm of gross floor area for a population of 4,000 students, staff, researchers and industry partners, with research themes focusing on hydro and aero dynamics, energy, civil infrastructure, autonomous systems, built environment and design.

Way Forward

In order to provide investment and planning certainty, an overall campus approval is required by June 2020, to allow completion of Stage 1 by the commencement of academic year 2024.

We look forward to further discussions with officers within your Department on this planning submission of the University's proposed Incorporated Document and Master Plan for Fishermans Bend.

Your sincerely,



Allan Tait
Vice President (Administration and Finance) and Chief Operating Officer