

# Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership

REPORT BACK 2019





## Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership

Report Back 2019

The Victorian Government proudly acknowledges Victoria's Aboriginal community and their rich culture and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

We acknowledge Aboriginal people as Australia's first peoples and as the

Traditional Owners and custodians of the land and water on which we rely.

We recognise and value the ongoing contribution of Aboriginal people and communities to Victorian life and how this enriches us.

We embrace the spirit of reconciliation, working towards the equality of outcomes and ensuring an equal voice.

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# Developing greater local opportunities for living and working

## MINISTER'S FOREWORD

Melbourne's beautiful inner south-east extends from the Yarra River at Kew to the beaches of Brighton. The region includes the bustling retail hubs, such as Chapel Street, Glenferrie Road and Chadstone, as well as quieter residential areas in its inner and middle suburbs. The region is also known for its built heritage, schools and universities.

The Inner South-east Metropolitan region benefits from its proximity to Melbourne's CBD and its established suburban centres that provide access to an array of jobs, services and community facilities. While many people recognise these strengths, this can often mask the needs of the region's diverse local communities and their desire for input into the design and provision of local services and infrastructure.

That is why the Government has established the Metropolitan Partnerships, to ensure our suburbs remain great places to live as we continue to grow.

Each year the Partnership submits its independent advice to government on what it sees as the top priorities for jobs, services and infrastructure across the region. Before submitting the advice, the Partnership engages with the community to understand what is most important to the people who live, work, study and visit the region.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Inner South-east Partnership and the community for their hard work in developing this advice. I am looking forward to working with the Inner south-east Metropolitan Partnerships on a range of issues, including how we can help develop greater local opportunities for people to live and work within the Inner south east.



A stylized, handwritten signature in dark blue ink.

**The Hon Marlene Kairouz MP**  
Minister for  
Suburban Development  
Minister for Consumer Affairs,  
Gaming and Liquor Regulation



## Delivering for the Inner South-east Region

The Victorian Budget 2019–20 is delivering key funding outcomes across the Inner South-east Metropolitan Region, with metropolitan and state-wide investments.



### Education

**\$1.4 billion**

Keep building, upgrading and modernising schools across Victoria.

**\$231 million**

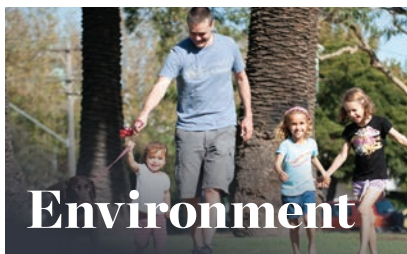
Training and skills to keep transforming the sector by strengthening training quality, building more world class facilities, growing Victoria's pool of skills workers, and expanding Free TAFE for Priority Courses.



### Sport

**\$175 million**

Local Sports Grants across Victoria to support local communities to develop sport and active recreation infrastructure



## Environment

**\$154 million**

6,500+ hectares of parkland with new walking and bike trails right across our suburbs, providing a place for local families to relax and switch off.

**\$545 million**

Expand Solar Homes and put the power back in the hands of Victorians, as part of a \$1.3 billion investment state-wide.



## Road and rail

**\$6.6 billion**

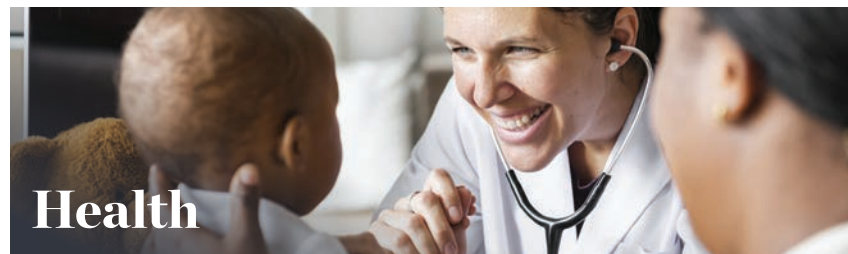
Remove another 25 of Melbourne's most dangerous and congested level crossings, bringing our total commitment to 75 level crossings gone for good by 2025.

**\$681 million**

Melbourne Airport Rail Link.

**\$300 million**

Commence planning and consultation for the Suburban Rail Loop.



## Health

**\$3.8 billion**

A \$3.8 billion plan to build modern hospitals across the state.

**\$321.9 million**

Begin the roll-out of free dental for students at our government schools, state-wide.

**\$214 million**

Ensure new parents have the support they need, with nine new parenting centres, extended sleep assistance and new baby bundles.

**\$173 million**

Make sure Victorians are getting the mental health help that they need.

**\$64.4 million**

Support stronger patient ratios and deliver an extra 542 nurses and midwives in our hospitals.

# Introduction

The people who live, work, study, own businesses and visit the Inner South-east Metropolitan Region know better than anyone the opportunities and challenges for the region.

The Government established the Metropolitan Partnerships to provide independent advice on priorities to address growth and maintain our city's renowned liveability.

The Partnerships provide a way for communities to engage directly with state and local government, and advise the top priorities and opportunities for jobs, services and infrastructure.

This Report Back provides a snapshot of the Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership's 2018 advice, its engagement with local communities and our response.

The report demonstrates the value created by the Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership's efforts in engaging with their region and advocating to government for their needs. It also demonstrates how government is changing the way it works with and engages the communities it serves.



Stonnington

Boroondara

Glen Eira

Bayside

# Metropolitan Partnerships – communities at the centre

The Metropolitan Partnerships model was established to create opportunities for the community to influence decisions and shape the future of their own communities. The Partnerships facilitate annual planning and community engagement activities each year, before submitting formal advice to the Government through the Minister for Suburban Development.

## Phase 1

### **Metropolitan Partnership meetings and engagement**

Throughout the year Metropolitan Partnership work with their communities to identify opportunities for driving improved social, economic and environmental outcomes. They liaise with regional stakeholders, government departments and agencies, regional leadership groups and engage directly with communities.

## Phase 2

### **Metropolitan Partnership annual community engagement**

Each year, each Metropolitan Partnership engages with the community to explore, test and refine priorities for the region. This engagement informs the Partnership's annual advice to government. In 2018, each Metropolitan Partnership heard from the community through an Assembly held in the region and attended by government representatives.

## Phase 3

### **Metropolitan Partnership advice to government**

In October/November, Metropolitan Partnerships submit their annual advice to government on regional outcomes and priority initiatives for the coming year.

## Phase 4

### **Government's coordinated response**

The Minister for Suburban Development works with portfolio Ministers to respond to the Metropolitan Partnership advice. This can include responding via:

- existing programs and services
- supporting further investigation of issues using Metropolitan Partnerships Development Funds
- new initiatives funded as part of the annual State Budget process.

# The Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership

The Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership is half-way through its four-year term facilitating community engagement and shaping advice to the Victorian Government about the issues that matter to you – the people who live, work, study, visit and run businesses in the region. The Partnership members include up to nine community and business representatives, the CEOs of each local council in the region and a senior executive representing the Victorian Government. [SEE APPENDIX 1.](#)

Highlights of the Partnership's engagement in 2018 include contributing to the metropolitan-wide Youth Forum on 7 May bringing youth voices from the Inner South-east to the table and hosting the annual assembly of community members, businesses, councils, mayors and government ministers on 30 May.

To deepen its engagement with young citizens, the Partnership worked with Swinburne University to host two pop-up InstaWorkshops in May 2018 attended by young

people including students (local and international), young professionals and residents.

Community connectedness was a strong emerging theme from the 2018 engagement. The community wants to see increased connectedness through better access to open space, more volunteering opportunities and co-located work spaces so that people can work close to home but not alone. Improving community connectedness was suggested as one way to help people who are socially isolated or have reduced

access to services, such as young and old people, migrants and people with low incomes.

Assembly participants agreed that a lack of transport connectivity and affordable housing had cross-cutting impacts. Poor transport connectivity meant that older people were not able to access local services and long commuting times reduced health and wellbeing. Lack of affordable housing and the impact of mortgage stress and high rent could affect health and wellbeing.

Access to open space remains an important issue to the community – this was the Assembly's second most important priority. Participants want to see sporting activities included in initiatives for open space, and they highlighted the need to open more clubs and sporting venues to other groups.

They also suggested sharing school recreational spaces with community groups after hours. Managing development in the Inner South-east was the third most important priority for the Assembly. Environmental issues remain important too with Assembly participants seeking action on waste management particularly recycling and waste reduction strategies.

The top three priorities identified by your representatives at the 2018 Youth Forum, were:

- 1 education around mental health, diversity, inclusion, social justice and LGBTIQ+ issues
- 2 environmental sustainability and climate change, recycling, banning plastic
- 3 housing affordability, and the need to change expectations around the type of housing we will live in for the future.

Consistent themes at the Swinburne University InstaWorkshops were transport connectivity, jobs, open space and environment, education, affordable housing, and social inclusion. Students who lived in other metropolitan areas pointed out the transport challenges and lack of amenities in outer suburban areas.

The Partnership's vision for the Inner South-east is a region that is: *'liveable, equitable and agile'*.



# The Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership's advice

The Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership's advice to the Government focused on:

## **1 Community health and wellbeing**

Increasing community connectedness to reduce people experiencing social isolation and loneliness. The focus is on a co-design approach that supports people to participate in community life and develop meaningful connections with others.

## **2 Economy, industry and jobs**

Encouraging vibrant, socially connected hubs that support local economies by fostering collaboration, innovation, education and spaces that enable people and businesses to work flexibly, close to home.

## **3 Transport connectivity**

Improving the safety and reliability of movement to better connect people to local jobs, education, and leisure. The focus is on the performance of key interchange locations between all modes of transport.

## **4 Affordable and social housing**

Understanding future key workforce and housing needs to support the growing community and economy.

## **5 Open space**

Improving the transition for young people from secondary school to meaningful training and employment.

## **6 Environmental Sustainability**

Streamlining local government sustainability plans to develop a regional strategy and recommended actions to address environmental sustainability across the region.

# Health and wellbeing

The Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for reduced loneliness and isolation through development of a collaborative, multi-level approach supporting all members of the community to participate in community life and develop meaningful connections with others



## What you said

**“Encourage young people to join clubs by helping people overcome financial and cultural barriers to participate.”** ASSEMBLY

**“Create programs to support parents with children who are being bullied.”** ASSEMBLY

**“Healthcare, housing and basic education should be accessible to anyone.”** YOUTH FORUM

**“Libraries could have a greater role to connect people socially – look at the social design of these spaces. Provide more people trained as community connectors in libraries and other places.”** ASSEMBLY

**“Develop programs to promote openness and acceptance about different religions.”** YOUTH FORUM

## What we've heard

The theme of health and wellbeing is a new priority for the Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership following its 2018 engagement. The Partnership's advice focuses on addressing loneliness and social isolation.

The Partnership cites a growing body of evidence that the quality and quantity of social relationships can affect physical and mental health and impact on risk of mortality comparable with well-established risk factors, such as smoking and alcohol.

The Partnership believes that a high proportion of people in the Inner South-east region experience loneliness and social isolation.

Ideas raised at the Assembly included encouraging more people to join clubs, providing more support for people to find services, giving libraries a greater role in connecting people, and developing multi-dimensional services.

Participants at the community Assembly said some older people and other groups experience isolation and loneliness. Contributing factors included living arrangements (blocks of flats), one-dimensional services, lack of connectivity, limited access to open space (especially for older people and women), and few opportunities to connect through clubs and associations. Assembly participants said that at large housing estates, people on low incomes and from culturally and linguistically diverse communities struggle to participate fully in community activities. They also highlighted the isolation of many carers and the constraints of living on a Newstart allowance limiting people's participation.

Inner South-east representatives at the Youth Forum prioritised inclusion and acceptance calling for more knowledge about special needs and the LGBTIQ+ community.

## How we're responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p><b>COLLABORATIVE PROJECT</b> Develop and disseminate a detailed profile of the prevalence and impact of loneliness and isolation across the region by engaging a consultant supported by a working group of health experts and representatives</p> <hr/> <p>Develop a comprehensive asset map of current services and initiatives addressing loneliness and isolation across the region</p> <hr/> <p>Disseminate information about existing services to the community and to potential referring agencies</p> <hr/> <p>Design a comprehensive approach to addressing loneliness and isolation through community co-design including representatives from key stakeholder groups</p>	<p>The Government supports the Partnership's initiative to address loneliness and social isolation with a collaborative project to identify the groups who are at highest risk.</p> <p>As a result of the 2018 community engagement process, the Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership has committed \$40,000 from the Metropolitan Partnerships Development Fund to deliver a project that will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• develop a profile of the prevalence and impact of regional issues relating to loneliness and social isolation</li> <li>• create an asset map of current services and initiatives</li> <li>• co-design a multi-level approach to address loneliness and social isolation.</li> </ul> <p>The Department of Health and Human Services is leading a collaborative approach with the public, private and community sectors to enhance community participation and connectedness in the region.</p> <p>A project working group has been established to oversee implementation of the project and includes representation from The Alfred, StarHealth, Cabrini Outreach, all four local councils (Bayside, Glen Eira, Stonnington and Boroondara) and Victorian Government representatives (including Department of Human and Health Services and the Office for Suburban Development). Stage one of the project is due for completion by late 2019.</p> <p>This initiative demonstrates the Metropolitan Partnerships model in action – taking the voices of community directly to government to inform decision-making and action.</p>	<p><b>12 MONTHS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</p>
 <p><b>ADVOCACY</b> Investment in safe public spaces and connected, low-cost transport modes that support people's ability to move around the region</p>	<p>The government is constantly reviewing the public transport network. The advice of the Partnership will be provided to the Department of Transport to assist in future decision-making.</p>	<p><b>ONGOING</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>





# Economy, industry and jobs

The Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for vibrant, socially-connected hubs that support local economies by fostering collaboration, innovation and education for small-to-medium enterprise and start-up small businesses, and spaces that enable people and business to work flexibly, close to home

## What you said

“Young people are not being prepared for the future economy, for example, they are not being told that entrepreneurship is a viable profession.” ASSEMBLY

“Manufacturing jobs are leaving but specialty high-skilled jobs, such as design, are increasing. Many young people do not know how to get into these areas.” ASSEMBLY

“Parents and carers often cannot work if they must travel far from home.” ASSEMBLY

“People are increasingly needing to travel out of the region to find work.” ASSEMBLY

## What we've heard



The Partnership's advice focuses on developing hubs to give people who live in the region the opportunity to work locally, and to encourage small and medium enterprise and start-ups, while at the same time creating vibrant precincts and increasing social connectedness.

The number of residents in the Inner South-east who also work in the region is just 32 per cent – significantly lower than Melbourne's average of 50 per cent. The region is characterised by people moving through it for work, study and play. While the region has low levels of industry, it has a high resident population of high-value knowledge workers.

The Partnership believes that co-working responds to Inner South-east challenges by powering up place-based economic development, responding to the decline of strip retail, improving social connection and relieving pressure on stressed transport routes.

Participants at the community Assembly identified the social isolation of working from home. They expressed concern about the lack of public transport options to jobs not located in the city, and the shift to a part-time economy. Ideas raised at the Assembly included encouraging opportunities to work locally in the region to ease transport pressure, creating co-working spaces close to home, and improving connections between schools and industries to encourage early engagement about work. The region's representatives at the Youth Forum said they want better access to jobs, and more work experience opportunities.

# How we're responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p><b>COLLABORATIVE PROJECT</b> Develop a place-based strategy to support opportunities to work locally in the region by partnering with the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions</p>	<p>Funding of \$40,000 from the Metropolitan Partnerships Development Fund is being used to engage an urban planning consultancy to develop a detailed evidence base that will support development of a regional strategy for supporting the revitalisation of local economic precincts in the Inner South-east. This strategy will enable more opportunities for people to work locally and establish new businesses in the region.</p>	<p><b>1-4 YEARS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, PRECINCTS AND REGIONS</p>
 <p><b>COLLABORATIVE PROJECT</b> Develop a Regional Employment Jobs and Skills Plan to investigate employment types and clusters in the Inner South-east and develop a spatial economic strategy and narrative for the region</p>	<p>The Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions supports the development of a jobs and skills framework for the Inner South-east Metropolitan region. This work could be delivered jointly by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions and Department of Education as a Metropolitan Partnerships Development Fund initiative. There is available seed funding from the Metropolitan Partnership Development Fund to further explore this proposal. In addition, the draft Jobs and Skills Framework for the West developed in collaboration with the Western local government authorities, the Western Metropolitan Partnership and Victoria University could inform development of the approach for the Inner South-east.</p>	<p><b>12 MONTHS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, PRECINCTS AND REGIONS</p>

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>Identify optimal mix of residential, commercial and entertainment dwellings in the region through the Land Use Framework Plans to increase vibrancy of precincts and encourage people to work, live and play in the region</p>	<p>To help regions plan for the future, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning is preparing Land Use Framework Plans for each of the six metropolitan regions in consultation with the Metropolitan Partnerships.</p> <p>These plans will include strategies for population growth, jobs, housing, infrastructure, major transport improvements, open space and urban forests and will identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• land to be set aside primarily for business and employment-generating purposes</li> <li>• precincts and activity centres where a mix of higher-density residential, commercial and other activities are encouraged</li> <li>• urban renewal precincts and sites where medium and higher density housing and mixed-use development will be encouraged</li> <li>• transit-oriented development opportunities that arise from major transport infrastructure projects, such as the Metro Tunnel, level crossing removals and the Regional Rail Link</li> <li>• an access framework ensuring that activity centres and urban renewal, employment and tourism precincts are supported by walking, cycling, public transport and night travel options</li> <li>• additional regional-scale community, health, education, recreation, sporting and cultural facilities</li> <li>• additional regional open space networks and enhancements and greening initiatives.</li> </ul>	<p><b>1-4 YEARS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, LAND, WATER AND PLANNING</p>



A photograph of three cyclists riding on a city street. In the foreground, a man in a black jacket and helmet is on the left, looking towards the right. Behind him, a woman in a dark blue jacket and light blue helmet is riding a bicycle. To her right, another person in a brown jacket and yellow helmet is partially visible. The background is slightly blurred, showing a pedestrian and a building with a yellow sign. The image is overlaid with large, semi-transparent orange and white geometric shapes.

# Transport connectivity

The Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for improved safety and reliability of movement within the region better connecting people to local jobs and improved performance of key interchange locations between all modes of transport

## What you said

**“Improve public transport availability, reliability and connectivity – with more train stations, and more trams.”** YOUTH FORUM

**“Reduce car speed limits in inner metro areas.”** ASSEMBLY

**“I have to travel about one hour 20 to get here (Swinburne University) so I think an effective way would be more public buses.”** SWINBURNE INSTAWORKSHOP

**“The transport system is not very safe for cyclists.”** ASSEMBLY

**“More shuttle/mini buses to increase access around neighbourhoods to places such as shopping centres. Perhaps this could be organised by Councils.”** ASSEMBLY

## What we’ve heard

The Partnership’s advice focuses on improving the safety and reliability of movement in the region to better connect people via different transport modes.




While recognising that the Inner South-east is well serviced for public transport, the Partnership believes that safety and reliability can be improved to better connect people to local jobs and services. This issue resonated with the community across the 2018 engagement.


In the Inner South-east, just 10 per cent of weekday journeys to work are taken using public transport, two per cent by bicycle, and 22 per cent walking. Most bus and tram lines do not have priority infrastructure, and some are among the most unreliable and overcrowded in Melbourne. The region also has one of the highest rates of injuries and fatalities for bicycle riders of local government areas.

Participants at the Assembly identified that poor transport connectivity impacted on people’s ability to move around the region to access services, particularly older people, and had knock-on effects on health and wellbeing. Busy roads with no cycling infrastructure put people off using their bicycles to commute. A consistent theme at the Assembly was the need for more responsive services, such as mini-buses and subsidised Uber services for people in need. Youth Forum participants want to see more cycling infrastructure, and a more reliable public transport system. More buses were suggested by students who attended the Swinburne pop-up workshop.



The Partnership has advocated for the safety of bicycle riders, connectivity of different public transport modes, and reliability of public transport services and timetables.

## How we're responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p><b>COLLABORATIVE PROJECT</b> Conduct an Inner South-east Movement and Place Assessment that will identify strategic attributes and needs, and detailed place-based assessments at key locations. The Movement and Place Framework will identify opportunities for better connectivity and reduced congestion</p>	<p>Using \$25,000 of the Metropolitan Partnerships Development Fund, the Department of Transport is working with local councils and the Partnership to develop an Integrated Transport Framework for the region. This project will review and consolidate local government transport strategies, map key transport routes, and identify key strategic transport attributes of the Inner South-east region. Aligning with key state policies and strategies, the resulting framework will allow for a more consistent approach to local level transport planning and priority setting and will be used to inform future development of a Movement and Place strategy for the region.</p>	<p><b>12 MONTHS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>
 <p>Improved bicycle facilities at train stations specifically pilots at South Yarra, Caulfield, Glenferrie and North Brighton Stations</p>	<p>The Department of Transport is working closely with delivery agencies to improve facilities for bicycle parking at train stations and is also working with the Level Crossing Removal Project to improve walking and cycling facilities as part of level crossing removal projects. The Department of Transport will consider the Partnership's advice about improving the bicycle infrastructure at key train stations as part of the scope of the Integrated Transport Framework for the Inner South-east. The Integrated Transport Framework will also consider potential locations for bicycle parking.</p>	<p><b>12 MONTHS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>
 <p>Suburban Rail Loop – engagement with the Partnership on Stage 1 commencing 2022. The Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership would like to engage on the planning and design of this stage, as well as explore the option of connecting Sandringham and Cheltenham Stations to 'close the loop'</p>	<p>The Department of Transport will undertake extensive community engagement for the largest transport infrastructure project proposed in Australia's history – the Suburban Rail Loop. The Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership will be included in community engagement activities about the Suburban Rail Loop.</p>	<p><b>12 MONTHS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p><b>ADVOCACY Safety.</b> The Inner South-east has some of the highest injuries and fatalities for bicycle riders per LGA per capita. The region also has the highest concentration of schools in Australia and low rates of walking and cycling. An opportunity exists for the Victorian Government to work with local councils to focus on schools as key transport destinations and implement programs to improve safety along key routes</p>	<p>The Victorian Cycling Strategy 2018–28 aims to increase the number, frequency and diversity of Victorians cycling for transport by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• investing in a safer, lower-stress, better-connected network, prioritising strategic cycling corridors</li> <li>• making cycling a more inclusive experience.</li> </ul> <p>The Strategy recognises the importance of encouraging children to cycle to school. An action in the Strategy is to work with local councils to improve cycling routes and facilities at schools, to help increase the number of children cycling to school.</p> <p>The Victorian Budget 2019–20 invests \$45.4 million for new and upgraded bike and pedestrian paths including planning for a strategic corridor between Box Hill and Hawthorn.</p> <p>The Government will improve walking, cycling and bus connections to train stations; and improve passenger information systems, signage, lighting, staffing, public announcement systems and toilets.</p> <p>As part of the Victorian Government’s commitment to remove an additional 25 level crossings across the state. Crossings at Glenhuntly Road, Glenhuntly, Mont Albert Road, Mont Albert, Neerim Road, Glenhuntly and Union Road, Surrey Hills will be removed – improving travel times, enhancing safety and creating more accessible communities across Melbourne.</p>	<p><b>12 MONTHS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>



PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p><b>ADVOCACY</b> Connectivity. One of the most frequent pieces of feedback from the community during the 2018 consultation on transport was related to intermodal connectivity. While the region is relatively well-serviced by public transport, connections between train, tram and bus lines are often disjointed and uncoordinated. Many opportunities exist for small-scale interventions to improve interchange facilities and coordination. This work would be informed by the Movement and Place Strategy outlined above</p>	<p>The Department of Transport will await the findings of the Partnership's Movement and Place Strategy to inform improvements to connectivity of services. The Inner South-east Integrated Transport Framework initiative will identify connectivity and reliability issues across the region. This will provide evidence for potential future interventions.</p>	<p><b>1-4 YEARS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>
 <p><b>ADVOCACY</b> Reliability. The Inner South-east region contains some of the most delayed public transport lines in metropolitan Melbourne. This discourages people from taking public transport and contributes to poor movement throughout the region. This in turn negatively affects people's access to jobs, services and education. This work would be informed by the Movement and Place Strategy outlined above</p>	<p>The Department of Transport will await the findings of the Partnership's Movement and Place Strategy to inform improvements to reliability of services. The Inner South-east Integrated Transport Framework initiative will identify connectivity and reliability issues across the region. This will provide evidence for potential future interventions.</p>	<p><b>12 MONTHS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>

# Affordable and social housing

The Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is an understanding of the region's key workforce and future housing needs to support the growing community economy



## What you said

“Enable granny flats and tiny houses on existing blocks.” ASSEMBLY

“Embed affordable housing requirements in state legislation with prescriptive elements for local government – building and development rules for multi-related properties.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“Housing is a worry ... What am I going to do? Where am I going to live?” SWINBURNE INSTAWORKSHOP

“Create more incentives for older people to downsize.” ASSEMBLY

“Support mixed development social and private housing.” ASSEMBLY

“Create legislative requirements for developments to have a percentage of affordable housing. Council need to make sure developers comply.” ASSEMBLY

## What we’ve heard

The Partnership’s advice focuses on ways to better understand the region’s workforce and housing needs.

Housing affordability is a challenge in the Inner South-east with residential property values among the highest in Victoria. Population growth over the next 10 years will add pressure on existing housing stock, and demand for new and replacement stock.

The region’s economy is driven by essential service industries including education, health care, retail, and professional, scientific and technical services. They make up almost half the workforce in the region. Many workers in these sectors earn modest incomes and can’t afford to live in the region. The 2016 Census revealed that over 77 per cent of people who work in the City of Stonnington live outside the municipality. In the Cities of Bayside, Glen Eira and Boroondara 60 percent of the workforce lives elsewhere.

The Partnership also advocates for the Government to review its policy of funding public housing renewal through the sale or release of public land for private development.

At the community Assembly, participants identified housing as a key issue for the region. The prominence of this theme revealed a growing awareness of the problem of intergenerational equity about home ownership alongside the effects of rising living costs particularly for youth and the elderly. Ideas suggested included converting unused land and old industrial sites into housing, creating incentives for older people to downsize, and enabling people to build granny flats and tiny houses. Legislative (planning) and taxation remedies (a higher vacancy tax) were also recommended.

The cost of housing was a source of frustration at the Youth Forum and the Swinburne pop-up workshops. Youth Forum participants feared a future with increasing rents and higher risk of homelessness, and they supported minimum affordable housing quotas. Swinburne students at the pop-up workshops said they couldn’t afford to live near the university and had to travel long distances for their studies.

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p><b>COLLABORATIVE PROJECT</b> Deliver a Regional Workforce and Housing Project to link people, housing and jobs in a growing economy. This will include mapping of key worker housing needs, employment locations and affordable housing precincts</p>	<p>The Victorian Budget 2019–20 allocated \$209 million to deliver 1,000 new public housing dwellings across Victoria, including in the City of Stonnington.</p> <p>This investment builds on major investment announced as part of Homes for Victorians (2017), which is the Government’s strategy to improve the housing choices for all Victorians.</p> <p>Homes for Victorians:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provides more than \$2 billion in support for new social and affordable housing</li> <li>• shifts support from investors to first home buyers through tax changes and grants</li> <li>• improves housing outcomes for Victorians with \$770 million in funding.</li> </ul> <p>Homes for Victorians sets out the Victorian Government’s approach for working in partnership with the Commonwealth Government and local councils, the community housing sector, and the development and construction industries. As part of the Social Housing Growth Fund, the New Rental Development Program will provide around 700 affordable rental properties across Victoria.</p> <p>The Government has recently created the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions to bring greater focus to priority precincts, and to better link jobs, people and housing. In addition, through the \$20,000 Metropolitan Partnerships Development Fund initiative, the Partnership are developing a regional profile of affordable housing needs in the Inner South-east. This project will consolidate existing evidence and data to understand the supply and demand of affordable housing within the region, with a focus on affordable housing for key workers (for example, nurses, teachers, emergency workers). The project will inform future policy response options and enhance the understanding of affordable housing challenges in the Inner South-east context.</p>	<p><b>4-10 YEARS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</p>

## PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL



**ADVOCACY** Review the current government policy of funding public housing renewal through the sale/release of public land for private development

## GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

The Government is considering the findings of the recent Parliamentary inquiry into the Public Housing Renewal Program, which identified the importance of renewing public housing on the selected sites to maximise the use of existing public housing land to create additional affordable public and social housing stock.

Housing First and MAB Corporation have been announced as the development partners for the North Melbourne, Northcote and Preston estates. Social housing on these sites will increase by 50 per cent and a portion of private housing will be allocated to First Home Buyers. The successful outcomes for these sites demonstrate the range of housing and community benefits that can be achieved with the right partners, through a carefully-considered approach to redevelopment that takes account of the strengths and opportunities that each site presents.

TIMEFRAME  
+ LEAD DEPT

12 MONTHS

DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN  
SERVICES



## Open space

The Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for delivery of Plan Melbourne's vision of inclusive, vibrant and healthy neighbourhoods through a whole-of-government approach to develop accessible, high quality, local and sub-regional open spaces



## What you said

“Council needs to leverage more developer contributions to help fund open space.” ASSEMBLY

“Use schools after hours to improve access to open space. The recently announced new school campus at the East Village is a good example of where this could happen.” ASSEMBLY

“Open spaces and environment will help people to relax... make people more relaxed and open to the environment.” SWINBURNE INSTAWORKSHOP

“Tree canopy is reducing, currently limited and fragmented.” ASSEMBLY

“Female sports teams are missing out on premium sporting opportunities.” ASSEMBLY

“Promote healthy neighbourhoods by developing an increased network of active open space.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

## What we've heard

The Partnership's advice focuses on ways to increase the area, and use of, open space in the Inner South-east.

Municipal areas within the region have the lowest percentage of open space per head of population in the state. Demand for active open space for organised sport outstrips availability in all four municipal areas. Allocations are at capacity, and club growth is constrained.

The Partnership also supports increasing resources to acquire and improve open space in the region, including increasing the percentage of open space contribution from subdivisions, and legislative changes.

Open space remains a priority for the community. A strong message throughout the Assembly was the need to increase community connectedness – participants said this could be achieved by improving access to open space. The connection between open space and health was also acknowledged. Participants highlighted the need to open more clubs and sporting venues to other groups and suggested sharing school recreational spaces with community groups after hours. They also suggested leveraging more developer contributions to help fund open space, increasing green infrastructure, such as green walls and roofs, and using air rights over railway corridors for sports facilities.

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>Regional approach to increasing existing sporting infrastructure by conducting a detailed assessment of sporting facilities across the region</p>	<p>While the Inner South-east has been known for its large back yards and beautiful gardens, public open space is needed for sport and residents of medium, high density housing. Funding to support planning initiatives for sport and recreation infrastructure is provided through a competitive grants program managed by Sport and Recreation Victoria. Funding for these competitive grants is expected to be open for applications in 2019.</p>	<p><b>12 MONTHS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, PRECINCTS AND REGIONS</p>
 <p>Funding for a project to implement shared-use agreements with schools at four schools, plus promotional material and site activation/community activities</p>	<p>The Department of Education and Training encourages schools to consider shared-use arrangements within their local communities. The Department of Education and Training regional offices and the Victorian School Building Authority can provide assistance and advice to schools in arranging different forms of shared-use arrangements. For this action, the Department of Education and Training will be working with four schools in the region to explore possible additional shared-use arrangements for facilities such as open space, sports areas or school halls.</p> <p>In addition, the Department of Education and Training updated its website to include further advice to the community regarding the hire or license of school facilities. More information is available at <a href="http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/infrastructure/Pages/sharedfacilities.aspx">www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/infrastructure/Pages/sharedfacilities.aspx</a></p>	<p><b>4-10 YEARS</b></p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING</p>

## PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL



**ADVOCACY** Increase resources available to acquire and improve open space in the region. An increase in the provision of open space from subdivisions in the schedules of council planning schemes to eight per cent. Revised open space definitions and provision rates for multi-unit developments and amendments to the Subdivisions Act to enable increased contribution rates and greater flexibility

## GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

The Government is responding to the Partnership's advice on open space through the development of the Metropolitan Open Space Strategy. This is supported by a Victorian Budget 2019–20 initiative to commit \$154 million to create more than 6,500 hectares of parkland with new walking and bike trails right across our suburbs, providing a place for local families to relax and switch off.

At the same time, there are projects underway demonstrating the ability of state and local government to collaborate to achieve better open space outcomes. One project will identify underused government land in gap areas and assess their viability for transfer to, or purchase by, councils to develop active open space.

Another project is working to reduce red tape for converting the airspace over rail lines for open space purposes.

The Government encourages schools to consider shared-use arrangements within their local communities. The Department of Education and Training is working with four schools in the region to implement shared-use agreements for facilities such as open space, sports areas or school halls.

The implementation of a planning scheme amendment to the schedule to the Clause 53.01 (Public Open Space Contribution and Subdivision) of the relevant planning schemes to increase to eight per cent would need to be justified by a strategic planning assessment undertaken by the councils as the relevant planning authorities. DELWP could support this work as a 'GC' amendment facilitated across a number of planning schemes. Planning Practice Note 70 provides guidance on the preparation of open space strategies.

Planning scheme amendments to increase the public open space contribution as part of subdivisions can be implemented if supported by a strategic assessment undertaken by the councils as the relevant planning authorities. DELWP could support this work as a 'GC' amendment facilitated across a number of planning schemes.

## TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT

### ONGOING

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
ENVIRONMENT,  
LAND, WATER  
AND PLANNING



# Environmental sustainability

The Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is support for Plan Melbourne principles about environmental resilience and sustainability by adapting to climate change and transitioning to low carbon city and investing in sustainable lighting infrastructure



## What you said

“Promote sustainable practices to mitigate and adapt to the challenges of climate change.” YOUTH FORUM

“(Develop a) climate change strategy for our community.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“Sustainability is important for all types of housing and buildings ... including water and energy (use).” ASSEMBLY

“Actively encourage the use of sustainable building materials.” YOUTH FORUM

“Renewable energy and affordable electricity pricing – invest in renewables to decrease energy prices. (This issue) needs to be addressed locally, for example, with local grids as well as nationally and on a state level.” ASSEMBLY

“We need environmentally appropriate waste disposal. We can’t just ship our rubbish overseas. We need an in-country solution.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

## What we’ve heard

The Partnership’s advice focuses on opportunities for cost and emissions savings supporting environmental resilience and sustainability and transitioning to a low-carbon city.

The four councils in the Inner South-east have explored the energy and emissions impact of replacing street lighting in their suburbs. A business case prepared by consultancy Ironbark Sustainability on their behalf, considered replacing all Category V lights within the region – over 13,000 lights, of which roughly 5,500 are cost-shared between councils and VicRoads. Glen Eira City Council has committed capital expenditure to go ahead with the replacement of cost-shared lights in 2019–20. The other three councils will allocate funding once the co-investment model is agreed.

Participants at the community Assembly demonstrated a desire for greater environmental and sustainability standards to be demonstrated and maintained in the built environment. Youth Forum participants identified environmental sustainability in their top three priorities for young people in the region. They proposed encouraging the use of sustainable building materials, promoting recycling and separating food waste, taxing plastic bags, and providing climate change and sustainability education.

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL



Energy Efficient Lighting Upgrades to change all major road street lights to LED across the four Inner South-east municipalities in partnership with VicRoads

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

VicRoads and the Department of Treasury and Finance are investigating funding model options to fund the capital outlay for the Partnership’s Major Road Lighting upgrades initiative.

\$25,000 from the Metropolitan Partnerships Development Fund has been invested to develop an assessment of the region’s current sustainability priorities, map these against existing government frameworks and policies, and develop a pipeline of recommendations to support a more aligned, regionally focused response to environmental sustainability at the state and local government level. The delivery partner is City of Stonnington, working with all councils in the Inner South-east and the Department of Transport. This will enable a greater understanding of the region’s shared goals while providing strategic direction and deliverables to support a more sustainable and resilient future for the Inner south-east.

The findings of this project will also inform future advice to government while providing a means of identifying potential synergies and investment opportunities across the four council regions.

TIMEFRAME  
+ LEAD DEPT

12 MONTHS  
DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORT



# Pick My Project

Another way we are encouraging participatory decision-making in the Inner South-east is through Pick My Project

Pick My Project is a democratic grassroots program supporting local communities throughout the state to develop and deliver initiatives that strengthen their local areas and neighbourhoods. Through this program communities in the Inner South-east have nominated local priorities, identified local projects and got them delivered. Pick My Project have provided \$34.8 million for local, community-led projects across Victoria.

Pick My Project backs ideas to improve local communities, such as new or improved sport and recreation activities, or programs supporting health and wellbeing, innovation, and arts and culture.

### How it works

Residents nominated local community-building projects and identified an eligible local organisation to sponsor their idea, such as a community group, school or local council before submitting their proposal to an online community vote.

During voting, applicants worked with their networks and encouraged their community to vote for their project.

A total of \$1.62 million of funding was allocated across 11 successful projects in the Inner South-east:

- Bringing our playground to life at Elsternwick Primary School, Brighton
- Lamm Courtesy Bus, Caulfield
- Hawthorn Malvern Hockey Centre Lighting Upgrade, Hawthorn
- Community Playground Upgrade, Malvern
- Greythorn Primary School grounds redevelopment, Balwyn North
- Resurfacing Penpraze Park, Malvern
- Habonim Community Centre Repairs and Amenity Improvements, Elsternwick
- Calling all dancers, singers and actors! Armadale
- Community activity court weather protection and resurfacing Armadale
- Caulfield Community Garden Project, Caulfield



### Community playground upgrade

The Malvern Central School playground was given a new life with funding provided for new timber equipment for climbing, swinging and balancing, a cubby house for imaginative play, a dry creek bed for natural exploration, and a sand pit for building, digging and creating.

The school playground is open to the local community for full access during and outside of school hours and on the weekend the playground is home to many young families, children and toddlers.

# Appendix 1

## Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership members

### **Alicia Darvall**

**CHAIR**  
**Executive Director, B Lab**

Alicia is Executive Director of Global Partners for B Lab, growing a global movement of people using business as a force for good. B Lab works with entrepreneurs to build on their values, engage with community and stakeholders and focus on measuring their impact. Alicia has held senior roles in organisations including Moonlight Cinema, Melbourne Fringe Festival, Social Traders and Melbourne Fashion Festival.

### **Damian Ferrie**

**CEO, Star Health**

Formerly Inner South Community Health. Damian has held leadership roles in the health, housing, community development and transport sectors in New South Wales and Victoria. Damian has also been responsible for programs that narrow the gap between disadvantaged communities and the rest of the state.

### **Sally Howe**

**Director, Cabrini Health**

Sally is a senior health executive with a background in the private health sector, health economics and public and community health. A Graduate of the AICD, Sally is a non-executive director on the Connect Health and Community Board, chairs the Southern Melbourne Primary Care Partnership.

### **Lizzy Kuoth**

**Inclusion Capability Officer,  
Department of Transport**

Previously employed at St. Francis Xavier College and Australian Multicultural Foundation, Lizzy established a group for South Sudanese youth in 2008. In 2012, she was awarded the Empowering Monash Women's Award for her role as a dedicated youth leader and human rights activist.

### **Philip Mallis**

**Transport Planner, Darebin  
City Council**

Philip recently retired as councillor for Boroondara City. He holds Masters degrees in Urban Planning, and Public Policy and Management from the University of Melbourne specialising in transport and governance. Philip is a convenor of Maptime Melbourne and has extensive volunteer experience across the region.

### **Simon Stafrace**

**Program Director of Psychiatry,  
Alfred Health**

Simon has been a psychiatrist in the private and public sectors for over 25 years. As the Program Director of Psychiatry at Alfred Health, Simon is responsible for the delivery of specialist and primary mental health services in the inner south of Melbourne, and a psychiatry research centre in partnership with Monash University.

### **Mick Cummins**

**CEO, Bayside City Council**

Mick was appointed Director Corporate Services in June 2012. Prior to his appointment at Bayside, Mick was General Manager Corporate at Frankston City Council. He has extensive local government experience in finance, governance, organisational development, customer service and community services.



**Rebecca McKenzie****CEO, Glen Eira City Council**

Rebecca is an accomplished leader with a successful career at executive level across three countries and three sectors. Before joining Glen Eira City Council, Rebecca's roles included CEO at Mitchell Shire Council and Director of Corporate Services for Yarra Ranges Council.

**Jacqui Weatherill****CEO, City of Stonnington**

Jacqui joined the City of Stonnington as CEO in July 2019. She has a strong leadership record in the government sector and in Australian sport. She was previously the CEO of the Greater Melbourne Cemeteries Trust which is responsible for administering 19 memorial parks and cemeteries across Melbourne. Jacqui has also worked at a senior executive level in local government including the City of Boroondara and Benalla Rural City Council and project-managed significant transformations while in those roles.

**Phillip Storer****CEO, Boroondara City Council**

Phillip is CEO of Boroondara City Council, he holds qualifications in town planning and was Boroondara's first Director of Infrastructure. During his career, Philip has advised Council on a number of challenging projects.

**Ryan Phillips****Victorian Government  
Representative**

Deputy Secretary, Victims Support, Innovation and Justice Operations at Department of Justice and Community Safety, Ryan has led the department's Criminal Law Policy and Operations function as Deputy Secretary from 2017. Prior to his appointment in the department, he was employed in a range of senior executive positions, including as General Counsel. Ryan has held a diverse range of policy, social justice and legal roles across the government, Aboriginal community and private sectors in Melbourne, Broome and Sydney.

Thank you to the following outgoing members of the Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership who helped developed the 2018 advice:

**Steve Whittington****Former Partnership Deputy Chair**

Steve is an organiser for the Independent Education Union, whose work includes advocating for members' workplace rights and improving pay and conditions throughout the non-government education system. Steve is also a Board Member at the Centre for Strategic Education.

**Jane Farmer****Director, Swinburne University**

Jane is a recognised leader and researcher in innovations in rural and small health services workforce and service delivery. Jane is interested in civic technology, citizen involvement, co-production, social enterprise and social value measurement. She is Director of the Social Innovation Research Institute at Swinburne University.

**Warren Roberts****Former CEO, City of Stonnington**

A Civil Engineer with qualifications in business management and 40 years' experience, Warren is committed to local government making a difference within the community. Warren has served on the National and State Boards of the IPWEA and on the Board of LGPro. He is currently Chairman of the Municipal Engineering Foundation Victoria.

**Julia Griffith****Victorian Government  
Representative**

Julia is former Deputy Secretary of Youth Justice at Department of Justice and Regulation and Chair of the Criminology Research Advisory Council. Julia has also been responsible for implementing state government employment programs assisting disadvantaged job seekers.

Welcome to new members who recently joined the Inner South-east Metropolitan Partnership:

### **Josef Seidler**

**DEPUTY CHAIR  
Regional General Manager,  
Vicinity Centres**

Josef has 20 years' experience in multi-jurisdictional CBD creation and regeneration projects in Australia, Asia and the United Kingdom. He is the current Regional General Manager, Development at Vicinity Centres. Mr Seidler led the transformation of Chadstone into an alternate CBD environment and a mixed-use destination. He has a background in master planning and redevelopment of resorts, precincts and shopping centres. He holds a Bachelor of Arts and is committed to the Inner South-east ongoing economic growth by creating places of the future where people can work, play and live in one community.

### **Amber Bell**

**Landscape architect, CJ Arms**

As a young woman in the construction industry Amber Bell believes there needs to be a stronger connection between community enrichment and environmental conservation. She is passionate about collaboration and the platform the Partnerships provide for better outcomes. She is currently enrolled in Master of Disaster, Design and Development at RMIT and is passionate about designing beautifully integrated spaces.

### **Diane Sivasubramaniam**

**Associate Professor,  
Swinburne University**

Diane is an academic at Swinburne University and researches new ideas about the interaction between citizens and social authorities (such as the police). Her research is focused on the way we design those interactions between social authorities and citizens, and their contribution to social cohesion and trust in government. She is passionate about using her learning and networks to work closely with state and local government to codesign solutions to isolation, loneliness and many other pressing issues in the Inner South-east region.



# Find out more and get involved

## How can I find out more?

Visit our website

[www.suburbandevelopment.vic.gov.au/partnerships/metropolitan-partnerships](http://www.suburbandevelopment.vic.gov.au/partnerships/metropolitan-partnerships)

Email your question

[innersoutheast.partnership@djpr.vic.gov.au](mailto:innersoutheast.partnership@djpr.vic.gov.au)

Visit MyVictoria

[www.myvictoria.vic.gov.au](http://www.myvictoria.vic.gov.au)

Visit Pick My Project

[www.pickmyproject.vic.gov.au](http://www.pickmyproject.vic.gov.au)

## How can I get involved?

Share your thoughts or register to attend a community forum on Engage Victoria

[engage.vic.gov.au/innersoutheast-metropolitan-partnership](http://engage.vic.gov.au/innersoutheast-metropolitan-partnership)

