



IMAGINE  
THE YARRA

# DRAFT YARRA STRATEGIC PLAN

## PUBLIC CONSULTATION

### SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

<b>Submission Number:</b>	214934
<b>Name (Individual/Organisation):</b>	Yarra Riverkeeper Association
<b>Attachments:</b>	Attachment 1 – Survey submission



## **New Form submission on Help us shape the final 10-year strategic plan for the Yarra River**

Hi [YarraStrategicPlan@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:YarraStrategicPlan@melbournewater.com.au)

There has been a submission on [Help us shape the final 10-year strategic plan for the Yarra River](#) through Engage Victoria

A copy of the submission is provided as below:

### **Part 1: Working toward the Community Vision**

**1a. Do the four, 10-Year Performance Objectives adequately reflect the 50 Year Community Vision?**

No

**1b. Please outline your reasoning for this opinion (optional)**

The Performance Objectives and Actions need to be specifically time-bound and cumulative.

**2a. Are the actions identified to deliver the 10-Year Performance Objectives achievable, realistic and measurable?**

Unsure

**2b. Please outline your reasoning for this opinion (optional)**

**3a. Which specific actions do you think will be easiest or most challenging to deliver?**

Protecting the natural beauty of the Yarra river corridor in the face of a rapidly expanding Melbourne will be the most challenging.

**3b. Why do you think this?**

With growing population comes the inevitable increasing impact of climate change and urbanization, That includes the effect of the rapid expansion of hard surfaces such as roads and roofs on our waterways and the consequent stormwater pollution. This pollution kills that macroinvertebrates that are the base of the food chain. The plan does not include specific quantitative indicators such as turbidity index that will numerically measure the health of the river

**4. What do you/ your organisation think is the greatest opportunity the Yarra Strategic Plan presents? Please rank the following statements in order of importance from 1 -4**

Improving water quality of the Yarra River and protecting land, floodplains and billabongs - 2

Acknowledging, protecting and commemorating the rich heritage of the Birrarung - 4

Improving the river's parklands to support community wellbeing - 1

Protecting the significance of the Yarra River's landscapes and views - 3

**5. Do you feel the draft Yarra Strategic Plan has put appropriate actions in place to ensure delivery on the aspirations of Traditional Owners?**

Somewhat

**6a. Are there key priority areas of land you think should be added to the parkland network along the Yarra River?**

No

**6b. If you answered Yes, where are these key priority areas of land and why do you think they**

**should be added?**

Although briefly addressed in the Central City component, Royal Botanical gardens should be of the upmost key priority area of land.

## **Part 2: Land Use framework**

**7. The Land Use framework aims to put the Yarra River at the heart of future planning and development decisions. What is your / your organisation's view about the Land Use framework?**

It is critical that the plan recognizes the conflict between disturbance and habitat fragmentation on the one hand and access to the river on the other. Suitable planning tools need to be included in the plan to clearly define what is to be protected and where activity nodes are appropriate.

For each land use or development there should be an environmental impact assessment that explores the environmental, social and economic benefits against said development.

**8a. Do you believe the Land Use directions will support the 50 Year Community Vision?**

Somewhat

**8b. Why do you think this?**

The plan has highlighted key development areas and notable projects such as Fisherman's Bend and Metro Tunnel but does not specifically state how the Yarra will be protected against possible effluent run-off and specific damages associated with such development projects.

**9a. Do you agree with the Land Use directions for the Yarra River?**

Somewhat

**9b. Please outline your reasoning for this opinion (optional)**

**10a. Do you believe that the 13 significant places identified for the river corridor reflect the most regionally significant locations?**

Somewhat

**10b. Why do you think this?**

Southbank entertainment and food complex presents a modern area of significance for the local economy of Melbourne. In addition, it's a key source of attraction but also pollution and litter.

**11. Do you agree with the opportunities identified for the significant places that you connect with?**

Somewhat

**12. Do you have any further ideas about how the Plan may provide for the cultural/spiritual/environmental care and protection of the Yarra River over the next ten years, whilst also working toward achieving the 50 Year Community Vision?**

Have legally binding and specific environmental indicators and pollution quality measurements that must be met. Whilst the plan is good at highlighting past funding and sponsorship, there should be a guarantee of future funding set aside by existing governmental partnerships.

**13. Finally, what are your overarching thoughts and feelings about the Yarra Strategic Plan?**

We support the aspirations of the Yarra Strategic Plan. The plan defends the river against the twin pressures of climate change and urbanization, using the planning scheme mechanisms and other tools to re-think how we manage the river not only over the 10 years of the plan but also over the next 50 years. The YSP promotes the use of modern governance – collaboration and coordination – to help address issues on the Yarra.



## Upload your submission here

No file specified

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*The Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murron) Act* (the Act) requires:

- *all submissions to be made available for inspection by the public (s24(1)(b))*
- *the lead agency must make a copy of all public submissions on a draft Yarra Strategic Plan, made to the lead agency, available for public inspection - s24(2)*

All submissions will therefore be made available to the public in accordance with the Act.

Melbourne Water, as lead agency, and or DELWP will publish a copy of your submission, in its entirety, on the Imagine the Yarra website or other Victorian Government website/s as required.

In providing your feedback by written submission you agree that the lead agency may provide a copy of your submission, to affected Local Councils, Government Agencies, Panel (if required) and other submitters.

Your submission may also remain on external servers, even after the period of consultation closes and DELWP has removed the relevant pages from the Engage Victoria website.

**Text will be redacted in submissions to remove personally identifying details, and to comply with the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic)*.**

Should you need to correct the information you provided or gain access to your submission, please contact us via email at: [YarraStrategicPlan@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:YarraStrategicPlan@melbournewater.com.au)

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<https://engage.vic.gov.au/index.php/dashboard/reports/forms/viewDetail/2535>

Regards,  
The Engage Victoria Team

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