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OBJECTIVES FOR THE MELBOURNE METROPOLITAN PLANNING SCHEME

Amendment 150 to the Melbourne Metropolitan Planning Scheme sets out objectives to be achieved in planning the metropolitan area.

Approval of the amendment will mean that objectives are included in the Scheme for the first time, as provided for in the Town and Country Planning (General Amendment) Act 1979. The Act also provides for local development schemes and requires them to be consistent with the Scheme and its objectives.

3.1 **Objectives as a Basis for Commitment**

Objectives must be seen as part of a continuing planning process, adaptable to changing circumstances, rather than a grand solution to future problems.

They must however form a basis for commitment to a path which ensures individual development decisions are integrated with metropolitan strategic intent. It is this commitment to the strategy which creates a climate for greater certainty in decision making.

Objectives are introduced into the Metropolitan Planning Scheme in three divisions: metropolitan, strategic and zone.

The separation of strategic objectives from zone objectives ensures that short term expectations and needs for activity within particular zones of the Metropolitan Planning Scheme can be considered in the context of the longer term strategic objectives. In this

manner, changes to zone and other provisions will be consistent with the strategic objectives.

The Statement of Objectives is intended to encourage and facilitate the proper use and management of the resources of the metropolitan area and to ensure that development is carried out in a manner which will most effectively promote the health, safety, convenience and general welfare of its people.

The Statement of Objectives consists of the Objectives and the Strategic Framework Plan in Amendment 150.

3.2 Metropolitan Objectives

Metropolitan objectives describe the planning principles underlying the Scheme. They provide a context for the Metropolitan Planning Scheme itself, and state fundamental principles to be reflected in all planning.

The Metropolitan Objectives in Amendment 150 are:

- to provide maximum certainty as to the use or development of land within the metropolitan area.
- to encourage and facilitate development in an orderly and proper manner within the metropolitan area.
- to optimise the use of the existing infrastructure and resources of the metropolitan area.
- to create housing opportunities for the people of the metropolitan area having regard to community needs and lifestyle.
- to encourage and facilitate commercial and industrial development in suitable locations throughout the metropolitan area having regard to the needs of the population (including job opportunities), emerging changes in technology and economic change.
- to improve accessibility throughout the metropolitan area.
- to create an acceptable environment for the people of the metropolitan area.
- to facilitate the provision of community facilities and essential services necessary to meet the needs of the people of the metropolitan area.
- to conserve areas and features of architectural, historic and scientific significance within the metropolitan area.
- to husband the natural resources of the metropolitan area.

3.3 Strategic Objectives

Strategic objectives describe the planning intent for development of the metropolitan area.

They include certain overall objectives, but are mainly grouped according to broad types of land use, such as industrial and residential.

They relate to locations shown on the Strategic Framework Plan, which is to become part of the Melbourne Metropolitan Planning Scheme. The Strategic Framework Plan indicates broadly, rather than precisely, where objectives apply. It is not a master plan, but a general indication.

The plan takes account of past actions and decisions, such as the boundaries between urban and non-urban areas, established transport routes, location of commercial activity, and fringe areas committed to urban growth.

3.3.1 Strategic Objectives: Overall

The Overall Strategic Objectives in Amendment 150 are:

- to encourage and facilitate urban development within areas coloured and delineated as urban on the Strategic Framework Plan;
- to maintain rural activity and to preserve the opportunity to accommodate future outward urban development when required within areas coloured and delineated as potential urban and deferred potential urban on the Strategic Framework Plan; and
- to conserve and permanently maintain the rural activities and significant natural features and resources of areas coloured and delineated as non-urban on the Strategic Framework Plan.

These objectives continue the corridor-wedge policy adopted by the Victorian Government in 1968 and incorporated in the 1971 Planning Policies Report and in Amending Planning Schemes numbers 3 and 21 approved by the Governor-in-Council.

3.3.2 Strategic Objectives: Residential

The Residential Strategic Objectives in Amendment 150 are:

- to encourage and facilitate opportunities for diversity in dwelling density, type and tenure within the areas coloured and delineated as urban on the Strategic Framework Plan;