The 2017 Western Assembly

Summary Report

Metropolitan Partnerships – Western region

VICTORIA State Government | Environment, Land, Water and Planning

capire

This report has been prepared by Capire and DELWP and is an independent account of the discussions at the assembly.

Unless otherwise stated, all feedback documented by Capire Consulting Group and any person(s) acting on our behalf is written and/or recorded during our program/consultation activities.

Capire staff and associates take great care while transcribing participant feedback but unfortunately cannot guarantee the accuracy of all notes. We are however confident that we capture the full range of ideas, concerns and views expressed during our consultation activities.

Unless otherwise noted, the views expressed in our work represent those of the participants and not necessarily those of our consultants or our clients.

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Executive Summary

An Assembly was held by the Western Metropolitan Partnership on Wednesday 4 October 2017, bringing together community members, businesses, mayors and councillors to determine the key priorities for the Western region.

The outcomes of the Assembly will be used by the Metropolitan Partnership to inform its independent advice to government on priorities for the region.

One hundred and seventy-seven people participated in discussion; 150 attendees and 24 table hosts. Attendees included 15 mayors and councillors from the six local governments in the region, four State Ministers and a local Member of Parliament.

The focus of the night was to hear feedback and ideas from the community through three activities:

• Review and evaluate the Partnership's initial thinking on priorities for the Western region

• Develop and pitch ideas for how these priorities can be achieved

• Evaluate action statements by all participants on the night.

To increase transparency and provide live results, individual handsets were given to every participant to take part in the evaluation polls.

On the night participants agreed that the top priority for the region was *'strengthened and expanded western public transport network, to improve liveability and reduce road congestion'*.

Overall participants agreed that the priorities presented by the Partnership were key priorities for the West. The issues participants consistently thought were missing in the priorities were safety and crime prevention, and responding to climate change.

Twenty-three action statements to address the priorities were developed and evaluated. Participants believed the top three high priority actions were:

• Build an airport rail link through Footscray and sunshine linking in regional rail and improving access to the airport for local workers

• A centre of excellence for waste addressing three key themes being: natural environment, renewable waste to energy and micro grids

• Make buses irresistible. More intra-regional services which are frequent, safe, planned and advertised, and which connect people.

The results indicate that public transport and improved connections are key intervention points for the region. They were high priority topics and had actions that participants felt were important to achieving better outcomes for the whole region.

Contents

The Metropolitan Partnerships

The Metropolitan Partnerships are a new and coordinated way for communities to advise government on what matters in their region.

The Victorian Government wants to better understand and respond to the needs of Melbourne's communities. Six Metropolitan Partnerships across Melbourne have been created because the government recognises that local communities are best placed to advise on issues and priorities for their region.

Each Partnership is made up of eight community and business representatives with varied backgrounds, experiences and networks, the CEO of every local government in that region and a Deputy Secretary from the Victorian State Government.

Working closely with their communities, the Partnerships will identify opportunities for driving improved social, economic and environmental outcomes and advise the government on actions that can make a real difference to the liveability and prosperity of their metropolitan region.

The Partnerships will strengthen relationships and facilitate stronger collaboration across the three tiers of government, businesses and communities. They will also enable the government to respond in a more coordinated and targeted manner to deliver better outcomes for the community.

More information on the six Metropolitan Partnerships can be found at suburbandevelopment.vic.gov.au
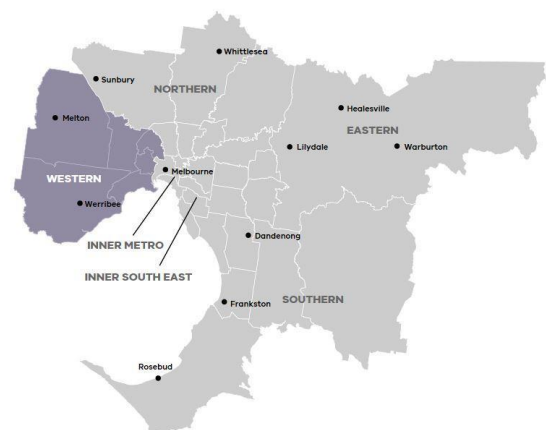
The Western Partnership

The Western Partnership members are:

- Alex Cockram, Chair
- Peter Dawkins, Deputy Chair
- Anne Barker, Member
- James Fitzgerald, Member
- Anna Reid, Member
- Rhyll Dorrington, Member
- Christopher Campbell, Member
- Elleni Bereded-Samuel, Member
- Stephen Wall, CEO, Maribyrnong City Council
- Paul Yonis, CEO, Brimbank City Council
- Kelvin Tori, CEO, Melton City Council
- Chris Eddy, CEO, Hobsons Bay City Council
- Bryan Lancaster, CEO, Moonee Valley City Council
- Kelly Grigsby, CEO, Wyndham City Council
- Anthea Harris, Victorian Government representative

The Western Region

The Western Metropolitan region has a diverse and growing population, who reside in established middle and inner suburbs, and a significant share of Melbourne's growth areas. The region includes the local government areas of Wyndham, Melton, Brimbank, Moonee Valley, Maribyrnong and Hobsons Bay. The region has a population of over 807,000, or about 19% of Melbourne's total population.

Find out more about the Western Metropolitan Partnership members at:
https://www.suburbandevelopment.vic.gov.au/partnerships/metropolitan-partnerships/western-partnership

Read more about the Western Metropolitan region at:
https://www.suburbandevelopment.vic.gov.au/regions/western-region

The 2017 Western Assembly

On Wednesday 4 October 2017, 177 community members, businesses, councillors and mayors came together to help determine the key priorities for the Western region.

The Metropolitan Assemblies are part of a commitment to give Victorians the opportunity to influence decisions and shape the future of their communities.

The assemblies have been initiated as an opportunity for the community to come together and have their say on issues that matter to them and the priorities they have for their communities.

There were several ways people could take part in the conversation, including answering pre-engagement questions online at engage.vic.gov.au and attending the Assembly.

What happened on the night

The focus of the night was to hear feedback and ideas from community members and included three activities.

Activity 1 – Reviewing the priorities for the region

Informed with the pre-engagement results and other community engagement initiatives conducted by local government, Partnership members developed seven priority statements for the region.

Participants were split across 24 tables and asked to consider whether the statements highlighted the right priorities for the region and advise what might be missing. The top messages from the conversation were recorded and participants were invited to declare whether they agreed or disagreed that each statement was a key priority for the region through their individual handsets.

Activity 2 – Developing action statements

Participants moved to a second table to discuss topics they are passionate about. Topics of interest were indicated by participants when registering for the Assembly, and the number of tables allocated to each topic reflected the volume of interest.

Participants were asked to create an action statement to highlight how the priorities for each topic could be achieved and pitch it to the table for discussion. The table voted for their favourite action statement using sticky dots.

The table then agreed on one action statement to submit to all Assembly participants for evaluation.

Activity 3 – Voting on action statements

Each table's action statement was presented to the room. Participants were asked to consider each statement and respond through their handsets to the question - *what positive impact will this action have on communities across the West?*

Limitations

As with all community engagement processes, there are limitations associated with the Assembly that should be acknowledged. They include:

• Assembly participants were not a true representative sample of the Western region population. The results from the night are a good indication of sentiment and ideas in the region, but are not a statistically valid reflection of the views of the entire Western community

• Due to multiple registration processes, demographic information was not collected for all participants

• Not all participants chose to take part in all polls on the individual handset, all results have been converted into percentages to reduce the impact of this

• Participants had varying understanding of the issues in the region and possible solutions

• Some participants were allocated to themed tables but chose to move to other discussions on the night

• Some actions identified did not always reflect the topics discussed. This was in part due to the cross pollination of issues emerging across the themes discussed

• Table hosts have taken care to record participant feedback. However, we cannot guarantee the accuracy or inclusion of all comments. We are confident that the range of ideas, concerns and views reflect the comments made at the sessions.

Who took part in the conversation?

Between 14 August and 4 October 2017, a page dedicated to the Western region was live on engage.vic.gov.au. The site was visited by 1,642 people with 211 people completing the pre-engagement questions.

Participants' key demographic attributes are as follows:

- There were slightly more females in attendance than males

- Most participants were between 35 and 44 years of age

- Almost 80 per cent of participants reside in Council areas within the region, while 20 per cent reside in Council areas outside of the region.

Figures 1 to 3 show the local government area that participants reside in, their relationship to the region and their age.
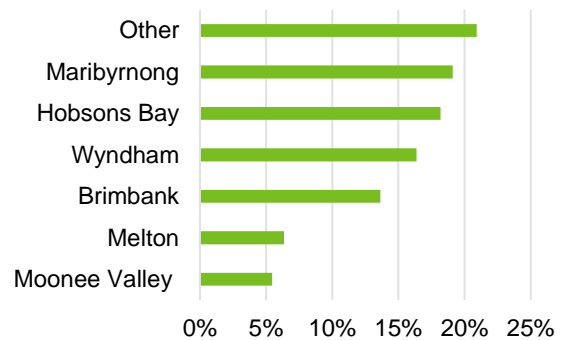

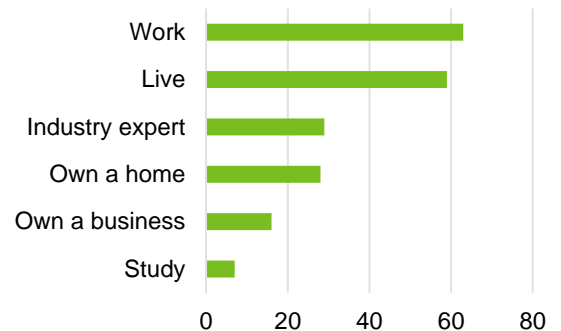**Figure 1: Council areas in which participants reside (n=110)**

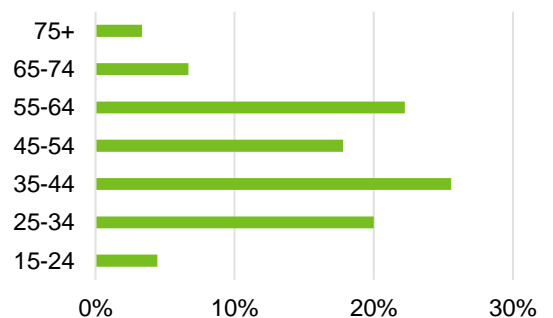**Figure 2: Participants' relationship to the region (n=202)**

Figure 3: Age range of Assembly participants (n=90)

The Partnership's priority statements

Statement #1 Commercial opportunities and jobs: A diverse offering of local jobs close to where people live, and accessible by a well-connected transport system.

Statement #2 Digital innovation: Dedicate resources to identifying emerging social trends and technologies, then up skill western residents to work in these industries.

Statement #3 Lifelong learning: A seamless approach to lifelong learning from early childhood to retirement years, supporting people to overcome barriers such as affordability or social circumstances.

Statement #4 Public transport and road congestion: A strengthened and expanded western public transport network, to improve liveability and reduce road congestion.

Statement #5 Logistics, freight and manufacturing: The West becomes Melbourne's hub for freight, logistics and advanced manufacturing, whilst promoting liveability.

Statement #6 Health and wellbeing: Improved health and wellbeing within western communities through increased prevention, access to services, facilities, and a more socially inclusive community.

Statement #7 A thriving, liveable environment: The western region becomes a lifestyle destination of choice boasting extensive urban vegetation within attractive, affordable and well-planned communities.

Alex Cockram, Chair of the Western Metropolitan Partnership

Activity 1 – Reviewing the priorities for the region

Overall participants agreed that all seven of the priority statements were key priorities for the west. However, the priority '*The West becomes Melbourne's hub for freight, logistics and advanced manufacturing, whilst promoting liveability*' gauged more neutral feedback from participants.

Table hosts noted the following key messages from the discussion:

• Jobs are crucial, both access to jobs and diversifying the job market. Participants want to see more transport options to move people around the West not just into the city. They also want to see more service based jobs in the West

• There is a need for more re-skilling programs for workers to move into service based jobs

• It is important to support small business and innovation in the West

• Decreasing congestion is a priority for the West, and this will improve health outcomes for the region

• Support for youth, CALD and the ageing population is very important, particularly for health and social inclusion

• As the West rapidly grows it is important to protect and enhance the natural environment, and address the environmental damage from the West's industrial past

• Population growth in the West needs to be matched by infrastructure provision, and infrastructure currently being built needs to be considering and able to accommodate the future population.

Participants felt the missing priorities were safety and crime prevention, and responding to climate change. One table felt that priority five '*the West becomes Melbourne's hub for freight, logistics and advanced manufacturing, whilst promoting liveability*', was too focussed on one industry.

Table 1 illustrates that participants agreed the key priority for the region was '*A strengthened and expanded western public transport network, to improve liveability and reduce road congestion*'.

Table 1: Polling results responding to the statement - this is a key priority for the region.

Legend: 1= Strongly Disagree, 3=Neutral, 5= Strongly Agree.

Topic	Priority statement	Average score
Infrastructure and Transport	A strengthened and expanded western public transport network, to improve liveability and reduce road congestion.	**4.68**
Health; Social Welfare	Improved health and wellbeing within western communities through increased prevention, access to services, facilities, and a more socially inclusive community.	**4.62**
Economy, Industry and Jobs	A diverse offering of local jobs close to where people live, and accessible by a well-connected transport system.	**4.42**
Housing; Environment	The western region becomes a lifestyle destination of choice boasting extensive urban vegetation within attractive, affordable and well-planned communities.	**4.15**
Education and Training; Social Welfare	A seamless approach to lifelong learning from early childhood to retirement years, supporting people to overcome barriers such as affordability or social circumstances.	**4.10**
Education and Training; Economy, Industry and Jobs	Dedicate resources to identifying emerging social trends and technologies, then up skill western residents to work in these industries.	**3.75**
Economy, Industry and Jobs	The West becomes Melbourne's hub for freight, logistics and advanced manufacturing, whilst promoting liveability.	**3.37**

Activity 2 – How do we achieve the priorities?

Actions statements pitched by participants on the night are summarised and organised by topic in Table 2. The most supported ideas are bolded. These ideas were submitted for evaluation. The other ideas have been summarised into a few key statements. All ideas pitched on the night are included in Table 4 in the Appendix.

Table 2: Action statements by topic

Education and Training (discussed at five tables)

- **Focus on the first 1000 days of a child's life to help them learn and develop.**
- **A precinct based approach, like Footscray education precinct, for learning and health services that meet the needs of a diverse community.**
- **Develop funded programs to unlock the untapped and not fully-recognised entrepreneurial spirit and diversity benefits of the west.**
- **Extend tram lines from docklands to Footscray and extend carriages on trains to accommodate more passengers.**
- **Build connection with employers through student summer employment programs.**
- Strengthen pathways for students not completing VCE from VCAL courses to work or other courses, and introduce user choice into secondary school so students can move into TAFE.
- Create an incubator that connects people and creates opportunities for innovative business development and local jobs.
- Increase access to schools and services with free or low fee buses during school hours.
- Develop an accessible and engaging suite of online courses that captures the high standards of trades, professions and services offered in the West.
- Promote lifelong learning for example, through flexible learning options, increase funding for ESL programs and have a teaching masters in lifelong learning.

Economy, Industry and Jobs (discussed at five tables)

- **Build an airport rail link through Footscray and Sunshine linking in regional rail and improving access to the airport for local workers.**
- **Develop a renewable industry development plan for the West and an education training package to create a sustainable renewables workforce.**
- **Provide targeted educational pathways and subsidised opportunities in the digital economy for vulnerable people.**
- **Create mixed enterprise hubs in local areas which are interconnected.**
- **Investigate opportunities to bring the supply chain for the health industry into the region.**
- Identify new and emerging and underrepresented growth industries and develop strategies to skill up region and attract more of these investments to diversify the economy and create more jobs.
- Develop a youth friendly employer strategy for the West that engages employers to connect with young people and create jobs and workplaces that enable them to perform, contribute and position businesses in the west for the future.
- A vibrant industry association of the West which promotes cooperation to grow the economy.
- Investigate new model of childcare for example childcare facilities at workplaces, health and education spaces.
- Support existing industries for example:
  - provide government support to offset electricity pricing and other prohibitive costs for

manufacturing

– reduce red tape and residential encroachment on spaces for small business and entrepreneurs.

Infrastructure and Transport (discussed at four tables)

- **Make buses irresistible. More intra-regional services which are frequent, safe planned and advertised, to connect people.**
- **Bus services across the west linking into metro 1 and metro 2.**
- **Modern locally built public transport investment (not roads) which is affordable and uses multilingual signage, renewable energy, disability friendly and is multi-modal ready.**
- **Improved after-hours access to training opportunities to help people to reskill or to skill up for high tech jobs.**
- Establish a food manufacturing industry precinct in the West.
- A city deal or long term regional investment strategy, uniting federal, state and local government.
- Better connecting jobs, services and people with public transport in the Western Suburbs and the airport with buses (fill in the web between the radial arterials and train lines).

Social Welfare (discussed at three tables)

- **Develop and implement a social and educational precincts strategy for culture, education and sport.**
- **To understand and to know each other we should invest in cultural education programs for disadvantaged communities.**
- **Link four systems. Long term welfare recipients. Entrepreneurs. Incubators training mentors. Community structures and groups.**
- Create community central hubs around schools. These should include maternal health, adult education, sporting clubs and local council, social services etc. shared resources and facilities build strong communities.
- Create a healthy and inclusive community. Promotion of community pride, strength, resilience and connections as demonstrated through the rich cultural life that is unique to the West - diversity, uniqueness, history.
- Develop a prospectus for a 'social impact bond' focused on preventative strategies to reduce lifestyle disease.
- Implement guidelines and support to make new and changing areas accessible, make the west the most disability friendly region.
- Develop a parenting centre of excellence in the west that focuses on prevention and infancy mental health and prioritises the first 1000 days.

Housing (discussed at two tables)

- **Introduce model, high functioning, medium density communities in innovative, urban, agricultural neighbourhoods connected by green cycling and mixed modal transport networks.**
- **Housing should be a human right which is affordable, accessible, environmentally friendly, with timely infrastructure.**
- Provide resources to convert public and private housing to be environmentally friendly - reducing cost, environmental impact and making them more thermally comfortable. Also provide education and support for ethnic people to live 'green'.
- Implement a vision of mixed-use diversity - subsidise land for mixed uses (employment, community

centres and social enterprises).

- Look at international models like co-housing to build connected communities and invest in alternate ownership models so more people have access to safe and secure housing that meets their needs.
- A 50-year plan for the West, providing for affordable, good quality homes without sprawl.
- Have integrated, engaged, community garden centres in the West, promoting environment, healthy eating and produce growing - similar to CERES.
- Merge existing Parkland and new housing estates making sure there is good road and public transport access. For example, new housing along Werribee River Parkland with more river crossings.

Environment (discussed at two tables)

- **A centre of excellence for waste addressing three key themes being: natural environment, renewable waste to energy and micro grids.**
- **Development levy into sinking fund to establish and run large scale green spaces for multiple community uses and climate resilience.**
- Require high standards for environmental performance of homes, industry, suburban planning. Large emphasis on greening and dedicated cycle connections to build resilience and reduce emissions.
- Develop more outdoor spaces that promote active participation in healthy physical activity and encourage social interaction. Leverage private investment to create iconic green spaces.
- Invest in regenerating traditional owner landscape and environment that showcases aboriginal occupation (boost knowledge of Traditional Owners).
- Develop sustainable micro-power-grids at local hubs/communities to reduce carbon footprint and offer new jobs and skills in sustainable power.
- Respond to the growth of development along the Werribee and Maribyrnong rivers by creating green parkland along the rivers for example, look to the Lead West Bio Link Plan.

Health (discussed at two tables)

- **With the new women's and children's hospital in the West develop and implement integrated regional model of community based family care support.**
- **Agree regional health priorities with targets, milestones and review. Work collaboratively across agencies and services.**
- Engage middle-aged men in health improvement in a way they can relate to socially like Sons of the West.
- Increased support and resources to community networks that link different groups, services and cultural groups.
- Create a movement of young people (15-24) that are empowered to take control of their health outcomes. This will be achieved through education, mentoring and community engagement.
- Improve interactions between hospitals, health services, community services and local government.

Activity 3 – Evaluating action statements

Participants' evaluations of the action statements are illustrated in Table 3. Participants believed the top three important actions were:

• Build an airport rail link through Footscray and sunshine linking in regional rail and improving access to the airport for local workers

• A centre of excellence for waste addressing three key themes being: natural environment, renewable waste to energy and micro grids

• Make buses irresistible. More intra-regional services which are frequent, safe, planned and advertised, and which connect people.

The top priority and actions related to public transport and improved connections throughout the West. In contrast participants were less likely to think the education and training action would have a high impact on communities of the West.

Overall, participants believed 20 of the 23 action statements would have a medium to high positive impact on communities across the West. Participants were more likely to respond unsure or low impact for the last three actions.

Participants largely agreed on the importance of action statements for the Western region. However, three actions split participants more than others. They were:

• Link four systems — Long term welfare recipients, Entrepreneurs, Incubators training mentors and Community structures and groups

• Extend tram lines from Docklands to Footscray and extend carriages on trains to accommodate more passengers

• Develop funded programs to unlock the untapped and not fully recognised entrepreneurial spirit and diversity benefits of the West.

When reviewing participant voting patterns, several demographic factors were observed including:

• Participants who live in Brimbank, Maribyrnong and Wyndham were more likely to think linking four systems would have a medium to high impact

• Female participants, and participants who live in the Western councils thought extending tram lines from Docklands to Footscray would have a higher positive impact

• Participants who live in Hobson's Bay were more unsure of the impact from developing funded programs to unlock untapped, entrepreneurial spirit and diversity benefits of the West.

Table 3: Polling results for the action statements.

Legend: 1= Not a priority, 3= Medium priority, 5= Essential.

Topic	Action statement	Average priority
Economy, Industry and Jobs	Build an airport rail link through Footscray and sunshine linking in regional rail and improving access to the airport for local workers.	4.33
Environment	A centre of excellence for waste addressing three key themes being: natural environment, renewable waste to energy and micro grids.	4.30
Infrastructure and Transport	Make buses irresistible. More intra-regional services which are frequent, safe, planned and advertised, and which connect people.	4.27
Health	With the new women's and children's hospital in the West develop and implement an integrated regional model of community based family care support.	4.20
Economy, Industry and Jobs	Develop a renewable industry development plan for the West and an education training package to create a sustainable renewables workforce.	4.11
Housing	Introduce model, high functioning, medium density communities in innovative, urban, agricultural neighbourhoods connected by green cycling and mixed modal transport networks.	4.04
Economy, Industry and Jobs	Provide targeted educational pathways and subsidised opportunities in the digital economy for vulnerable people.	3.99
Infrastructure and Transport	Bus services across the west linking into metro 1 and metro 2.	3.99
Social Welfare	Develop and implement a social and educational precincts strategy for culture, education and sport.	3.99
Economy, Industry and Jobs	Create mixed enterprise hubs in local areas which are interconnected.	3.96
Social Welfare	To understand and to know each other we should invest in cultural education programs for disadvantaged communities.	3.95
Infrastructure and Transport	Modern, locally built, public transport investment (not roads) which is affordable and uses multilingual signage, renewable energy, disability friendly and is multi-modal ready.	3.87
Education and Training	Focus on the first 1000 days of a child's life to learn and develop them.	3.83
Health	Agree regional health priorities with targets, milestones and review. Work collaboratively across agencies and services.	3.82
Housing	Housing should be a human right which is affordable, accessible environmentally friendly, with timely infrastructure.	3.80

Environment	Development levy into sinking fund to establish and run large scale green spaces for multiple community uses and climate resilience.	**3.80**
Education and Training	A precinct based approach like Footscray education precinct for learning and health services that meets the needs of a diverse community.	**3.69**
Economy, Industry and Jobs	Investigate opportunities to bring the supply chain for the health industry into the region.	**3.64**
Infrastructure and Transport	Improved after-hours access to training opportunities to help people to reskill or to skill up for high tech jobs.	**3.61**
Social Welfare	Link four systems — Long term welfare recipients, Entrepreneurs, Incubators and training mentors, and Community structures and groups.	**3.56**
Education and Training	To develop funded programs to unlock the untapped and not fully recognised entrepreneurial spirit and diversity benefits of West.	**3.43**
Education and Training	Extend tram lines from Docklands to Footscray and extend carriages on trains to accommodate more passengers.	**3.42**
Education and Training	Build connection with employers through student summer employment programs.	**3.32**

Key findings

The Assembly participants' contributions and ideas provide Partnership members with good insight to the key priorities for the region.

The Partnership's key take-aways are:

- Overall participants agreed that the priorities presented by the Partnership were key priorities for the West

- The most frequently discussed message from participants when reviewing priorities was that the West's cultural diversity is key to its success, both to leverage off and celebrate, but also to keep supporting cohesion and connection between communities

- The key issues participants thought were missing in the priorities were safety and crime prevention, and responding to climate change

- The top priority and actions related to public transport and improved connections throughout the West. In contrast participants were less likely to think the education and training action would have a high impact on communities of the West.

The Partnership will take on board the ideas from the Assembly while it formulates its independent advice that will be submitted to Government later this year.

Appendix A – List of action statements and votes

Table 4: All action statements put forward by participants, their votes and themes.

Action statement	Votes	Theme
Australian best practice model of high-functioning medium density communities built in innovative urban agriculture neighbourhoods connected by green cycling networks and mixed model transport networks.	11	Housing
Agree regional health priorities with targets; agree and support regional collaboration and implementation of all health and relevant agencies or services with progress milestones and review time. Particularly addressing early years (-4); adolescent and youth health, men's health and aged care, and the interaction of these.	7	Health
Agree regional health priorities (such as for early years, health and development; men's adolescent and youth health and older age); agree targets for improvement; support regional collaboration and implementation (of all health and relevant agencies and services); measure and report on progress milestones.	7	Health
Increase seasonal employment opportunities for students and their families by utilising existing educational government and community infrastructure. EG create summer funded government programs for students.	5	Education and Training
Learning precincts involving early childhood, school, TAFE and university working together to promote learning and skills relevant to its needs of the region.	5	Infrastructure and Transport
Start planning for Metro 2 to increase services in the Metro 2 corridor, with an increase in bus services to train stations.	4	Education and Training
Community owned (Co-op) solar farms to reduce climate-change and grid dependence; which also give people more control of their energy source.	4	Economy, Industry and jobs
Investigate opportunities to bring the supply chain in region for the health industry.	4	Economy, Industry and jobs
Improved afterhours access to training opportunities to assist people to re-skill (e.g. to do trades) or to skill up for High Tech Jobs.	4	Infrastructure and Transport
A regional network of 'maker spaces' to connect ages, abilities skill etc. Link to formal education and creativity.	4	Infrastructure and Transport
How people can work together to achieve outcomes related to the priorities understanding knowing each other exchanging of culture put more education programs to disadvantage communities.	4	Social Welfare
Better connectivity across our region - you can catch a train from Sunshine to CBD in 11 minutes. E.g. a jobseeker without a car takes 1.5 hours to from St Albans to Airport West or Derrimut by bus.	4	Infrastructure and Transport
Create flexible learning options to provide positive opportunities for students in our community for students in our community that are not able to participate well in mainstream educations	3	Education and Training
Affordable housing is needed within the Western region, create public private partnerships to develop affordable housing for families in the West.	3	Education and Training

Action statement	Votes	Theme
Increased frequency of direct bus services similar to Smart Bus connecting transport and activity hubs.	3	Education and Training
Water based transport (organised properly) to from city/docklands to destinations in the West.	3	Education and Training
Creating of advanced education modelling after Year 10 e.g. TAFE pipeline through to university.	3	Economy, Industry and jobs
Government support offset electricity pricing and other costs prohibitive to manufacturing e.g. solar and skill hubs to support manufacturing specialist hubs.	3	Economy, Industry and jobs
Strengthen pathways for students not completing VCE from VCAL courses to work or other courses.	2	Education and Training
Create an incubator that connects people and created opportunities for innovative business development and local jobs.	2	Education and Training
Have a long-term focus for the future public transport network needs, not a short-term solution that fails instantaneously.	2	Education and Training
Bus frequency, rail connectivity.	2	Education and Training
Develop a Western region renewable industry development plan and an education/training package to create a sustainable renewables workforce.	2	Economy, Industry and jobs
Feasibility study for electrification of freight and logistics vehicles and to build and refurbish these locally for potential export.	2	Economy, Industry and jobs
All new industrial and housing developments for the West must include sufficient infrastructure for bus transported e.g. priority lanes/coordinating traffic lights etc. will assist freight and logistics	2	Economy, Industry and jobs
New model of childcare e.g. childcare facilities at workplaces, health and education spaces, with onsite childcare facilities where you look after your kids. Objective to free up resources and high paid c/c workers; maximise facilities health and education to the big employers.	2	Economy, Industry and jobs
Plan ensuring that infrastructure is there before new housing developments are built.	2	Infrastructure and Transport
Mental health literacy education programs especially CALD communities.	2	Infrastructure and Transport
Investing resources in diverse pathways to employment, with a particular focus on volunteering opportunities.	2	Social Welfare
Include a dedicated focus on profiling/celebrating community strengths, assets and aspirations to enhance community pride and social connections.	2	Social Welfare
Develop a parenting centre of excellence in the west that focuses on prevention and infant mental health and prioritises the first 1000 days.	2	Social Welfare

Action statement	Votes	Theme
Build closer relationships between providers of education and schools settings.	1	Education and Training
Introduce user choice into secondary so students can move into TAFE.	1	Education and Training
Establish a 'youth' collaborative across the region to provide advice on learning and employment priorities.	1	Education and Training
Develop a youth friendly employer strategy for the West that engaged employers to connect with young people and create jobs and workplaces that enable them to perform, contribute and position businesses in the west for the future.	1	Economy, Industry and jobs
At a high level engage with industry leaders and seek their insight, input and advice on skills requirements and community engagement.	1	Economy, Industry and jobs
Active transport: ensuring that communities are able to make use of cycling trails pedestrian not just roads.	1	Infrastructure and Transport
Creating and improving new infrastructure and repair in new suburbs and increase interconnected bus link for easy transport.	1	Infrastructure and Transport
Hubs/sub -campuses for higher ed / vet in growing suburban areas, that are great distance from existing campuses.	1	Infrastructure and Transport
Increasing 500 English hours, because it is not enough.	1	Infrastructure and Transport
A city deal - a comprehensive strategy or plan that coherently ties these priorities together.	1	Infrastructure and Transport
The Western region is developed to provide education from pre-school with an emphasis on learning.		Education and Training
Western food bowl - agribusiness		Education and Training
Move Avalon air terminal to railway line. Direct rail connection to Melbourne.		Education and Training
Use of water transport b/w western waterfronts and Melbourne CBD.		Education and Training
Rail connections to Avalon Airport.		Education and Training
Increased access to schools and services for free or low fee buses during school hours.		Education and Training
Develop an accessible and engaging suite of online courses that captures the high standard of trades, professions and services to be implemented in Australia education providers for local students, migrants, international students and other countries.		Education and Training
Build resilience into the community.		Education and Training

Action statement	Votes	Theme
Bring together nominated representatives in all areas of education to discuss the social trends and needs of their communities.		Education and Training
Upskill all teachers in the region with a masters of teaching that better enables them to engage all students in lifelong.		Education and Training
Increase health literacy by incorporating comprehensive health education into all stages of lifelong learning.		Education and Training
Effectively engage VCAL students to ensure they're valued within and without the school environment		Education and Training
Make this education hub of greater Melbourne. Without discrimination re any age or group.		Education and Training
All buildings over 3 storeys must have roof top gardens and solar and recycle their water to rescue the Carbon footprint.		Education and Training
Increase fun/focus ESL alternative lifelong learning - investment in early childhood education and support for formulas to provide best start.		Education and Training
Modernise the planning scheme to support creative industries and jobs (minimise residential encroachment)		Economy, Industry and jobs
Program that enhances the jobs Victoria employment network by connective it to youth mentoring programs to tackle youth n intergenerational employment.		Economy, Industry and jobs
World class primary and secondary education close to home. Graduate teacher programs for the western suburbs (like teach for Australia).		Economy, Industry and jobs
Build a science technology learning hub at Science works - education upskilling.		Economy, Industry and jobs
Twenty-minute neighbourhoods live, work, shop local - collaborate global local economy, social cohesion share resources, collaborate, ensure local jobs and opportunities. Opportunities to work local even if you are employed save o time disposable income.		Economy, Industry and jobs
West region needs to identify new and emerging and underrepresented growth industries and develop strategies to skill up region and attract more of these investments to diversity he economy and create more jobs.		Economy, Industry and jobs
Develop an integrated preventative workforce strategy to implement prevention and services in education health and wellbeing and just sectors.		Economy, Industry and jobs
The west will provide a de-regulated approach for jobs creation proposals - faster planning decisions, less red-tape and bureaucracy.		Economy, Industry and jobs
Councils will put their money where their mouth is - homes on council land, offices in town centres. sunshine and brimbank		Economy, Industry and jobs

Action statement	Votes	Theme
Small business/home based industries through mentoring specific training in contrast of business incubators - specific jobs on diverse communities.		Economy, Industry and jobs
Upskilling educating locally in diverse industries, high tech, environment reclamation forming in outer areas manufacturing.		Economy, Industry and jobs
Build rail link to airport, through Footscray and Sunshine linking in regional rail and improving access to Airport for local workers.		Economy, Industry and jobs
Establish and expand on work ideas incubators		Economy, Industry and jobs
A vibrant industry association of the West which promoted cooperation to grow the economy.		Economy, Industry and jobs
To provide educational facilities that will take us to the digital economy away from the old types of jobs.		Economy, Industry and jobs
Provide subsidised employment opportunity to young people from vulnerable families in employment and growth sectors.		Economy, Industry and jobs
Universal health and education.		Economy, Industry and jobs
Establish food manufacturing industry to precinct.		Infrastructure and Transport
Modern locally built public transport (not roads) investment which is affordable, multi-lingual, signage, disability friendly and multi modal transport ready.		Infrastructure and Transport
Expand tram networks to outer Western regions - make it more affordable for low income earners,		Infrastructure and Transport
Improve education; the key successful life		Infrastructure and Transport
Personal development, improve communications skills.		Infrastructure and Transport
Why keeping doing things the same way when we fail e.g. roads.		Infrastructure and Transport
Need mass multi-modal solution to people and freight movement.		Infrastructure and Transport
An expanded bus network connecting suburbs in the West to employment hubs.		Infrastructure and Transport
Make busses irresistible! Frequent priority lanes, free/cheap, WIFI, logical routes, running after 9pm, comfortable, safe, promoted well.		Infrastructure and Transport

Action statement	Votes	Theme
Improve public and other transport, means of getting to train station		Infrastructure and Transport
Identity of the West as a region		Infrastructure and Transport
A city deal or long term regional investment strategy, uniting federal state and local government.		Infrastructure and Transport
More and better bus survives and bike paths.		Infrastructure and Transport
Removal of hoppers crossing level crossing: Interchange to be located in line with Heaths Rd - not adjacent to current level crossing.		Infrastructure and Transport
Efficient cross-cultural transport - public transport i.e. bus in designated lanes, light rail.		Infrastructure and Transport
Better active transport options to stations, shops and services.		Infrastructure and Transport
Better connecting jobs, services and people with public transport in the Western Suburbs and the airport with buses (fell in the web between the radial arterials and train lines)		Infrastructure and Transport
Develop and implement a social and education precincts strategy for culture, education and sport.		Social Welfare
Invest in health and social services as an economic policy - given the role in future jobs and as an early intervention strategy. E.g. build a precinct that taps into Sunshine and Footscray and Werribee Hospitals, adding primary prevention services that cross the health and social silos.		Social Welfare
Create community central hubs around schools. These should include maternal health, adult education, sporting clubs and local council, social services etc. shared resources and facilities build strong communities.		Social Welfare
Attract world leading higher education to grow the confidence of disengaged youth to the future. Celebrate diversity (as a valuable currency) and secure employment/entrepreneurship for self-actualisation.		Social Welfare
Create a healthy and inclusive community. Access and affordability of education/training empower the community and celebrate they are Australians from diverse backgrounds.		Social Welfare
Link systems: long term welfare recipients, entrepreneurs, incubators/training/mentorships, community structures and groups to drive economic and social growth utilising the existing people resources and to drive our own future.		Social Welfare
Develop a prospectus for a 'social impact bond' focused on preventative strategies to reduce lifestyle disease.		Social Welfare
Equitable access and distribution of public transport.		Social Welfare
Implement guidelines and support to make new and changing areas accessible making the west the most disability friendly regions		Social Welfare

Action statement	Votes	Theme
Innovative approach for awareness of resources and support provided by Council; through apps.		Social Welfare
Western irrigation network - job creation while protecting the environment. Recycled water for productive agriculture on Melbourne's western fringe.		Social Welfare
Diverse pathways to employment including volunteering opportunities (investing resources in this area)		Social Welfare
In tandem with the expanded, high quality comprehensive public transport systems lets invest in a complementary active transport network - that is safe, addresses congestions and promoted better health outcomes as well as support local economies.		Social Welfare
Tram line linking Newport station and Altona Beach via Hudson and Millers roads.		Social Welfare
Promotion of community pride, strength resilience and connections as demonstrated through the rich cultural life that is unique to us - diversity, uniqueness, history.		Social Welfare
Provide resources to convert public and private housing to environmentally friendly - reducing cost, environmental impact and making them more thermally comfortable.		Housing
A 50-year plan for the West, providing for affordable, good quality homes without sprawl taking over open space or food-growing areas; and without 'development' meaning dog-boxes		Housing
Making way for first-home buyers and renters having more advantage than those looking into investment properties - fairness for all.		Housing
Limit negative gearing to new houses, apartments. Minimum social housing for every development.		Housing
To improve the accessibility of housing in Western regions emerging communities,		Housing
Create a mandatory environmental development certification for all new developments in the west.		Housing
New communities' implement a vision of mixed-use diversity (rather than a 'lifestyle destination') - subsidise land for mixed uses (employment, community centres and social enterprises)		Housing
That is complimented by well-planned and systematically delivered infrastructure and well planned safe, reliable, frequent public transport to residents in those houses and not massacred by successive governments.		Housing
Look at international models like co-housing to build connected communities and invest in alternate ownership models so more people have access to safe and secure housing that meets their needs.		Housing
To have an integrated tourism and lifestyle promotional strategy with all councils working together and showcasing.		Housing
To have integrated engaged community garden centres in the west, promoting environment, healthy eating and produce growing - similar to CERES		Housing

Action statement	Votes	Theme
Merging existing Parkland and new housing estates making sure there is good road and public transport access. E.g. new housing along Werribee River Parkland with more river crossings.		Housing
Make sure suburbs/planned communities built are walkable, cyclable and greened with appealing community spaces to gather.		Housing
Education and support for ethnic people living green in their house and business incoming members in community grown garden for community.		Housing
Develop more outdoor spaces that promote active participation in healthy physical activity and encourage social interaction.		Environment
Require high standards for environmental performance of homes, industry, suburban/planning. Large emphasis on greening and dedicated cycle connections to build resilience and reduce emissions.		Environment
Invest in regenerating traditional owner landscape and environment that showcases aboriginal occupation (boost knowledge of traditional owners) to set West apart from the 'green leafy eastern suburbs'.		Environment
In light of passing of the Yarra River Protection Act, and its mention of the Maribyrnong and Werribee Rivers and the needs of the massive urban development on those rivers, the lead west Bio Link Plan is an excellent vehicle to provide large scale green spaces.		Environment
See philanthropic support to sponsor/fund local environmental project e.g. waterway health improvement initiatives/greening the west.		Environment
Leverage private investment to create iconic green spaces so they become destinations of choice in the west.		Environment
Support renewable energy education centre - comprising of waste to energy, solar and wind demonstration facility.		Environment
The western region becomes a lifestyle destination of choice set in unique landscapes, with extensive open spaces and interactive parks, within affordable well-planned communities.		Environment
Development of the river parklands around Werribee River to attract greater recreation use and encouraging outdoor living.		Environment
Develop sustainable micro-power-grids I local hubs/communities to reduce carbon footprint and offer new jobs and skills in sustainable power.		Environment
Investment in large-scale waste to energy and network(s) of solar systems on big roofs.		Environment
Cool streets - turning the west into an urban forest.		Environment
Co-ordination of health services, delivery by commonwealth/state/Local government community.		Health
Engage middle-aged men in health improvement in way they can relate to social like sons of the west.		Health

Action statement	Votes	Theme
Increased support and resources to community networks that link different groups, services and cultural groups.		Health
Work with facilities with children 0-4 in partnership across sectors e.g. local govt health education and health promotion, prevention e.g. healthy eating, physical activity.		Health
Prevention and screening / bowel and breast cancer screening increases, reduce smoking rates		Health
Build new facilities to meet catchment demand.		Health
Create a movement of young people (15-24) that are empowered to take control of their health outcomes. This will be achieved through education mentoring and community engagement.		Health
Establish a regional centre for excellence for innovative waste management, adopting best practice innovation for recycling and adopting market leading end of life solutions.		Health
Equality, mental health, breaking down barriers, integration between social housing and private. Same health care, no two-tier system.		Health
Much more interaction between hospitals, health services, community services local government e.g. it takes a community to raise a child why not all members.		Health
Focus new investment on prevention.		Health
Build the development of a new words and children hospital		Health
Introduce a rapid bus networks, with cross suburb connections, with dedicated bus lanes (like they have in Brisbane).		Infrastructure and Transport