**Living Locally**

20 Minute Neighbourhood Pilot Program

**Plan Melbourne 2017-2050**

Plan Melbourne 2017-2050 is a long-term plan to accommodate Melbourne’s future growth. The plan is guided by the principle of 20-minute neighbourhoods.

The 20-minute neighbourhood is all about ‘living locally’—giving people the ability to meet most of their daily needs within a 20-minute walk from home, with access to safe cycling and local public transport options.

Research shows that 20 minutes is the maximum time people are willing to walk to access daily needs locally. This represents an 800m walk from home to a destination, and back again.

**20-Minute Neighbourhood Pilot Program**

In January 2018, the Minister for Planning launched the 20-Minute Neighbourhood Pilot Program to test the practical delivery of 20-minute neighbourhoods. The program is being delivered in two stages:

- **Stage 1 Existing Neighbourhoods**
- **Stage 2 Greenfield Neighbourhoods**

The projects are being delivered in partnership with the Victorian Planning Authority, local government, Victoria Walks, Resilient Melbourne and the Heart Foundation.

**Stage 1 Existing neighbourhoods**

**Croydon South**

Led by Maroondah City Council’s Council and Community Planning team, the project focused on developing a neighbourhood plan to manage growth and liveability.

Key opportunities for Croydon South included:

- streetscape improvements
- enhancing connections to and amenity of Tarralla Creek
- exploring housing diversity options.

**Strathmore**

Led by Moonee Valley City Council, the project focused on delivering a high-quality public realm and open space, supporting council’s strategic plan MV2040.

Key opportunities for Strathmore include:

- improving pedestrian safety and access
- providing bicycle lanes connecting to the activity centre
- support housing diversity.

**Sunshine West**

Led by Brimbank City Council’s Economic Development division, the project focused on developing business strategies to support a thriving local economy.

Key opportunities for Sunshine West include:

- encouraging ‘pop up’ shops and street trading
- exploring streetscape improvements
- supporting public art installations and ‘creative spaces.’

**Next steps**

The Victorian Government will work with the councils to turn the neighbourhood opportunities into a reality. Each council is exploring strategies to scale up the approach to other neighbourhoods and are developing tools to support broader implementation.
20-Minute Neighbourhoods
Creating a more liveable Melbourne

A report detailing key findings and recommendations from the neighbourhood projects and wider program has been released. The report establishes a ‘roadmap’ for government to deliver 20-minute neighbourhoods.

The recommendations are grouped into themes:

**Policy — Embedding 20-minute neighbourhoods in decision-making**
1. Review the Victoria Planning Provisions to strengthen 20-minute neighbourhood policies
2. Develop guidelines, resources and evidence to support implementation
3. Embed an approach to delivering 20-minute neighbourhoods in infrastructure projects
4. Improve planning of Neighbourhood Activity Centres
5. Monitor neighbourhood liveability — measure impact of planning on public health and wellbeing
6. Investigate a process to streamline approval of best practice development that delivers a 20-minute neighbourhood—‘Green light initiative’

**Place — Guidance to design liveable places**
7. Scale up the pilot program and investigate funding opportunities
8. Support delivery of pilot program opportunities
9. Support implementation of the Movement and Place framework

**Partnerships — Connecting government, industry and communities**
10. Encourage better neighbourhood design— density done well
11. Promote 20-minute neighbourhoods
12. Encourage councils to take a coordinated place-based approach
13. Support improved whole-of-government coordination of 20-minute neighbourhoods

The Victorian Government will evaluate the recommendations and explore implementation approaches with local government, industry and communities.

**Stage 2 Greenfield neighbourhoods**

Coordinated by Resilient Melbourne, the Living Locally - Resilient Communities research projects will deliver a:

- Mambourin report, recommended strategies to stage community infrastructure delivery in growth areas through temporary activation and land-use
- Beveridge North-West report, reviewing key literature, precinct structure planning and 20-minute neighbourhoods in growth areas
- Assessment of retail model in greenfield development settings: The social and health impacts of the form of shopping centres in new suburbs, and
- Report identifying and valuing the economic benefits of 20-minute neighbourhoods: Higher density mixed use and walkability dimensions.

A summary of the reports will be released in early 2020.

The research will support the review of the Precinct Structure Plan Guidelines. These guidelines will embed delivery of 20-minute neighbourhoods in planning, particularly in greenfield neighbourhoods.

© The State of Victoria Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning 2020

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence. You are free to re-use the work under that licence, on the condition that you credit the State of Victoria as author. The licence does not apply to any images, photographs or branding, including the Victorian Coat of Arms, the Victorian Government logo and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) logo. To view a copy of this licence, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/

ISBN 978-1-76077-965-8 (pdf/online/MS word)

Accessibility

If you would like to receive this publication in an alternative format, please telephone the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136186, email customerservice@delwp.vic.gov.au (or relevant address), or via the National Relay Service on 133 677 www.relayservice.com.au. This document is also available on the internet at www.delwp.vic.gov.au

The program is supported by: