

Williamstown Maritime Precinct Framework

January 2021

The Williamstown Maritime Precinct Framework – Draft report has been developed and informed by feedback from the community, providing insights as to the future of the iconic Williamstown foreshore.

The Framework lays out a vision for Williamstown’s iconic maritime precinct to protect and build upon this thriving area as a premier cultural, maritime and boating destination, centred on the working port as an integral component of the Victorian Ports system.

The vision sees a precinct cultivating economic and social prosperity, offering a contemporary interactive experience for community and visitors to engage, play, socialise and learn about the living culture and maritime heritage, in a safe, well-connected and resilient environment.

The development of a Williamstown Maritime Precinct Framework will guide future uses of the site, including improving public amenity and making the area more accessible for locals and visitors.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

The Williamstown Maritime Precinct is a working port, premier boating and maritime destination and vibrant commercial centre. It is utilised by the local community, businesses, industry operators, recreational and commercial boaters, government and emergency services, tourists and visitors.

Members of the local community and key stakeholders emphasised the need for continued Government support in facilitating public and private investment in the precinct, and a coordinated approach to planning, design and delivery of actions.

We heard that trips to the precinct range from short outings to longer visits, with a range of waterfront tourist attractions, sites and events to enjoy. The precinct is enjoyed by a broad range of people including locals and visitors alike, with each group having different service and functional needs.

The feedback collected from the community and stakeholders in late 2020 made it clear that the Williamstown Maritime Precinct is a beloved area with a rich history and a bright future. Responses to the survey and open house illuminated a variety of challenges, ideas and opportunities.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING AT



**Movement and
Connections**



Place and Heritage



**Environment and
Sustainability**



**Land Use and
Activities**

What you want to keep

- Maritime culture and historical values
- Waterfront access and city views
- Sense of safety and community
- Natural amenity and environment

What you'd like to improve

- Mix of uses by public, yacht clubs, industry incl. BAE facility
- Ageing piers
- Visitor access to maritime activities at foreshore
- Traffic and parking on holidays and weekends
- Mix of walkers and cyclists on crowded paths
- Lack of connectivity between waterfront sites
- Celebrating indigenous heritage
- Safe harbour for ships and maritime assets

What you'd love to see

- More cultural and visitor offerings
- Protect and increase public open space along foreshore
- Increased maritime services and functions
- More public piers
- Green technologies to support precinct operations
- Continuous shared path along foreshore
- More shopping and dining opportunities

THE DRAFT FRAMEWORK

The draft framework has set out the following six directions for the Williamstown Marine Precinct:

- A place of cultural exchange that is meaningful and allows people to share an array of cultural experiences; recognising, celebrating and learning about its indigenous values, past and contemporary heritage and enriching its social capital.
- A functional and celebrated maritime destination, recognised not only as a working port but also a place that visitors can spectate or participate in educational and recreational pursuits around a core maritime focus.
- A compatible precinct, promoting adaptive re-purposing of land and infrastructure assets to maintain the

precinct as a thriving mixed-use space, balancing various user needs.

- A resilient precinct ready to tackle environmental and socio-economic challenges such as climate change through adaptive and practical solutions.
- An area that promotes greater cohesion and linkages between the port and maritime functions and the tourist and recreational facilities on offer.
- An innovative and prosperous precinct that is open to progress and change, whilst underpinning a prosperous and economic base through nurturing skills and trades, education, learning and innovation.

GET INVOLVED

Your feedback will help inform planning for a Williamstown Maritime Precinct Framework that safeguards and protects the future of Williamstown's iconic foreshore. Share your values, insights and aspirations at our online engagement platform.

Feedback closes 5pm 5 March 2021 - Register and share your feedback at:

getinvolved.transport.vic.gov.au/williamstown-maritime-precinct