[OBJECTIVE]

Place

GREAT PLACES AND SPACES
Maintain and enhance our public spaces, buildings and infrastructure.
‘Place’ describes the buildings, structures and spaces in which we live, work, shop and play. It is about our surroundings, how we interact with and move about within them. ‘Place’ also shapes our interactions with others and influences the quality and frequency of our social and economic activities. ‘Place’ is dynamic and influenced by many factors, most notably the aspirations of landowners and statutory approval systems that are governed through State and sometimes Federal decision making.
**We will maintain and enhance our public spaces, buildings and infrastructure through the following key directions:**

3.1 **Preserve and improve Banyule as a great place to live, work and play**
3.2 **Renew and maintain Banyule’s public assets and infrastructure**
3.3 **Invest in and support activity centres and employment precincts**
3.4 **Provide great public and open spaces**
3.5 **Support sustainable transport**

“The Council Plan sets a strategic blueprint for the future and works toward a shared vision with the community. We continue to preserve Banyule’s treasured environment with its native bushlands, and celebrate our heritage, including our place in Olympic history, while balancing the need to absorb a growing population and changing demographic in our area. With all these pressures and challenges, we look to ensure our services, infrastructure and open spaces are adapting to the changing needs of our City and making the most of the opportunities.”

Cr Craig Langdon
3.1

Preserve and improve Banyule as a great place to live, work and play

Our focus areas

We will:

3.1.1 Facilitate high quality design and planning outcomes that support the preferred character of residential neighbourhoods and emerging identity of activity centres, employment precincts and renewal areas.

3.1.2 Facilitate diverse housing and sustainable development outcomes in activity centres, neighbourhood centres and employment precincts as the best places for more people to live, work and play.

3.1.3 Encourage the community to contribute to the greening of Banyule.

3.1.4 Create Age-friendly places and spaces that encourage people of all ages to stay connected to their community.

Key Initiatives

- Uphold the principles as set out in Banyule’s Neighbourhood Character Strategy and work with and advise new applicants on the best way in which to sensitively develop property in Banyule, including:
  - Improve communication to residents and developers in relation to neighbourhood character outcomes.

- Monitor the effectiveness of the Neighbourhood Residential Zone in the Banyule Planning Scheme and consider implications from any government review of this zone.

- Commence Banyule Heritage Study to identify places of local heritage significance and provide recommendations for their inclusion on the Heritage Overlay.

- Continue to apply Council’s environmental sustainable development (ESD) policy that is now in the Banyule Planning Scheme and continue advocacy with other councils for further improvements to the Victorian planning system.

- Continue to apply Council’s Liveable Housing Guidelines to improve the accessibility of new housing.

- Continue planning with the Victorian State Government for the La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster for:

What you said (wish list):

“Ensure housing density is kept at a fair and sustainable level given parking, traffic, open space etc.”

Feedback from community member
- Land use and transport planning framework for the Cluster
- Economic development for the Heidelberg West Business Park
- Housing renewal and diversity for Heidelberg West, including co-housing
- Reimagined Heidelberg Railway Station Precinct and a reviewed Heidelberg Structure Plan.

• Participate and pursue Planning Scheme Amendments to implement the outcomes of continued planning with the State Government.
• Continue planning with the Government for the Yarra River’s corridor, including input into the Yarra Strategic Plan.
• Review the Planning Scheme to improve the efficiency of decision making that is aligned with Council policies, strategies and plans for land use and development.
• Continue to apply universal design (access for all) principles to Council’s infrastructure and facilities, including: council buildings, furniture and furnishings, and public toilets.

3.2

Renew and maintain Banyule’s public assets and infrastructure

Our focus areas

We will:

3.2.1 Renew and maintain Council owned buildings so they continue to be at appropriate standards, ensuring their long term sustainability and efficiency.

3.2.2 Renew and maintain roads, drains and other infrastructure to a standard which ensures public safety and protects the natural environment.

Key Initiatives

• Maintain and further enhance the city’s streetscapes and parkland trees for future generations.
• Deliver a program of facility improvements, including:
  - Loyola Reserve
  - Glenauburn Reserve
  - Banyule Flats Reserve
  - Montmorency Park North Oval
3.3 Invest in and support activity centres and employment precincts

Our focus areas

We will:

3.3.1 Support and maximise opportunities provided through the La Trobe Employment Cluster project to deliver enhanced liveability and economic activation

3.3.2 Monitor and respond to the vitality of our retail, entertainment and commercial precincts

3.3.3 Work in partnership with trader associations and business to build their capacity, independence and success

3.3.4 Support activity centres to enhance their identity and ability to respond to challenges and opportunities

Key Initiatives

- Work with the State Government and other key partners to maximise the outcomes and opportunities associated with the emerging La Trobe National Employment Cluster.
- Further develop and strengthen the capacity of our traders associations to manage their associations and engage meaningfully with businesses and Council.
- Use the Banyule Economic Information Base to implement business investment, retention and attraction initiatives.
- Explore further opportunities for Community Hubs which are inclusive of Aged Services, and which reflect the principles of Age-Friendly Banyule.
- Implement actions of the Banyule Economic Development Plan.
- Continue to support local shopping centres through the Special Rates and Charge schemes.
- Continue shopping centre maintenance and beautification, including:
  - Commence Rosanna Village streetscape improvements
  - Progress designs for the beautification of Montmorency Village
  - Carry out minor improvements in Main Shopping Centres.
  - Shopping Centre and Toilet Cleaning.
- Implement investment attraction initiatives that position Banyule’s business precincts as vibrant and competitive commercial centres.
3.4
Provide great public and open spaces

Our focus areas
We will:

3.4.1 Provide and maintain beautiful open space across Banyule for a range of uses and activities
3.4.2 Provide and maintain public spaces that have quality and accessible public amenities
3.4.3 Provide suitable spaces for the community to gather and look for opportunities for new and shared spaces and facilities.

Key Initiatives
- Implement the renewed Open Space Plan, including:
  - Develop a public realm plan for the Ivanhoe Activity Centre
  - Continue to upgrade and extend the shared trail network in Banyule
  - Ongoing development and implementation of reserve masterplans.
- Manage Council’s open spaces, including:
  - Maintain parklands, sporting ovals, and fire breaks
  - Implement the Pedestrian Bridge Replacement program, including:
    - Complete the replacement of the Olympic Park bridge
    - Replace decks with a non-slip surface on pedestrian bridges and boardwalks located in between Chelsworth Park and Wilson Reserve
  - Construct improvement works for the bridge located across Darebin Creek at the rear of Willowbank Grove, Heidelberg (in partnership with neighbouring council)
  - Detailed design plan for the George Court bridge in Greensborough to eliminate potential damage from flooding and enhance community safety.
- Renew Council’s open space assets including playgrounds, BBQ, and furniture in accordance with Council’s adopted Assets Plans.
- Continue to deliver a co-ordinated across Council approach to dealing with the increasing problem of rubbish dumping in parks and other public places.
- Maintain and improve equipment for sporting facilities, including:
  - Deliver the all seasons cricket pitch replacement program (synthetic sports pitches)
  - Deliver a 5-a-side soccer pitch at Malahang Reserve
  - Install disc golf infrastructure at Warringal Parklands
  - Improve the tennis facilities at Bundoora, St Mary’s, Rosanna and Chelsworth Park Tennis Clubs.
- Review the footpath trading policy to support smoke free areas.
- Assess new opportunities for improving access to existing spaces and facilities.
- Ensure that planning and development of Banyule’s public and open spaces is informed by the principles of Age-Friendly Banyule.
- Increase, enhance and improve public open space where appropriate to cater for Banyule’s projected increases in population growth and density.
- Deliver Stage 1 of the Olympic Park Masterplan.

What you said:
“Love the parks in the area, keep them like this”
“Great to keep parklands clean and free from infrastructure.”
“We need to have good open space as yard sizes decrease.”
Feedback from community member

What you said:
“Ford Park - improved a lot lately, loving it, would like to see more people using it”
Feedback from community member
3.5
Support sustainable transport

Our focus areas
We will:
3.5.1 Deliver integrated transport solutions
3.5.2 Provide shared trails that help to link key public open spaces and community facilities
3.5.3 Encourage walking, cycling and public transport use
3.5.4 Improve parking management in and around activity areas.

Key Initiatives
- Implement the appropriate actions identified in the Banyule Integrated Transport Plan which:
  - Identifies key actions and projects that other key stakeholders, particularly the State Government, will need to progress to help deliver this vision, including:
    - Improving the level of service and access to public transport for all users
    - Addressing safety and amenity on Rosanna Road
    - Duplication of the Hurstbridge railway line to improve service frequency and reliability
    - Providing input to the Victorian Planning Authority’s work on transport planning for the La Trobe National Employment Cluster
    - Pursue the best local transport outcomes from the North East Link Project.
  - Considers access to transport, informed by principles according to the World Health Organisation (WHO) Age Friendly Guidelines, and taking into account the needs of people of all abilities
  - Advocate for increased investment in sustainable transport and for improvements to public transport operation and infrastructure that will benefit local residents.
- Continue the off-road path renewal and development of the Banyule Shared Trail Network (for walking and cycling) through the implementation of the Northern Regional Trails Strategy (NRTS) and the shared trail asset management plan, including:
  - Implement an advocacy plan for the priority projects in the NRTS in conjunction with regional partner councils
  - Continue upgrade of the Darebin Creek Trail from Banksia Street to Dougherty Road
- Complete the installation of wayfinding signage along the Darebin Creek Trail
- Develop detailed designs for future shared trail projects
- Renew shared trail feeder paths.
- Renew pathways in reserves and bushland.
- Implement the actions of the Banyule Walking Strategy
- Implement travel behaviour change programs to improve walking, cycling and public transport use in priority areas, including:
  - Continue to implement the Green Travel Plan for Council’s operations
  - Co-ordinate promotional events about Sustainable Transport to raise awareness and increase uptake, including Ride to Work, Ride to School, Walk to School
  - Identify suitable locations for bicycle parking facilities to promote and improve bicycle travel opportunities
  - Develop and implement a strategy for seats and shelters at bus stops.
- Introduce parking management techniques to encourage appropriate availability of spaces in areas of high demand, recognising parking as a finite resource.
- Implement recommendations from key activity area parking plans.

What you said (wish list):
“Walking/cycling tracks that link up the suburbs for functional use, not just recreational, will help people to move away from a reliance on cars”
Feedback from community member
STRAIGHTIC INDICATORS
How we will measure our performance against this objective is detailed in Appendix A - Strategic Indicators.

SUPPORTING PLANS
This objective is also supported by a range of current plans.

- Banyule Planning Scheme
- Municipal Strategic Statement
- Housing Strategy
- Neighbourhood Character Strategy
- Heritage Strategy
- Drainage Policy
- Safe Travel Plan
- Asset Management Strategy
- Banyule Bicycle Strategy
- Activity Centre Parking Plans
- Banyule Residential Parking Permit Policy
- Banyule Walking Strategy
- Banyule Integrated Transport Plan
- Urban Design Guidelines, frameworks and concept plans
- Substantial and Significant Tree Strategies
- Activity Centre Structure Plans
- Road Management Plan
- Streetscape plans
- Public Open Space Plan
- Urban Forest Strategic Plan
- Banyule Public Toilet Plan
- Banyule Economic Development Plan.
- La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster Framework Plan