Our priorities

Western Rail Plan

Melton City Council is seeking a commitment from the State Government to deliver the electrification and duplication of the Melton rail line, and the separation of the Ballarat rail line by 2025-2026. We’re also seeking that the delivery of three new stations (Hopkins Road, Paynes Road and Calder Park), and a commitment to acquire land for these new stations, be added to the Plan, along with upgrades to Melton Station to improve all-abilities access, safety and urban amenity, including the construction of further car spaces in addition to the 100 committed in the 2019/2020 State Budget.

Council is also seeking a commitment for the removal of level crossings at Calder Park Drive and Robinsons Road, as key priorities of the Western Rail Plan.

Sunbury line upgrade

The State Government committed to a $2.1 billion Sunbury Line Upgrade in the 2019/2020 Budget, which will deliver:

• power upgrades between Sunbury and the Metro Tunnel entrance near South Kensington Station
• platform extensions at 10 stations between Sunbury and Footscray, and
• wheelchair boarding platforms at eight stations.

Melton City Council is seeking train stabling upgrades at Sunbury, Calder Park and Watergardens, along with upgrades to stations along the Sunbury line so that new, high capacity Metro trains can be rolled out as part of the upgrade.

Public Transport: Rail

The Western Rail Plan is a significant State Government initiative that will provide a sleek and efficient public transport network to service Melbourne’s fast growing west.

A thriving community where everyone belongs

Shaping a City for the future

Over the next 20 years, the City of Melton will become Melbourne’s fastest growing municipality, presenting the unrivalled opportunity to shape a community that’s fresh, ambitious and in command of its own destiny.
Advocacy Priorities

The City of Melton is one of Australia’s fastest growing municipalities in one of the country’s fastest growing regions.

Roads & Freight
Efficient road network and freight infrastructure

Western Highway
An upgrade to this critical national road link

Prevention of family violence
Violence prevention programs, support and facilities

Early Years Education
An equitable early years education program for every child

Public Transport: Rail
An efficient and frequent public rail system

Public Transport: Rail
An efficient and frequent public rail system

Western Highway
An upgrade to this critical national road link

Health Precinct
A 24 hour public hospital and state-of-the-art health precinct

A Tertiary Experience
A local tertiary and TAFE learning environment

Primary, Secondary & Specialist Schools
State-of-the-art educational institutions

Sports & Recreation
Critical infrastructure and vital sport and recreational facilities

Public Transport: Buses
A more frequent and better connected bus network

Our municipality offers the unique opportunity to establish a new benchmark for growth and development, where services and infrastructure are planned and delivered in line with population growth. Council calls on the State and Federal Governments to support the City of Melton as it manages this growth, and capitalise on the significant opportunities to deliver best practice infrastructure and services to a young, progressive community.
Introducing the City of Melton

The City of Melton offers an outstanding mix of urban and rural lifestyles. Located 19 kilometres northwest of Melbourne’s CBD, the City covers an area of 527.3 square kilometres, and boasts modern housing developments, international award-winning wineries, fantastic eateries, and world-class golf and sporting facilities.

With a population that’s expected to reach around 500,000 by 2051, the City of Melton features opportunities for business and residential development, and is strategically situated on the national freight route to Adelaide.

With connections to major ports and national freeways, the City of Melton is the ideal location for a broad mix of residential development, employment, commercial and recreational investment.

Melton City Council manages the challenges faced by our rapidly growing population by advocating for state-of-the-art educational facilities, health infrastructure, public transport and roads.

By fostering a culture that promotes innovation, values efficiency, and adopts a strategic approach to understanding the needs of our diverse residents, we are shaping a City that is both economically and environmentally sustainable, and somewhere people aspire to live, raise a family and run a business.

Cultural diversity

40,000 Residents born overseas

Top six countries by birthplace: India, Philippines, UK, New Zealand, Malta and Vietnam

Residents

164,984 Current population (2019)
284,579 Projected population (2031)
485,061 Projected population (2051)

Median Age

Melton 33
Victoria 37
Melton South 57%
Taylors Hill 41%

Families with children

Melton 20%
Victoria 24%

Couples without children

Melton 80%
Victoria 76%

Growth

5.4% Annual growth rate

52 Babies born per week

52 Families moving in per week

Housing

$1,538 Median household weekly income

Median house price

$520,395 (municipality)
$490,000 (Melton South)
$661,000 (Taylors Hill)

20% Households renting

52,000 Number of households (2019)
158,000+ Number of households (2051)

Economic

8614 Number of local businesses
71,619 Number of employed residents
6.7% Unemployment rate (Melton)
4.7% Unemployment rate (Victoria)

March 2019
This map represents the urban growth boundaries and projected residential growth areas for the City of Melton.
Melton City Council invites the State and Federal Governments to partner with us to deliver transformational infrastructure and services that support job creation, commercial investment and outstanding liveability.

Our advocacy priorities reflect a municipality on the move — a City that’s ready to build its own future.

This document highlights our strengths, articulates our ambitions and outlines the opportunities we offer to those ready to build the premier community of tomorrow.
Key Transformational Projects Underway

Funding for key infrastructure projects is critical to improving the liveability of a municipality like the City of Melton. The State Government has acknowledged the need to support our City’s growth by delivering public infrastructure that includes a plan for a public hospital in Cobblebank, rolling out new schools across the City, and planning important public transport upgrades, all of which positively impact our community and makes the City of Melton attractive to residential and commercial investors alike.

Melton Hospital

It’s been well documented that a new public hospital in Melton is the critical piece of community infrastructure needed to ensure the ongoing health and wellbeing of our fast-growing City. Nearly two decades of rapid, sustained population growth, and increased demand on existing health services, support the case that an additional hospital in Melbourne’s outer west must be operational no later than 2026.

The State Government has provided $2.4 million in funding to develop a business case for a new hospital in Melton. Council is highly appreciative of the collective work of local members and the State Government for this significant commitment, and is keen to work across all levels of government and the private sector, to ensure our residents have access to the best health care facilities possible.

Ballarat Rail Line Upgrade Project

The half a billion dollar allocation to upgrade the Ballarat rail line in the 2016 State Budget has gone a long way to improving train service reliability not only within the City of Melton, but beyond to key regional areas including Ballarat and Ararat.

The project includes the duplication of 18 kilometres of track between Deer Park West and Melton, construction of a new station at Cobblebank between Rockbank and Melton, and the redevelopment of Rockbank railway station, including platform extensions, pedestrian link and a new car park.

This project is critical to enable more peak services by providing more passing lanes and platforms along the existing train line.

Half a billion dollar allocation to upgrade the Ballarat rail line in the 2016 State Budget
Western Rail Plan

The Western Rail Plan is a significant State Government initiative that will facilitate the electrification of the Melton rail line, and subsequent separation from the Ballarat rail line, to provide a sleek and efficient public transport network to service Melbourne’s fast growing west.

The plan also has the potential to triple the Melton rail line’s carrying capacity, and will create seamless connection into the new Melbourne Airport Link and the Metro Tunnel. The result? Increased traffic efficiency and accessibility to the CBD, and the transformation of Melton into an interchange station with access to both metro and regional trains.

The plan has the potential to triple the Melton rail line’s carrying capacity, and will create seamless connection into the new Melbourne Airport Link and the Metro Tunnel.

Education Delivery Program

To ensure that children in new suburbs can go to school locally, the Victorian Government has commenced a rollout of new primary and secondary schools within the City of Melton.

In 2019, a new primary school opened in Burnside, and funding was allocated for the construction of Eynesbury Station Primary School and Rockbank North Primary School in the 2019/2020 State Budget.

With a budget inclusion for land acquisition in the Victorian State Budget 2019/2020, additional schools will continue to be planned and delivered in our municipality.

The Victorian Government has commenced a rollout of new primary and secondary schools within the City of Melton.

Community Infrastructure Projects

Fast growing municipalities with new and emerging suburbs like the City of Melton, rely on the timely delivery of community, sporting, health and early learning facilities, to ensure residents have access to the infrastructure they need to lead healthy and productive lives.

Projects of this magnitude, however, require significant funding and a coordinated partnership approach not only from all levels of government, but also major developers.

Melton City Council has delivered an impressive portfolio of major community infrastructure projects over several years, facilitated by generous contributions from the State and Federal Governments.

Council embraces the opportunity to work collaboratively across all levels of government and is appreciative of the ongoing support and acknowledgement we receive for the work we undertake across our City.

We believe by working together to deliver priority projects, we are building a healthier, more connected community, and a stronger, more liveable Victoria.

Melton City Council seeks a commitment from both the State and Federal Governments to continue to support the substantial growth with financial support for critical community infrastructure.

Melton City Council has delivered an impressive portfolio of major community infrastructure projects over several years, facilitated by generous contributions from the State and Federal Governments.
Cobblebank

The suburb of Cobblebank, located within the Toolern Metropolitan Activity Centre, will serve the region as a major hub for shopping, services, food and entertainment, and is located right next door to a future employment area featuring office space, warehousing, big box retail and light industry.

Located some 30 kilometres from Melbourne’s CBD, this jewel in the Toolern Metropolitan Activity Centre crown will feature 20,000 dwellings, a population of around 55,000 and approximately 22,000 jobs.

The State Government has identified Cobblebank, and the Toolern Metropolitan Activity Centre, as the second highest ranking activity centre in Melbourne, surpassed only by the CBD.

Public investment in infrastructure has the potential to not only deliver a new hospital and health precinct to Cobblebank, but also a justice precinct, tertiary offering, early learning centres, six-court highball stadium, primary and secondary schools, upgraded roads, public transport and a major commercial precinct.

Melton City Council has an outstanding record in the early delivery of community, sporting, health and early learning infrastructure, particularly in emerging communities like Cobblebank. We set the standard and are leaders in strategic planning and designing communities for the future.

The Bridge Road Recreation Precinct is a shining example of Council’s commitment to investing in infrastructure that helps the community thrive and prosper. It includes the Western BACE (Business Accelerator and Centre for Excellence), Bridge Road Children’s and Community Centre, regional playspace, recreation reserve, and athletics and hockey facilities, enabling Council and third party providers to offer programs and services based on continuous improvement, innovation, wellbeing and learning.
Melton City Council means business and jobs

Local jobs creation is paramount in ensuring the future prosperity, economic and environmental sustainability, of our municipality.

To date, employment growth within the City of Melton has been outstripped by residential growth, with 75 per cent of residents currently travelling outside the municipality for work each day.

This presents outstanding opportunities for new and established businesses to tap into a highly skilled labour force searching for gainful employment closer to home.

More than 75 per cent of residents currently travel outside the municipality for work, each day.

Local workers boast skills across all sectors, including retail, manufacturing and construction but increasingly in emerging industries including health care, education and training, supply chain and logistics.

Exciting greenfield opportunities are also available within the municipality, and Council will work with all relevant government agencies to attract commercial investment that capitalises on exciting opportunities in emerging industries identified by Business Victoria, including:

- Medical technologies and pharmaceuticals
- Health Care
- New energy technologies
- Food and beverage
- Transport technologies
- Defence technologies
- Construction technologies
- Sport and tourism

Local manufacturing business
Local hospitality business

To date, employment growth within the City of Melton has been outstripped by residential growth, with 75 per cent of residents currently travelling outside the municipality for work each day.
Despite nearly two decades of sustained residential and commercial development, the City of Melton is still home to pockets of beautiful landscape, rare grasslands, unique fauna, forests, and waterways. Council is committed to protecting and enhancing these natural environments for future generations, and reducing the ecological footprint of our facilities and services.
A region ripe for investment

The City of Melton currently has 10 approved Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs) that guide the development in key residential and industrial areas within the municipality, with a further 11 PSPs still to be developed, five of which include major employment precincts. Each PSP allows for the development of areas for future employment, with several offering significant employment opportunities:

- **Mount Atkinson and Tarneit Plains**
  - Provides approximately 19,000 jobs in identified industrial, commercial and retail precincts. The employment generated by this PSP will contribute to the State Significant Western Industrial Node.
- **Toolern**
  - Facilitates approximately 22,000 jobs through a massive 490 hectare employment and mixed-use, regionally significant Metropolitan Activity Centre, and other commercial precincts. These employment areas within the Toolern PSP provide for a variety of commercial, office, service industry and industrial jobs.
- **Plumpton, Rockbank, and Rockbank North**
  - Major Activity Centres are located across these approved PSPs, and provide significant employment opportunities in both the retail and community sectors, servicing around 50,000 residents, each.

**Western Interstate Freight Terminal (WIFT)**

The Western Interstate Freight Terminal (WIFT) is a significant regional infrastructure project proposed for Truganina, in the southeast of the municipality. Establishing this interstate rail freight terminal and warehousing precinct will have an extremely positive effect on local job creation and an increase in commercial productivity.

Part of the Commonwealth Inland Rail Project, the Victorian Western Growth Corridor Plan and Victorian Freight Plan—Delivering the Goods, the WIFT will dramatically improve efficiencies in local, national and international freight movement by bringing local warehouse precincts closer to freight terminals, and limiting the number of trucks and trains required to transport interstate freight into the Dynon Precinct in Port Melbourne.

The WIFT is a critical infrastructure project that will create investment and employment opportunities in warehousing and logistics, industries perfectly suited to the vast land availability and connectivity of the City of Melton.

People and workforce

A booming population offering a rapidly increasing customer base and a local skilled workforce searching for gainful employment closer to home.

Connectivity

Located 19 kilometres from Melbourne’s CBD on the national freight route to Adelaide, the City of Melton has connections to major ports and national freeways, and opportunities to expand on existing public transport networks.

Strategic planning

Thriving communities are built from careful planning. Both the State and Federal Governments have an unprecedented opportunity to shape the City of Melton, and positively impact the lives of thousands of residents, particularly in the areas of transport, education and jobs creation, with 11,300 hectares of land zoned for residential and commercial development.

Unrivalled opportunities

The City of Melton’s full potential has yet to be realised. With affordable land and key business precincts readily available, both public and private investors can actively shape a community named Victoria’s fastest growing economy over the past decade.
Our development is so much more than bricks and mortar. Our community is evolving at its very core; establishing an identity that is unique to us: welcoming, progressive, diverse and vibrant. Melton City Council is proud to host a number of events that promote harmony, diversity, and foster a sense of community.
Advocacy Priorities

The City of Melton’s growth represents not only exciting opportunities, but also significant challenges. Despite all the headway we’ve made, there is still work to be done, and this guides our advocacy priorities.

The fact sheets in the front pocket of this document detail Council’s key priorities for our municipality, outlining opportunities for the State and Federal Governments to fund and deliver transformational infrastructure that will shape the lives of thousands of Victorians.

Public Transport
Deliver efficient and accessible public transport through the Western Rail Plan, Sunbury Line upgrade, and new bus routes.

Roads
Upgrades Western Highway to urban, standard and commit to a second Outer Western Region Arterial Roads package that includes roads within the municipality.

Education
Provide innovative, state-of-the-art education facilities including tertiary and TAFE offerings, primary, secondary, specialist schools, and early learning facilities to prepare every child, of all abilities, for the future.

Health and human services
Design, acquire land and build a new, cutting edge public hospital to deliver much-needed health services not only to the City of Melton’s growing population, but beyond to regional centres. The City of Melton also calls for the localised provision of a Support and Safety Hub (Orange Door), and accommodation for allied health services, within the municipality.

Recreation
Provide sporting and recreational facilities to increase positive health outcomes for our residents.

Councillors and Wards

Cambridge Ward
- Cr Steve Abbaschi
  0437 337 800
  steve.abbaschi@melton.vic.gov.au

Cambridge Ward
- Cr Garan Kesic
  0437 241 436
  garan.kesic@melton.vic.gov.au

Cambridge Ward
- Cr Kathy Majdlik
  0412 584 058
  kathy.majdlik@melton.vic.gov.au

Watts Ward
- Cr Lara Carli
  0409 801 920
  lara.carli@melton.vic.gov.au

Watts Ward
- Cr Michelle Mendes
  0437 249 824
  michelle.mendes@melton.vic.gov.au

Coburn Ward
- Cr Ken Hardy
  0437 228 867
  ken.hardy@melton.vic.gov.au

Coburn Ward
- Cr Sophie Ramsey
  0437 564 987
  sophie.ramsey@melton.vic.gov.au

Coburn Ward
- Cr Yvonne Sabire
  0423 822 581
  yvonne.sabire@melton.vic.gov.au

Coburn Ward
- Cr Bob Turner
  0412 564 224
  bob.turner@melton.vic.gov.au