

### MEDIA RELEASE

#### 5 February 2021

# Jobs, investment, and connectivity: Council's plan to transform the City of Melton

More local jobs and greater investment in the local economy is the focus of Melton City Council's submissions to the state and federal budgets.

Council has outlined a list of key priorities such as the Melton Hospital, a new western freight precinct, electrification of the Melton Line, and progress on the Outer Metropolitan Ring.

City of Melton Mayor Cr Kathy Majdlik said the city's skilled and growing workforce was ready to support transformational projects for the outer west.

"With our population set to triple to half a million people in the next 30 years, our potential is ready to be unlocked," Cr Majdlik said.

"Our budget submission centres on strategic investment in transformational projects of state and national significance and creating long-term jobs that last beyond the construction phase.

"A new freight precinct, better road and rail connections and fully funding the Melton Hospital will have wide-reaching impacts, especially during a time of economic recovery.

"Delivering the transformative projects we've outlined will attract commercial investment that has the potential to create more than 70,000 jobs.

"Now is the time to invest in major projects that ensure the City of Melton has a diverse and resilient economy that provides a mix of employment opportunities for a booming workforce.

"In recently years, the state and federal governments have invested in key transformational projects in the City of Melton, and it's critical that these partnerships continue as we become Melbourne's fastest growing municipality."

In its submissions, council is seeking funding from both levels of government on the Western Intermodal Freight Precinct; the Outer Metropolitan Ring, Western Highway upgrade, public transport improvements including the electrification of the Melton Line, Melton Hospital works (beyond initial planning and early works), and TAFE and tertiary education.

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Council is also seeking additional commitments from the state government for the Melton Highway upgrade, training and education, allied health, prevention of family violence, and more.

#### **ENDS**

Melton City Council media enquiries (not for publication): Kylie Kitchen – Media and Communications Officer on 0427 595 552.