



# Chain of Ponds

## Moonee Ponds Creek Catchment Collaboration

Update April 2019

### Collaboration meeting 14 February

After a short hiatus in meetings, over 30 Collaboration members reconnected at a meeting in February at Oak Park.

Presentations were provided by Chris Chesterfield on the Waterways of the West Ministerial Advisory Committee and research proposals by the CRC for Water Sensitive Cities. The group also heard from the City of Melbourne (CoM) and the Victorian Planning Authority in regards to the CoM Strategic Opportunities Plan discussed in more detail in the inset of this newsletter.

The governance group provided an update on progress towards the formation of Terms of Reference to provide more structure around the role of the Collaboration and the governance group.

The working group focussed on Strengthening Planning Controls reported that they have received a first draft of a consultant's report which provides a context analysis of the current situation.

The Collaboration determined to establish 3 new working groups around incorporating EcoArts along the corridor, enhancing trail/transport experiences and establishing a catchment litter control program.

The next meeting of the Collaboration is scheduled for:

**Thursday 9 May 2019**  
**9:30am-1pm (followed by lunch)**  
**Council Chambers, Moonee Valley City Council**  
**9 Kellaway Avenue, Moonee Ponds**

As well as discussion on progress of the working groups, the meeting will also include an opportunity to workshop the alignment of the Chain of Ponds Collaboration with the Healthy Waterways Strategy goals and objectives.

As many will be aware, Melbourne Water has taken a collaborative approach to the development and co-delivery of the Healthy Waterways Strategy which was endorsed last October. This strategy is a key document in driving the delivery of Melbourne Waters programs as well as how others can help contribute to the health of our waterways. The strategy is available on the Melbourne Water Your Say page on the following link (catchment):

<https://yoursay.melbournewater.com.au/healthy-waterways>

### DRAFT Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Opportunities Plan (Lower)

Within the City of Melbourne (CoM) municipality, the Moonee Ponds Creek is a unifying north-south spine linking a number of central city urban renewal precincts. It is an under-realised biodiversity and community asset.



The CoM has developed a draft Strategic Opportunities Plan with proposals to revitalise Moonee Ponds Creek with a series of parklands, open spaces and wetlands. This is an advocacy document with projects the CoM has identified as opportunities along the creek corridor. The Plan presents an opportunity to reframe the public realm in the creek corridor as a cohesive piece of green infrastructure that combines ecological and social benefits.

While the CoM does not own or manage the waterways or banks of the Moonee Ponds Creek, it is working closely with Victorian Government partners, land owners, neighbouring councils and community groups to ensure that the creek meets the needs of our current and future community.

The DRAFT Plan is currently available for comment on the Participate Melbourne website and people are encouraged to have their say and contribute to the vision:

<http://participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/moonee-ponds-creek>

Feedback closes **Sunday 28 April**. Following the end of consultation period, feedback gathered will be analyzed and shared with State Government partners at the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA). The VPA will work with all stakeholders, including current landowners, government agencies and the City of Melbourne to form its advice to the Victorian Government about how to move forward with the creek's revitalisation.

Edgars Creek Wetland tour

One of the benefits of the Collaboration is the informal networking and sharing of experiences that happens when people get together.

Following a discussion with Darren Coughlan (City West Water) at the February Collaboration Meeting, Vince Andreana, Moreland's Natural Resource Management Officer, offered to run a tour of the successful Edgar's Creek Wetland project in Coburg North which was completed in 2016.



Vince project managed this partnership project with Melbourne Water and the local community to convert a golf driving range into a stormwater treatment and habitat wetland at the confluence of the Merri and Edgars creeks.

The tour highlighted the immediate habitat, water quality and open space improvements that can be delivered through collaboration between agencies and community. Today, the wetland habitat is not only home to frogs, birds and a host of other plant and animal life, but also a popular local area of bushland for the community.



Have your say

Melbourne Water Pricing Submission

Melbourne Water's price submission process for the 2021-26 period will determine the water, sewerage, waterways and drainage services Melbourne Water will deliver to support our region into the future, and the prices we will charge for those services. Prices include the cost of water and sewerage services provided by MW and delivered by water retailers, as well as the Waterways and Drainage Charge which funds works to manage waterways, stormwater and drainage infrastructure, and provide land development and flood information.

Melbourne Water is working closely with all its customers and community through this process to make sure they continue to create to thriving and sustainable environments, enhance community well-being, and deliver world-class infrastructure, ensuring Melbourne remains a great place to live. The first stage of that is developing a community-led vision and set of values to define the direction of our 2021 Price Submission, and feedback on that draft vision is being invited through the Price Submission YourSay page.

Community greening action

With the onset of the cooler weather and some (hopefully) welcome rains, autumn is the ideal time for communities to get active in greening the corridor, building habitat and enhancing amenity value.

Friends Groups and Councils offer a range of events for people to participate and engage more closely with the Moonee Ponds Creek.

The Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek provide up-to-date information on events on their facebook page and in the quarterly newsletter, Ponderings, which is available on their website: http://mooneeponds creek.org.au



For more information about these projects or the collaboration, please call Lori Arthur, Moonee Ponds Creek Collaboration Lead on 9679 7724 or email mooneeponds.creek@melbournewater.com.au or visit: https://yoursay.melbournewater.com.au/moonee-ponds-catchment-collaboration

