The Melton–Caroline Springs growth area is located in Melbourne’s west and includes Melton township, Caroline Springs, Taylors Hill, Hillside and Ravenhall. Melton township was declared a ‘satellite city’ in 1974, leading to major residential development. The eastern part of the growth area, which includes Caroline Springs and Taylors Hill, has experienced rapid growth over the past five years. This growth area:

- comprises two distinct communities—the self-contained township of Melton and the new community of Caroline Springs at Melton East
- includes substantial areas of valuable agricultural land to the north-east of Melton township
- includes natural features such as Kororoit Creek, Mount Kororoit, Mount Cottrell, various important grassland areas and valuable stone resources
- is accessible by the Western Highway/Freeway, the Melton Highway and regional rail services to Melton on the Melbourne–Ballarat line.
ENOUGH ROOM TO GROW

This plan and the changes to the urban growth boundary provide enough land:
- for Melton–Caroline Springs to grow by 78,000–88,000 people
- for the additional 33,000–37,000 households that will need accommodation
- to encourage employment in local businesses and industries to grow to between 19,000 and 26,000 jobs.

GREEN SPACES FOR GENERATIONS

"It is important to protect and enhance key environmental features including grasslands and waterways such as the Kororoit Creek, and create parks, gardens and open spaces for recreation and tourism."

Melton–Caroline Springs Smart Growth Committee community workshop.

The Melton–Caroline Springs growth area plan:
- protects important natural resources in the non-urban land between Melton and Caroline Springs, including grasslands, the Kororoit Creek wetlands, extractive industry resources and agricultural industries
- enhances the gateway to Melton and the open space network along the creeks south of Melton
- avoids development in environmentally sensitive areas west and south-west of Caroline Springs, including those at risk of salinity and waterlogging
- provides for proposed metropolitan parklands at Toolern near Melton and Kororoit Creek Park near Caroline Springs.
residential growth in caroline springs over the past five years is reminiscent of melton’s rapid growth that began in the 1970s.
**BETTER ACCESS**

“Existing transport infrastructure must be upgraded to provide better public transport to employment and activity centres.”

Melton-Caroline Springs Smart Growth Committee community workshop.

The Melton–Caroline Springs growth area plan:
- supports future improvements to public transport services
- establishes the road network and supports major works such as the Deer Park Bypass, the Leakes Road interchange and other main roads to provide for better traffic movement including better road-based public transport.

**THRIVING COMMUNITY LIFE**

“New job opportunities must be created close to transport and town centres, and there must be affordable housing choices around existing transport corridors and in the outer areas.”

Melton-Caroline Springs Smart Growth Committee community workshop.

The Melton–Caroline Springs growth area plan:
- provides more employment and residential development areas to strengthen Melton township
- proposes a major new community and employment focus at Toolern, providing a quality mix of housing and complementing the existing Melton township
- supports a network of neighbourhood activity centres in Melton township to increase access to services and housing choice
- provides for limited additional growth at North Melton to support the proposed neighbourhood activity centre
- allows Caroline Springs to extend from the western edge of Taylors Hill, to provide opportunities for increased community infrastructure.

Attractive new parklands alongside Melton Reservoir provide natural open spaces for recreation and relaxation.