

21.0205/03/2015
C134**KEY ISSUES AND INFLUENCES**

There are a number of key land use issues which are important to the future development of Moonee Valley. These can be summarised as:

Settlement and Housing

- Population growth and demographic change (such as an ageing population and a decline in household size).
- Lack of affordable and accessible housing.
- Maintaining a good level of amenity for residential areas.
- Providing clear direction on suitable locations for housing growth.
- The imbalance in dwelling mix in some parts of the municipality.

Sustainable Environment

- Protecting and managing ecologically significant areas to ensure their environmental values for future generations.
- Protecting and managing the municipality's creeks, waterways and wetlands to ensure their environmental and /or recreational value for the enjoyment of future generations,
- Promoting the important habitat role of vegetation, including established trees and gardens on private property.
- Managing the predicted impacts of climate change, including more extreme weather events such as flooding, intense storms, extended droughts and heatwaves.
- The need to ensure that development is undertaken in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Built Form

- Balancing sustainable and good quality design with the protection of local heritage.
- Protecting places and precincts of local heritage significance from inappropriate development.
- Protecting the quality and character of existing residential areas from pressure associated with urban consolidation.
- The need for the urban environment to be designed to improve safety and surveillance, and promote health and wellbeing.

Economic Development

- The need to support and strengthen economic development within appropriate locations.
- The lack of a clear identity and focus for many of the individual shopping centres.
- The need to retain core retail function and appropriate retail mix within activity centres.
- The lack of a clear focus or role for many of the municipality's activity centres and commercial areas.

- Developing a balanced local economy and local employment opportunities for residents.

Transport

- The need to provide integrated transport options to reduce the reliance on the car.
- Providing infrastructure for walking and cycling.
- Increasing traffic congestion from a growing population and significant residential growth in neighbouring municipalities.
- Good public transport options in the south and east of the municipality, with an uneven distribution of public transport options throughout the municipality, particularly in the west.
- Managing the movement of freight and industrial traffic through the municipality to minimise local impacts.

Infrastructure

- An uneven distribution of open spaces throughout the municipality, particularly in the south.
- The lack of linkages between areas of open space.
- The need to provide open space and recreational opportunities that meet the changing needs of the community.
- The need for an adequate range of educational, health and community facilities.
- Ageing infrastructure such as drainage, footpaths and roads.
- Some areas of municipality are prone to flooding.
- The provision of infrastructure to meet the needs of the existing and future community.
- Providing well-designed community facilities in convenient locations throughout the municipality.
- The need to manage the quality and flow of water from new or intensified development.