

Western Metropolitan Partnership

REPORT BACK 2019



Western 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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Ensuring growth in the West creates benefits for all

MINISTER'S FOREWORD

Melbourne's west is undergoing a profound period of change as it transitions from its industrial past to be one of the fastest growing residential areas in Melbourne. The West is a large and diverse region extending from Moonee Ponds and Essendon and the Maribyrnong River, right out to the rapidly growing areas of Melton and Wyndham and Port Phillip Bay.

The rapid pace of growth in Melbourne's west presents enormous opportunities to strengthen the region's infrastructure and services and create jobs tied to Melbourne's future economy. The challenge is making sure that we translate investment in the Western Region into benefits for its residents and local businesses. Getting the community involved in developing future priorities is a great place to start.

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 Western Partnership and the community for their hard work in developing this advice. I am looking forward to working with the Western Partnership on a range of issues, including how we can better plan for the region's infrastructure and service needs.



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 Western Region

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



Sports

\$175 million

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



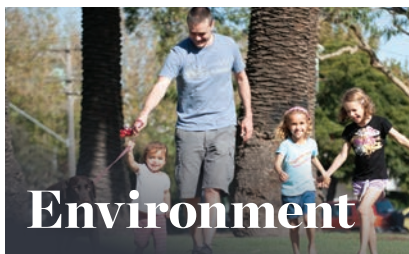
Education

\$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.



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

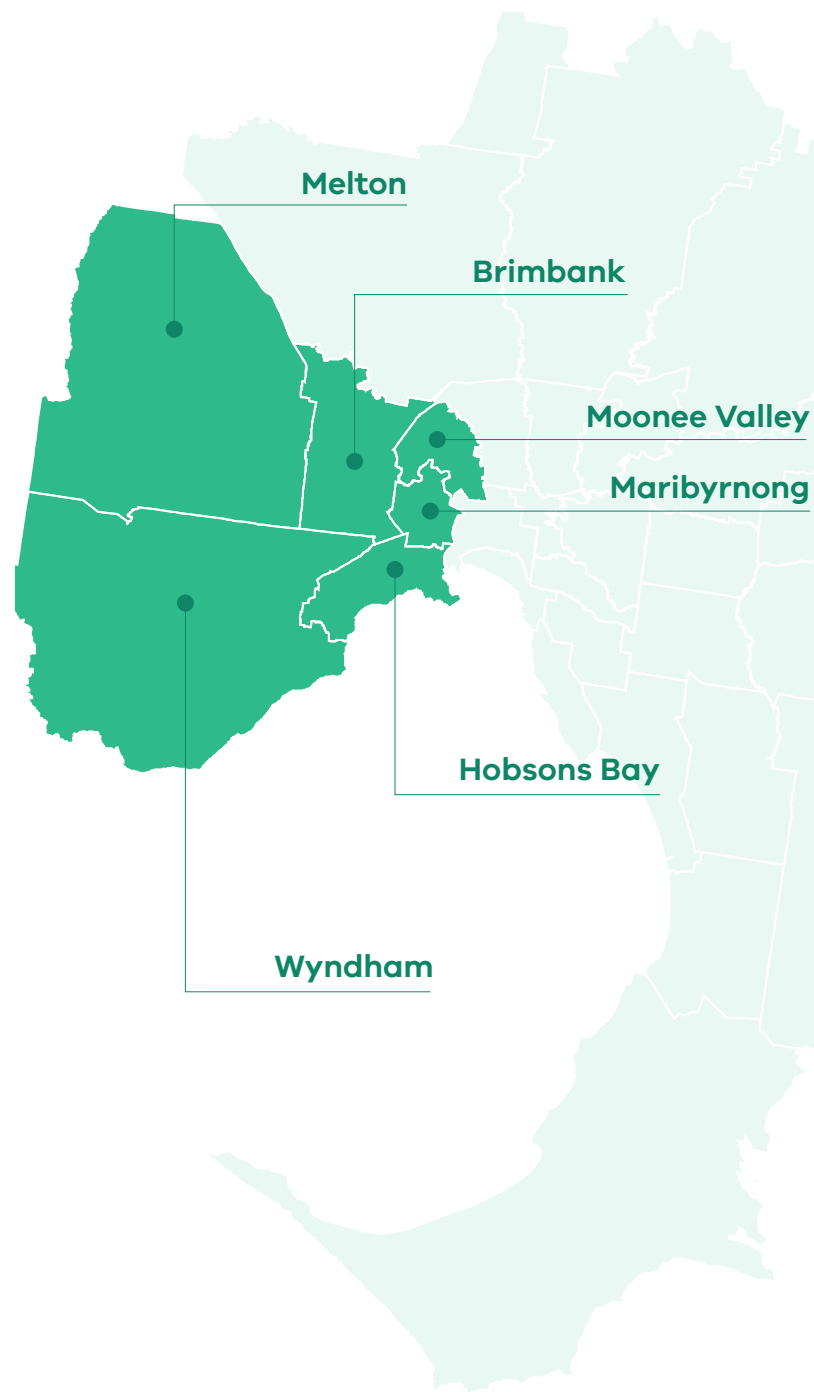
Ensure new parents have the support they need, with nine new parenting centres, extended sleep assistance and new baby bundles.

\$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 Western 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 Western Metropolitan Partnership's 2018 advice, its engagement with local communities and our response. The report demonstrates the value created by the Western 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.

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 Western Metropolitan Partnership

The Western 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 includes 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.](#)

The Partnership's 2018 engagement to assist in developing its formal advice to government included contributing to the metropolitan-wide Youth Forum on 7 May to bring youth voices from the West to the table and hosting an annual assembly on 18 July, bringing together community and business leaders, councillors, mayors and Members of Parliament. To deepen its engagement, the Partnership worked with key leadership groups including LeadWest and the West of Melbourne Economic Development Alliance.

A highlight in the 2018 engagement was the community's optimism about their region, and the desire to celebrate cultural diversity and its expression in arts, food and culture, the dynamic growing region and its physical attributes such as beaches, parks and rivers.

People expressed the need to grow this sense of pride throughout the community and to better manage the West's reputation across metropolitan Melbourne. They said the West is an area brimming with human capital and innovative ideas, yet this is often overlooked in media narratives, which tends to focus

on negative portrayals of youth culture. Recognising, developing and promoting the positive stories of the West was put forward as an important step to encourage people to come to the West to live, work and visit.

The physical assets of the region were identified as being under-used or recognised, with opportunities to turn around peoples' opinions of these assets. Examples included the area's waste recycling potential and the renewal of industrial heritage and architecture. Recycling initiatives are considered excellent opportunities to make the West a leading centre for innovation and reinvention. The region's creative hubs are also viewed as being essential to not only bring people together and educate them, but also to help address the region's employment challenges into the future.

The West's remarkable cultural diversity is viewed as the primary strength. While supporting improvements to service vulnerable and emerging groups such as migrant communities, it is equally important to broaden the view that diverse populations are vital assets in both community-building and job creation.

The Partnership heard from the community that there is a need for more jobs, and more transport infrastructure and connectivity barriers need to be addressed to achieve long-term success. The community wants to see progress and greater equity in employment, and infrastructure for transport and health in their region.

The top three priorities chosen by participants at the Assembly were:

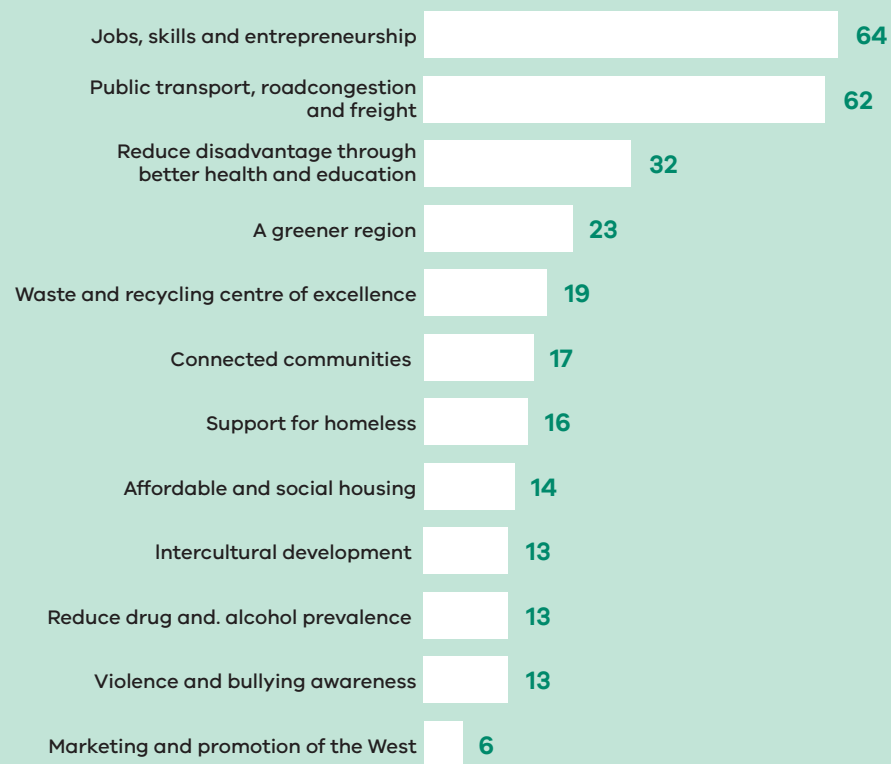
- jobs, skills and entrepreneurship
- public transport, road congestion and freight
- reduce entrenched disadvantage through better health and education services.

For the 21 young leaders and students from the West who attended the Youth Forum the most important issues to them were:

- violence and bullying awareness
- reducing the prevalence of drugs and alcohol
- support for homeless people

The Western Metropolitan Partnership's vision for the region is that: *'all residents will be able to live, work, learn and play close to home, enjoying the unique places and cultures offered by the region'*.

Top priorities from the Western Metropolitan Assembly



The Western Metropolitan Partnership's advice

The Western Metropolitan Partnership advice to the Government focused on:

1 Jobs and skills

A diverse and sustainable offering of rewarding jobs close to where people live and a population appropriately skilled and capable of adequately performing these jobs.

2 Public and active transport, road congestion and freight

An integrated transport network that addresses existing and future growth; increased reach and strength of the public and active transport network to improve liveability providing measurably real, meaningful and equitable access to employment, health, education and other services; consolidating and further developing the West as a central hub for freight and logistics while promoting liveability.

3 Health and education

A reduction in entrenched disadvantaged through better health and education services improving health and well being, particularly for children and women at risk, and those at risk of chronic diseases.

4 Connected communities

Inclusive and creative region that embraces and capitalises on the cultural and social diversity of its people.

5 Waste, greening and environmental sustainability

Liveable and well-planned suburbs which incorporate open spaces, trees and appealing landscapes that respond to climate change.

We received the Partnership's advice in September 2018, and we're responding in various ways, through:

- existing programs and services
- support for further investigation of issues using the Metropolitan Partnerships Development Funds
- new initiatives funded in the Victorian Budget 2019–20.

This Report Back provides an overview of the Partnership's advice on regional priorities and key issues raised by your communities, our response and other actions we're taking.



Beretola Samuel



Jobs and skills

The Western Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for a diverse and sustainable offering of rewarding jobs close to where people live in the region and a population appropriately skilled and capable of adequately performing these jobs



What you said

“There needs to be a business hub in the West, that would help with not only jobs but transport, the environment and communities.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“Elevate the voice of business.” ASSEMBLY

“Local jobs are the highest priority as this will also help alleviate traffic congestion.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“I would like to see strategies to support the growth and development of small business in the West.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“We need more local jobs to match population growth.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“There is untapped potential in other industries in health and education. This also needs to be matched to skills development, so the workforce is ready.” ASSEMBLY

What we’ve heard

The Partnership’s advice focuses on a jobs program for the West, promoting employment and training on major infrastructure projects, and developing information technology skills for young people.

The Western Metropolitan Partnership has told us that the West has higher than average rates of unemployment with youth unemployment at 17.3 per cent in the western suburbs (Brotherhood of Saint Laurence, 2016). Many workers are transitioning out of manufacturing jobs and 55 per cent of the region’s workers commute outside the region for work (higher than the Melbourne average of 50 per cent). There are significant areas of disadvantage and the region faces a rapidly growing population.


The Partnership sees significant opportunities for employment for the West in the growth of Tullamarine Airport, the new airport rail link, and the development of Footscray as a professional services provider to

the region. A Jobs and Skills Plan for the West is being developed by the Government, Councils and LeadWest, and potential job clusters have been identified in Plan Melbourne Refresh.

At the Youth Forum, young leaders from the West raised the need to provide employment opportunities for young people. At the community Assembly participants chose jobs, skills and entrepreneurship as the top priority. They underlined the connection between access to jobs with access to, and availability of, transport and health infrastructure.

Changing the image of the West was a theme that emerged at the Youth Forum and Assembly, with suggestions about shaping the future by developing jobs in areas not traditionally associated with the region, such as tourism. Assembly participants recommended creating employment precincts to share the ideas and creativity of the community.

How we’re responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
<div></div> <p>Implement the Jobs in the West Identification Program through partnering with WOMEDA, Victoria University and other parties. The program will help better understand what jobs will be created and where workers will come from</p>	<p>The Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions developed a draft Jobs and Skills Framework for the West in collaboration with the Western Partnership and Victoria University. The department will continue to work with the Western Partnership on options to finalise and implement this plan.</p> <p>The West of Melbourne Economic Development Alliance (WOMEDA) has also received \$200,000 from the Community Support Fund to build a consensus about job development strategies for the West. This grant is administered by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions.</p>	<div>1–4 YEARS</div> <p>DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, PRECINCTS AND REGIONS</p>

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL



Support the creation of local jobs and training on major infrastructure projects through specific reporting on job creation outcomes in the Western Metropolitan Region under the Local Jobs First Initiative

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Victoria's Local Jobs First Policy supports the creation of jobs and training on major projects. Local Jobs First brought together and strengthened the Victorian Industry Participation Policy and the Major Projects Skills Guarantee and created the Local Jobs First Commissioner.

Local Jobs First supports businesses and workers by ensuring that small and medium size enterprises are given a full and fair opportunity to compete for both large and small government contracts, helping to create job opportunities, including for apprentices, trainees and cadets.

The Major Projects Skills Guarantee requires all construction projects valued at or over, \$20 million to use Victorian apprentices, trainees or cadets for at least 10 percent of the total estimated labour hours. This includes major construction projects in the Western Metropolitan Region such as the forthcoming New Footscray Hospital, Level Crossing Removals and the West Gate Tunnel Project.



The Local Jobs First Commissioner advocates for businesses, workers, apprentices, trainees and cadets, ensuring that they continue to benefit from Victorian Government procurement. The Local Jobs First Commissioner is advocating for local business involvement in Local Jobs First applicable projects including those in the Western Metropolitan Region.



The Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions is continually working to improve reporting processes to better understand the economic and jobs opportunities flowing from major government procurement to the state, including the Western region.

TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT

1-2 YEARS

DEPARTMENT
OF JOBS,
PRECINCTS
AND REGIONS

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>COLLABORATIVE PROJECT Youth Jobs in St Albans – IT Security Technicians conducted in collaboration with Victoria Polytechnic. The objective is to train up 50 local youth per year in a field that is growing and provides good quality jobs on an ongoing basis. The Partnership looks to engage under-represented and disadvantaged groups from migrant communities</p>	<p>Through the Workforce Innovation and Training Fund, the Department of Education and Training provided seed funding to Victoria Polytechnic in November 2018. The project partners are currently developing the next stage of the projects.</p>	<p>1–4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING</p>
 <p>ADVOCACY Support the location of a new hospital in central Footscray, co-located with a university campus</p>	<p>The Government has provided \$1.5 billion – the largest ever health capital investment in this state – to deliver the new 504 bed Footscray Hospital on the corner of Geelong and Ballarat roads in Footscray adjacent to Footscray Park Campus, Victoria.</p> <p>Invitations for the Expressions of Interest process were released on 20 June 2019, marking a significant step in the procurement process. This process will ultimately appoint a qualified and experienced consortium to design, construct, finance and maintain the new hospital.</p> <p>Expressions of Interest are closed, with the process on track to appoint the consortium in 2020. Construction is scheduled to commence in 2020, with the new Footscray Hospital to open its doors in 2025.</p> <p>In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services, Western Health and Victoria University are working together to identify opportunities to include education and research space for Victoria University in the new Footscray Hospital.</p>	<p>4–10 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN AND HEALTH SERVICES</p>

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>ADVOCACY A STEM Centre of Excellence at Footscray Learning Precinct and develop a regional STEM and digital skills infrastructure and educational content plan</p>	<p>The Footscray Learning Precinct will champion excellence in learning and teaching in Melbourne's inner west at all stages of education. The precinct will build on the richness and diversity of the community and will provide opportunities for learning in a whole new way. The precinct will create one new secondary school with three campuses; two junior and one senior campus. It will also include Footscray City Primary School (with a new integrated early learning centre) and Footscray Primary School.</p> <p>Schools in the Western region continue to have access to Victoria's six Science and Maths Specialist Centres, five of which are located in the Department of Education and training's South-Western Victoria region.</p>	<p>12 MONTHS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING</p>
 <p>ADVOCACY A City Deal for Melbourne's West</p>	<p>The Government has signed a City Deal MoU for Geelong and is in the process of finalising negotiations with the Commonwealth. Any further city deals will be subject to future discussion with the Commonwealth after the completion of the Geelong City Deal.</p> <p>The Government is committed to working with the Commonwealth and local governments to deliver the best outcomes for our state. The Government notes the Western Metropolitan Partnerships advocacy on this matter.</p>	<p>ONGOING</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, PRECINCTS AND REGIONS</p>



Public and active transport, road congestion and freight

The Western Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is an integrated public and active transport network to address growth, provide equitable access to jobs, health and education, and consolidate the West as a hub for freight and logistics

What you said

“What young people find frustrating in Melbourne’s western suburbs is that it is not easy to get around on public transport, so we would definitely like to see improvements in the public transport system.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“Coordinate bus and train timetables.” ASSEMBLY

“Encourage more bicycle use.” ASSEMBLY

“I think the Sunshine option for airport rail with links to regional rail is a big opportunity.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“Make bus stops more visible to give more ‘credibility’ with the travelling public.” ASSEMBLY

“Extending public transport options and connectivity is the overriding issue. If people can get about, then health and education services, and employment are accessible.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

What we’ve heard




The Partnership’s advice focuses on integrating the transport network, increasing the frequency and availability of bus services, delivering the Western Interstate Freight Terminal, developing a ‘visitor bike’ experience, and improving access to the Sunshine employment cluster.



There is a heavy reliance on private vehicles in the West. Access to, and use of, public transport is lower than the Melbourne average – only eight per cent of residents rely on public transport to get to work. Active and public transport networks are underdeveloped where there has been rapid growth. In the 2016 Census, there were over 50,000 residents in the growth areas of Melton and Wyndham living beyond walking distance of trains and buses.



The West is a prime location to support the development of freight logistics, transport and manufacturing with its proximity to the Port, airports and major arterials. Most freight arriving and departing from the Port does so via road networks in the West, placing a strain on roads shared by a large and growing medium-density urban area.

The Assembly rated public transport, road congestion and freight as second in their top three priorities. Participants identified opportunities to embrace new and innovative transport forms, to improve access and frequency of public transport services especially buses, and to provide car and bike parking at train stations.

How we're responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>Develop an integrated transport framework for the West to facilitate better long-term planning and integration of transport services and strategies, including integration between local council transport strategies and alignment to major projects</p>	<p>Through the delivery of the \$70,000 Metropolitan Partnerships Development Fund project, the Department of Transport has begun working in collaboration with the Partnership to develop the project plan and define the project scope for a Western Region Integrated Transport Framework. It was agreed that there is a need to develop a common network view that defines functional network roles across the region. A final framework report is due for completion in late 2019.</p>	<p>12 MONTHS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>
 <p>Improve frequency and availability of after-hours and weekend bus services to boost connectivity across the West, starting with completing a business case</p>	<p>The Department of Transport will consider the frequency and availability of after-hours and weekend bus services as part of any future network planning review. This review will consider factors including the likely number of users, suitability of the road network for bus operations, development of a direct and easily understood network, and connectivity with other public transport services.</p>	<p>1-4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>
 <p>Develop and publicise a Visitor Bike Experience for Melbourne's West to promote and encourage greater use of bike paths throughout the region in partnership with Western Melbourne Tourism</p>	<p>In addition to significant rail investment, the Government is promoting active transport in the region including cycling. The Department of Transport will discuss the Partnership's visitor bike experience with Western Melbourne Tourism to assist in developing scope and approach. The Department of Transport supports the use of behavioural change to encourage greater use of bike paths. Train stations in Melbourne's West have some of the highest cycling rates across Melbourne. The 10 busiest Parkiteer cages in Melbourne are in Melbourne's West (Tarneit, Williams Landing, Wyndham Vale, Hoppers Crossing, Laverton, Werribee, Newport, Watergardens, Yarraville, West Footscray).</p>	<p>12 MONTHS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>Progress the delivery of the Western Interstate Freight Terminal through the business case development in consultation with the Partnership</p>	<p>The Victorian Freight Plan, <i>Delivering the Goods</i>, confirmed that a new Interstate Freight Terminal will be located at Truganina. To be known as the Western Interstate Freight Terminal, initial funding has been allocated and work is commencing to establish the project team to prepare the business case and put in place a Public Acquisition Overlay for this major facility and its rail and road connections.</p>	<p>1-4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT</p>
 <p>Progress planning for improved access to Sunshine Precinct commencing with improved connection between Sunshine and the Sunshine Health, Wellbeing and Education Precinct, in consultation with the Partnership</p>	<p>The Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions and the Department of Transport will work on improving access to the Sunshine Precinct commencing with improved connection between Sunshine and the Sunshine Health, Education and Wellbeing Precinct. This will include consideration of road access, major transport infrastructure projects and active transport modes.</p>	<p>12 MONTHS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, PRECINCTS AND REGIONS</p>

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 ADVOCACY Electrification of the railway lines to Melton and Wyndham Vale	<p>The Western Rail Plan sets out the future investments Victoria needs for a fast, high-capacity rail network servicing our growing Western suburbs and growing regional cities.</p> <p>To ensure the Victorian rail network can continue to meet unprecedented demand and enable regional Victoria to grow and be a destination of choice, planning is needed for the following three major connected projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two new electrified metro rail lines through the western suburbs to growth areas in Melton and Wyndham Vale, separating them from the Ballarat and Geelong lines. • A potential connection from Wyndham Vale to Werribee would also be considered. This link could potentially become the western section of the proposed Suburban Rail Loop. • Additional tracks between Sunshine and the CBD to cater for faster and more frequent metro and regional trains. This would most likely be a new tunnel that would be part of Melbourne Airport Rail. • Major investment in the Geelong and Ballarat lines to run trains faster than 160km/h. This will include exploration of electrification of these lines and new, fast electric regional trains <p>Next steps</p> <p>\$100 million from the Victorian Budget 2019–20 is being invested in detailed planning and design work, to deliver the full separation of regional and metro services on the Geelong and Ballarat lines.</p> <p>Staging of the Western Rail Plan is being considered alongside the planning underway for the Melbourne Airport Rail business case.</p>	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT
 ADVOCACY Extend the tram to Footscray (connecting E-Gate and Docklands)	<p>The Department of Transport regularly reviews the tram network to identify improvements that can be made to services and infrastructure, including extension of tram routes. When deciding if a tram route should be extended, a range of factors need to be considered, including patronage, travel time, geography, streetscape activation, running costs, and infrastructure.</p>	<div>1-4 YEARS</div> DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT



Health and education

The Western Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for a reduction in entrenched disadvantaged through better health and education services improving health and wellbeing, particularly for children and women at risk, and those at risk of chronic diseases

What you said

“I would like to see improved learning and employment opportunities for young people, especially those from refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“Improve access to quality education at an affordable price.” YOUTH FORUM

“We need one or more new hospitals to manage for growth, especially in the outer west.” ASSEMBLY

“We need more investment in early parenting services.” ASSEMBLY

“There needs to be greater focus on preventative health, with culturally appropriate responses.” ASSEMBLY

What we've heard

The Partnership's advice focuses on better access to health and education services by building more health facilities and developing a program to support people living with chronic disease.

The Partnership believes that access to a quality health system enables people to fully participate in the community and that an excellent education system reduces the impact of disadvantage.

The Western region has some of the fastest growing local government areas in Melbourne, including Melton, Wyndham and Brimbank. Per capita the West has fewer General Practitioners (GPs) and allied health services sites than the Melbourne average, although it does have a higher number of GP clinics.

The West typically has high levels of 'lifestyle disease', such as cardiovascular disease, obesity and type 2 diabetes. The region also has high rates of young people who are not engaged in either education or employment.

Feedback on the Engage Victoria website and at the Assembly supported better services to assist families and prepare them for the demands of post-natal and early years – providing accessible services and reducing the isolation of young mothers. Mental health was a common topic raised, and support for young people and families was an urgent issue to address, alongside more support for primary health, early childhood staff and aged care workers.

Improving access to health and education services was important to the region's Youth Forum participants to reduce young people's risk of future poor health outcomes. They were concerned about drugs and alcohol and wanted access to healthier food.

How we're responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>Planning for a new hospital that will service the Western Growth Corridor</p>	<p>The Government has committed of \$675 million to build, upgrade or expand 10 community hospitals across the state. One of the 10 has been committed for Point Cook and sites are being considered.</p> <p>The Community Hospitals commitment has a strong focus on integration with local health and community services as well as other local government infrastructure planning.</p> <p>Funding of \$2 million was provided in the Victorian Budget 2019–20 for initial planning and scoping through the establishment of Community Consultation Committees. This includes communications and engagement with key stakeholders for each of the 10 community hospitals.</p> <p>In addition, the Government has committed \$2.4 million in Victorian Budget 2019–20 over two years for delivering the first stage of a new Melton Hospital. Funding will allow planning for a new Melton Hospital to commence, which will increase access to high-quality health services in this fast-growing area. Planning will determine the capacity, range of services, and how it will link into services at other hospitals in the region – including the new Footscray Hospital over the long-term.</p> <p>These commitments are in addition to the new Joan Kirner Women's and Children's Hospital at Sunshine, which opened in May 2019.</p>	<p>4-10 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</p>
 <p>Develop a Centre of Excellence for Parenting in Melbourne's West at the Tweddle Facility in Footscray that facilitates greater support and improved access to parenting services for vulnerable families</p>	<p>The Government allocated \$9 million in the Victorian Budget 2019–20 to refurbish the Tweddle facility at Footscray to improve access to parenting services for all families in the western suburbs. This is part of a \$123 million package for new and upgraded early parenting centres across the state.</p>	<p>1-4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</p>

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>Develop a business case for a Western Centre for Integrated Health Care Clinical Informatics focusing on quality and safety of health care in chronic disease management</p>	<p>The Department of Health and Human Services will continue to work with the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions and the Western Metropolitan Partnership to explore ways to support the aims of the initiative.</p> <p>Planning for the new Footscray Hospital will incorporate this initiative as prioritised by Western Health. Information received from Western Health indicates that the proposed Centre will involve a partnership between Western Health and the University of Melbourne, with the Centre to be housed at the planned Footscray hospital. The Department of Health and Human Services has contacted Western Health to discuss the initiative.</p> <p>The Department of Health and Human Services encourages the Partnership to explore the Metropolitan Partnerships Development Fund or Bettercare Victoria Innovation Fund as potential sources of funding if Western Health and the University of Melbourne are able to establish the Centre prior to the completion of the hospital.</p>	<p>1-4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</p>
 <p>ADVOCACY Support the accommodation needs of young people at risk of, or experiencing homelessness with housing, training, health and other social services (for example, foyers for at risk youth)</p>	<p>The Department of Health and Human Services will work with the Western Partnership to better understand the intent of this advocacy item.</p> <p>There has been recent government investment in accommodation for young people experiencing homelessness in the Western region, including the construction of a youth foyer in the Wyndham area as part of the H3 Alliance, as well as the construction of a youth refuge in Melton. In addition, the Department of Health and Human Services is undertaking a comprehensive evaluation of the recent investments in homelessness services in Wyndham area to inform future investments in homelessness responses. The Department of Health and Human Services will share the evaluation results with the Partnership.</p>	<p>12 MONTHS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</p>

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT



ADVOCACY Availability of adequate mental health services across the entire Western region

The Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Education and Training held a workshop in January 2019 to discuss the coordination of joint work related to mental health, including the implementation of the Mental Health in Schools election commitment and the linkages with other mental health service planning and provision across the Western region.

The Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System has commenced. Chairperson Penny Armytage is leading the Royal Commission and is supported by commissioners Professor Bernadette McSherry, Professor Allan Fels AO and Dr Alex Cockram. The aim of the Commission is to accelerate improvements in access to mental health services, service navigation and models of care. The Commission provides an important opportunity to reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness and promote more inclusive communities throughout Victoria.

Outcomes and recommendations of the Royal Commission will also inform future provision of mental health services across Victoria.

The Commission started hearing about people's experiences with mental illness through community consultations across Victoria in April and May 2019. It is expected to deliver an interim report by November 2019 and a final report by October 2020. The Victorian Government has already committed to implementing all recommendations.

12 MONTHS

DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN
SERVICES



ADVOCACY Support the delivery of a new integrated education and community precinct in Truganina

The Department of Education and Training is contributing to the development of an integrated education and community precinct through the construction of the new build Truganina South East Primary School, which was funded in the Victorian Budget 2019–20 as part of the \$671 million new schools package. Designs are complete, the tender for builders closes in August 2019, and the school is expected to open in January 2021. The school will be part of a community hub, with local council developing an early childhood facility and community sporting facilities.

1-4 YEARS

DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION
AND TRAINING

Connected communities

The Western Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for an inclusive and creative Western region that embraces and capitalises on the cultural and social diversity of its people



What you said

“The young people in our region felt that the most loved feature of Melbourne’s West is its culturally diverse community.”

ASENDE SINGEHEBHUYE, COPPERFIELD COLLEGE STUDENT, REPORTING TO THE ASSEMBLY ON HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YOUTH FORUM

“Don’t just say ‘we’re cool and funky’. Create pathways that allow cool, funky, creative, intelligent people and industries to come in and they do the marketing for us!” ASSEMBLY

“I would like to see the West repositioned as a lively, thriving, great community. There’s still a lot of stigma around living here.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“I love the West’s local culture and diversity, and its proximity to central Melbourne and regional/country areas.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“The West has a great community spirit, a young multicultural demographic, an awesome choice of community events, organisations and great food!” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“Melbourne’s West enjoys one of the most culturally diverse demographics. Targeting this market will increase jobs and economic growth.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

What we’ve heard

The Partnership has heard that the cultural diversity of the West is widely regarded as its primary strength – the community is proud of it.




The Partnership’s advice focuses on creating community hubs to enhance cultural expression, health outcomes and employment; and on developing the identity of the West by celebrating cultural diversity.


The West is experiencing an unprecedented influx of new residents from within Australia and overseas. While some existing communities have historically strong social ties, living in a new country can be challenging and can lead to a sense of social isolation.

The Partnership believes the latent potential in the region’s creative arts scene would benefit from increased exposure and incentivised funding. Also, there is an appetite in the West for multi-use community spaces that support community events, markets and food places where people can gather together and celebrate their culture.

A consistent theme across the 2018 engagement was the need to grow the community’s pride, celebrate cultural diversity and create more opportunities for the community to come together. Participants at the community Assembly described a region brimming with human capital and innovative ideas – something often overlooked in media coverage. They identified opportunities to promote the region’s assets as a centre of creativity and innovation, nurture and promote the ideas of young people, and create centres of excellence at higher education institutions. At the Youth Forum, participants identified the need to improve the portrayal of young people in the media to address the stigmatisation of people from culturally diverse backgrounds.

How we're responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>COLLABORATIVE PROJECT Create a multifunction community hub for library, learning, arts, culture and intercultural engagement in Footscray in partnership with Maribyrnong City Council</p>	<p>The Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions has undertaken work for the proposed redevelopment of the Footscray Library, with the Stage One Feasibility Study now complete. Maribyrnong Councillors were briefed on options for the redevelopment in August 2019.</p>	<p>12 MONTHS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, PRECINCTS AND REGIONS</p>
 <p>Funding for a Health and Wellbeing Hub in St Albans to replace existing leisure centre in partnership with Brimbank City Council and developers</p>	<p>Sport and Recreation Victoria has worked with the Department of Health and Human Services to provide advice and expertise to Brimbank City Council to further develop the proposal. The local Department of Health and Human Services office is continuing to work with Council on the health component of the proposal.</p>	<p>1-4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF JOBS, PRECINCTS AND REGIONS</p>
 <p>Develop an urban destination campaign for the West to celebrate its cultural diversity</p>	<p>The Department of Premier and Cabinet is currently supporting a number of initiatives that support the community and social cohesion in the Western region. The Department's Multicultural Affairs and Social Cohesion branch will work with the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions and the Western Partnership to better understand the intent of the initiative and provide strategic advice to support the project design and delivery.</p>	<p>12 MONTHS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET</p>

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>Develop a business case for a residential therapeutic facility to support young people in the West on a pre-sentence intervention pathway toward securing employment and education opportunities</p>	<p>The Department of Justice and Community Safety funds a number of projects that support high risk young people through a therapeutic model to access employment, education and social connection. These projects target pre-sentence interventions and work with families and communities to keep young people at home and connected. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a diversion program run by YSAS for young people in the West, North and South • the Youth Junction and Jesuit Social Services Crime Prevention project in Sunshine and broader Brimbank area • a Melton Crime Prevention Project • a Centre for Multi-Cultural Youth and Jesuit Social Services Crime Prevention project in Wyndham. 	<p>DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY</p>
 <p>Funding for the Werribee Support Services Hub as part of the Wyndham Justice Precinct, a designated three-hectare greenfield site which is part of the East Werribee Employment Precinct</p>	<p>This project is being led by Court Services Victoria.</p> <p>To date there have been public and service system consultations to determine demand and scope the possible model of provision.</p> <p>The model takes into account the need for an integrated relationship between courts, support services, prisons, the Department of Justice and Community Safety services and Community Correctional Services.</p>	<p>1-4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY</p>
 <p>ADVOCACY Planning and development of the Melton Justice Precinct</p>	<p>The Department of Justice and Community Safety has recently opened a Justice Service Centre at Melton, which provides a wide range of Justice services and co-located community support services to the community.</p> <p>The Department acknowledges Melton City Council's advocacy for a justice precinct at Toolern.</p>	<p>1-4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY</p>

Waste, greening and environmental sustainability

The Western Metropolitan Partnership's desired outcome is for liveable and well-planned suburbs in the West, which incorporate open spaces, trees and appealing landscapes that respond to climate change

What you said

“Promote the use of renewable energy.”

YOUTH FORUM

“We have to embrace technology to reuse our waste rather than dispose of it. For example, use of tyres/plastic bags etc to make roads, generating energy from our landfills, incentives to attract these kinds of industries to the west. Connect the supply and make it happen!” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“Link the environment with health and wellness through active transport and activity.” ASSEMBLY

“We need a plan for leafy green streets across the west.” ENGAGE VICTORIA WEBSITE

“We will know we are successful when there is ... more community pride and understanding of waste and consumption issues and of government policy settings and programs.” ASSEMBLY

What we’ve heard

The Partnership’s advice focuses on ways to increase the amount of, and use of, open space.



The Partnership’s advice focuses on completing a business case to develop a Centre of Excellence for Waste and Resource Recovery, and creating liveable and well-planned suburbs with open spaces, trees and appealing landscapes.



A significant amount of Melbourne’s waste flows to landfill in the West, and the amount of waste to landfill is set to increase with population growth. The Partnership believes the West has an opportunity to improve recycling practices and showcase innovative and best practice approaches to waste management and disposal through a Centre of Excellence.

The West could further benefit from enhanced urban green spaces and tree canopy cover enjoyed by other parts of Melbourne. Open spaces and trees are valued because they contribute to liveability, community wellbeing and improved physical and mental health.

Feedback from the community emphasised a strong desire to increase funding for open spaces and promote the importance of parks and open space. Assembly participants commented on a lack of education about the environment and waste with many people recycling incorrectly. They identified opportunities for the region in recycling, and the need to reduce the region’s reliance on landfill. Regional representatives at the Youth Forum spoke about promoting renewable energy, increasing the number of green spaces, trees and parks, and improving environmental sustainability.

How we're responding

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>Complete development of a business case for a Centre of Excellence for Resource Recovery that will showcase best practice sustainability and provide investment and employment opportunities for the region</p>	<p>A business case is being prepared for the Centre of Excellence, to support the development of the Whole-of-Government Circular Economy Policy 2020. This will be funded through the Recycling Industry Strategic Plan 2018.</p>	<p>12 MONTHS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, LAND, WATER AND PLANNING</p>
 <p>Deliver Greening the Pipeline Zone 5 – integrated stormwater, landscaping and park infrastructure for 3.8 kilometres of the Main Outfall Sewer reserve</p>	<p>Greening the Pipeline aims to transform the heritage-listed Main Outfall Sewer pipeline reserve, along the Federation bike path, into a parkland to service a growing population in Melbourne's west. The Government committed \$1 million to Greening the Pipeline project in 2018-19 through the Growth Infrastructure Contribution Fund, in addition a further \$8 million was committed in the Victorian Budget 2019-20 to build Zone 5 between Lawrie Emmins Reserve and Skeleton Creek. Partner funding is supplementing the Government's investment including \$1 million from City West Water, \$300,000 from Melbourne Water and \$400,000 from the Wyndham City Council.</p> <p>Key timelines for this project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept design and master planning for Zone 4, including community engagement has begun with estimated completion in December 2019 • Detailed design for 2.8km of Zone 5. Estimated commencement in March 2019 and completion in December 2019 • Permits and approvals for Zone 5 including: Heritage Victoria, Indigenous Heritage, Melbourne Water, VicRoads, Wyndham City Council and utilities. Estimated commencement in May 2019 and completion in December 2019 • Contribution to the Zone 5 on-ground construction, including an integrated stormwater harvesting system, landscaping and community open space infrastructure. Construction is scheduled to commence in 2020 and be completed during 2020-21. 	<p>1-4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, LAND, WATER AND PLANNING</p>

PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	TIMEFRAME + LEAD DEPT
 <p>COLLABORATIVE PROJECT Greening the Streets to deliver several tree street planting and urban cooling projects across the region, and link to the Department of Justice Native Tree Propagation and Community Work Program</p>	<p>Plan Melbourne implementation Action 91 'A WoVG approach to cooling and greening' has mapped vegetation coverage and areas vulnerable to urban heat across the Metropolitan region. This work will inform the vegetation priorities in the Land Use Framework Plans, planning scheme changes and greening public land. This work can inform the identification of priority locations for street trees and urban cooling priority projects (2019–2020). Delivery is subject to budget for possible planting projects in 2020.</p>	<p>1–4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, LAND, WATER AND PLANNING</p>
 <p>Ensure green infrastructure is within scope of significant transport and infrastructure projects in the West and provide demonstration at the Yarraville Gardens Integrated Water Management and Irrigation Project</p>	<p>The Government is creating a ring of parkland in our growing suburbs. In the Victorian Budget 2019–20, the Government committed \$154 million funding for 6,500 hectares of new parklands.</p> <p>Greening our streets and suburbs contributes to liveability. Through Plan Melbourne, the Government is taking a whole-of-government approach to cooling and greening by mapping vegetation coverage and areas vulnerable to urban heat across Melbourne. This work will inform vegetation priorities in the Land Use Framework Plans, planning scheme changes and greening public land. The work can identify priority locations for street trees and urban cooling projects in 2019–20.</p> <p>In response to the 2017 advice of the Metropolitan Partnerships, the Government committed \$0.3 million for a metropolitan open space strategy to adopt a proactive and strategic approach to open space and park planning.</p> <p>Significant green spaces are planned as part of the Westgate Tunnel Project and there is a commitment to work with councils, communities and environmental groups to develop new and upgraded open spaces.</p>	<p>1–4 YEARS</p> <p>DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, LAND, WATER AND PLANNING</p>

Pick My Project

Another way we have encouraged participatory decision-making in the West 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 West have nominated local priorities, identified local projects and got them delivered. Pick My Project has 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.

In the Western region a total of \$2.8 million of funding was allocated across 25 successful projects.

Successful projects include:

- Cafe Sunshine – A social enterprise cafe
- Sunshine Silos Projection Project
- Outdoor LED Video Screen for Events
- Inclusive Playground
- Spotswood Primary School Kitchen Garden
- Tipping Point – Footscray City College
- The Medical Pantry Project
- Bike Track for Kids
- School Oval Upgrade – Community Use
- Footscray Community Bike Shed
- Creative Advocacy + Training for Young People
- NewGen 180
- Point Cook Town Centre Community Park
- Saltwater Dog Park, Point Cook
- Sensory and Sustainable Garden
- Community Multi-Purpose Athletics Facility



Creating connections in the heart of our town centre

The Point Cook Town Centre Community Park will provide an outdoor focal point for the community to connect and help provide ongoing vibrancy and atmosphere for the surrounding traders.

The space will be used for markets, festivals, local arts and cultural activities that will showcase talents within the broader community, create community connection and enhance local economic activity.

This successful Pick My Project is designed to create connections in the Point Cook community.

Appendix 1

Western Metropolitan Partnership members

Peter Dawkins

CHAIR

Vice-Chancellor and President, Victoria University

Peter has had leadership roles with the Victorian Government as Secretary of Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and Deputy Secretary of Economic and Financial Policy, Department of Treasury and Finance.

Elleni Bereded-Samuel

Diversity Capability Development Manager, Australian Unity

Elleni has recently been appointed to the Multicultural Business Ministerial Council and is a non-executive Director on Western Health Board. Among other Commonwealth board appointments, Elleni served as Commissioner of the Victorian Multicultural Commission for six years and was appointed to The Women's Hospital Board.

Rhyll Dorrington

CEO, Western Chances

Rhyll has over 20 years of experience working in the not-for-profit sector, including eight years as the CEO of Western Chances, an organisation that supports financially disadvantaged young people in Melbourne's west. Among other education and training, Rhyll has completed the Executive Program for Nonprofit Leaders at Stanford University.

Anna Reid

Regional Manufacturing Operations Manager, Asahi Beverages

Asahi Beverages includes factories in Laverton and Tullamarine. Anna is a leader in the manufacturing sector and was awarded 2015 Young Manufacturer of the Year at the Victorian Government's Manufacturing Industry awards.

Aaron van Egmond

CEO, Hobsons Bay City Council

Aaron commenced as CEO at Hobsons Bay City Council in June 2018. He has been a strong leader in the Victorian local government sector for 15 years, starting at Towong Shire council as Director of Development Services overseeing economic development, tourism, local laws, planning, building, environmental health and major projects.

Bryan Lancaster

CEO, Moonee Valley City Council

Bryan has been CEO of Moonee Valley City Council since 2015. Bryan graduated as a civil engineer and worked in the private sector, designing and constructing infrastructure, before spending nearly 40 years in local government.

Helen Morrissey

CEO, Brimbank City Council

Helen commenced as CEO at Brimbank City Council in December 2017. She has almost 30 years of experience in local government, working previously as Brimbank's Director for Community and Corporate Relations. Helen has held positions as General Manager of Corporate Services at Maribyrnong City Council and earlier in her career had a variety of roles in community services and corporate areas at Darebin City Council.

Kelvin Tori

CEO, Melton City Council

Kelvin holds a Bachelor of Economics and Politics and has over 30 years of experience in local government. Kelvin was the General Manager Corporate Services at Melton City Council for eight years prior to moving into the position of CEO in May 2011.

Kelly Grigsby

CEO, Wyndham City Council

Kelly has worked in local government for over 15 years, within the human services, community development, strategic and statutory planning areas, having held a number of general manager and director level positions. Kelly has been Wyndham's CEO since September 2015.

Stephen Wall

CEO, Maribyrnong City Council

Stephen's local government career spans more than 19 years, working in six different councils in three different states. Stephen has held a range of senior executive roles, including CEO at three councils, which includes his current role as CEO Maribyrnong City Council since October 2014.

Welcome to new members who recently joined the Western Metropolitan Partnership:

Michael Lim

**Manager, YLab
Youth Engagement Manager**

A youth engagement manager with a range of experience responding to health, education and social issues in Melbourne's Western region. Michael manages YLab, the co-design and consulting team at the Foundation for Young Australians, and has previously served as CEO of CHASE, an organisation devoted to improving health literacy in Melbourne's West.

Karen Jackson

**Director, Moondani Balluk
Indigenous Academic Unit,
Victoria University**

Karen is a Yorta Yorta woman with more than 20 years' experience working directly with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, families and community organisations in Melbourne's Western region. Karen is the Director of the Moondani Balluk Indigenous Academic Unit at Victoria University, and serves as a board member for the Footscray Community Arts Centre and the Wyndham Aboriginal Community Centre.

Chris Gooden

**Vice President, local sports club
Business owner, Seddon Deadly Sins**

A local business owner in Seddon for the last 16 years, Chris has been involved in community service his whole life. Chris is Vice President of a local sports club for LGBTIQ community members and works as a mentor for Vincent Care's Ozanam Community Centre. Christopher was named Maribyrnong Council Citizen of the Year in 2019.

Anthea Harris

**Victorian Government
representative**

Anthea Harris is Deputy Secretary of the Energy Group within the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. Prior to this, Anthea was Lead Deputy Secretary of Strategy and Planning Group at the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources. Anthea was previously CEO of the Climate Change Authority, held senior roles within the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, led the Secretariat for the National Emissions Trading Taskforce and held positions with the Victorian Department of Premier and Cabinet, Frontier Economics and at the Productivity Commission.

Thank you to the following outgoing members of the Western Metropolitan Partnership who helped developed the 2018 advice:

Alex Cockram

Board Director, Epworth HealthCare Group

Alex was Chair of the Western Metropolitan Partnership throughout 2018. Alex is the former CEO of Western Health, Victoria. She is a Board Director of Epworth HealthCare Group, a psychiatrist by training, and a clinician and leader in mental health and acute care. Alex is also an Associate Professor and Honorary Principal Fellow at the University of Melbourne Department of Psychiatry. Alex was recently appointed to the role of Commissioner for the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System.

Luke Wilson

Former Victorian Government Representative

Luke Wilson is now Victoria's Cross Border Commissioner. Luke was previously the Lead Deputy Secretary, Corporate Services in the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources.

Throughout his career, Luke has held senior roles in the Victorian public service working in the agriculture, resources and energy portfolios. In each of these roles Luke has led policy development on many of the key issues facing Victoria's agriculture and forest industries, including productivity growth, land use planning, drought, social licence and other drivers of value and adjustment in Victoria's industries and communities.

Anne Barker

Chair, LeadWest's Board

Anne Barker was the Chair of LeadWest's Board from 20 July 2016 to 30 June 2018. Anne also held the role of commissioner of the Victorian Building Authority. She was Managing Director of City West Water for 13 years and has held senior management positions in a number of companies including Myer, ANZ and SPI PowerNet. She has also been the Chair of Whitelion Open Family Australia since 2011.

James Fitzgerald

Chartered Professional Engineer

James is a Chartered Professional Engineer with experience designing and delivering major civil projects. He was previously Director of Members, Supporters and Business Development and a Board Director at Engineers Without Borders Australia, Australia's largest humanitarian engineering organisation.

Christopher Campbell

CEO, Citywide Services Solutions

Chris is CEO of Citywide Services Solutions, a community-focused civic amenities, infrastructure and environmental services business. Chris has extensive experience in transformation, business growth, and strategy. Chris is currently also the Chair of Citywide North Melbourne Asphalt Plant.





Find out more and get involved

How can I find out more?

Visit our website

www.suburbandevelopment.vic.gov.au/partnerships/metropolitan-partnerships

Email your question

western.partnership@djpr.vic.gov.au

Visit MyVictoria

www.myvictoria.vic.gov.au

Visit Pick My Project

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/western-metropolitan-partnership

