11.02 URBAN GROWTH

11.02-1 Supply of urban land

Objective

To ensure a sufficient supply of land is available for residential, commercial, retail, industrial, recreational, institutional and other community uses.

Strategies

Ensure the ongoing provision of land and supporting infrastructure to support sustainable urban development.

Ensure that sufficient land is available to meet forecast demand.

Plan to accommodate projected population growth over at least a 15 year period and provide clear direction on locations where growth should occur. Residential land supply will be considered on a municipal basis, rather than a town-by-town basis.

Planning for urban growth should consider:

- Opportunities for the consolidation, redevelopment and intensification of existing urban areas.
- Neighbourhood character and landscape considerations.
- The limits of land capability and natural hazards and environmental quality.
- Service limitations and the costs of providing infrastructure.

Monitor development trends and land supply and demand for housing and industry.

Maintain access to productive natural resources and an adequate supply of well-located land for energy generation, infrastructure and industry.

Restrict low-density rural residential development that would compromise future development at higher densities.

Policy guidelines

Planning must consider as relevant:

- Victorian Government population projections and land supply estimates.

11.02-2 Structure planning

Objective

To facilitate the orderly development of urban areas.

Strategies

Ensure effective planning and management of the land use and development of an area through the preparation of strategic plans, statutory plans, development and conservation plans, development contribution plans and other relevant plans.

Undertake comprehensive planning for new areas as sustainable communities that offer high-quality, frequent and safe local and regional public transport and a range of local activities for living, working and recreation.

Facilitate the preparation of a hierarchy of structure plans or precinct structure plans that:

- Take into account the strategic and physical context of the location.
- Provide the broad planning framework for an area as well as the more detailed planning requirements for neighbourhoods and precincts, where appropriate.
Provide for the development of sustainable and liveable urban areas in an integrated manner.

Assist the development of walkable neighbourhoods.

Facilitate the logical and efficient provision of infrastructure and use of existing infrastructure and services.

Develop Growth Area Framework Plans that will:

- Identify the long term pattern of urban growth.
- Identify the location of broad urban development types, for example activity centre, residential, employment, freight centres and mixed use employment.
- Identify the boundaries of individual communities, landscape values and as appropriate the need for discrete urban breaks and how land uses in these breaks will be managed.
- Identify transport networks and options for investigation, such as future railway lines and stations, freight activity centres, freeways and arterial roads.
- Identify the location of open space to be retained for recreation and/or biodiversity protection and/or flood risk reduction purposes guided and directed by regional biodiversity conservation strategies.
- Show significant waterways as opportunities for creating linear trails, along with areas required to be retained for biodiversity protection and/or flood risk reduction purposes.
- Identify appropriate uses for areas described as constrained, including quarry buffers.
- Include objectives for each growth area.

Develop precinct structure plans consistent with the *Precinct Structure Planning Guidelines* (Growth Areas Authority, 2009) approved by the Minister for Planning to:

- Establish a sense of place and community.
- Create greater housing choice, diversity and affordable places to live.
- Create highly accessible and vibrant activity centres.
- Provide for local employment and business activity.
- Provide better transport choices.
- Respond to climate change and increase environmental sustainability.
- Deliver accessible, integrated and adaptable community infrastructure.

**Policy guidelines**

Planning must consider as relevant:

- Any relevant *Growth Area Framework Plans* (Department of Sustainability and Environment, 2006).
- Precinct Structure Planning Guidelines (Growth Areas Authority, 2009).
- *Ministerial Direction No. 12 – Urban Growth Areas* in the preparation and assessment of planning scheme amendments that provide for urban growth.

**Planning for growth areas**

**Objective**

To locate urban growth close to transport corridors and services and provide efficient and effective infrastructure to create benefits for sustainability while protecting primary production, major sources of raw materials and valued environmental areas.
Strategies

Concentrate urban expansion into growth areas that are served by high-capacity public transport.

Implement the strategic directions within the Growth Area Framework Plans (Department of Sustainability and Environment 2006).

Encourage average overall residential densities in the growth areas of a minimum of 15 dwellings per net developable hectare, and over time, seek an overall increase in residential densities to more than 20 dwellings per net developable hectare.

Deliver timely and adequate provision of public transport and local and regional infrastructure, in line with a preferred sequence of land release.

Provide for significant amounts of local employment opportunities and in some areas, provide large scale industrial or other more regional employment generators.

Create a network of mixed-use activity centres that are high quality, well designed and create a sense of place.

Meet housing needs by providing a diversity of housing type and distribution.

Retain unique characteristics of established areas incorporated into new communities to protect and manage natural resources and areas of heritage, cultural and environmental significance.

Create well planned, easy to maintain and safe streets and neighbourhoods that reduce opportunities for crime, improve perceptions of safety and increase levels of community participation.

Policy guidelines

Planning must consider as relevant:

- The Victorian Transport Plan (Department of Transport, 2008).
- Any relevant Growth Area Framework Plans (Department of Sustainability and Environment, 2006).
- Precinct Structure Planning Guidelines (Growth Areas Authority, 2009).
- Ministerial Direction No. 12 – Urban Growth Areas in the preparation and assessment of planning scheme amendments that provide for urban growth.

11.02-4 Sequencing of development

Objective

To manage the sequence of development in growth areas so that services are available from early in the life of new communities.

Strategies

Define preferred development sequences in growth areas to better coordinate infrastructure planning and funding.

Ensure that new land is released in growth areas in a timely fashion to facilitate coordinated and cost-efficient provision of local and regional infrastructure.

Require new development to make a financial contribution to the provision of infrastructure such as community facilities, public transport and roads.

Improve the coordination and timing of the installation of services and infrastructure in new development areas.

Support opportunities to co-locate facilities.

Ensure that planning for water supply, sewerage and drainage works receives high priority in early planning for new developments.
Policy guidelines

Planning must consider as relevant:

- Any relevant *Growth Area Framework Plans* (Department of Sustainability and Environment, 2006).
- Precinct Structure Planning Guidelines (Growth Areas Authority, 2009).
- *Ministerial Direction No. 12 – Urban Growth Areas* in the preparation and assessment of planning scheme amendments that provide for urban growth.
- *The Victorian Transport Plan* (Department of Transport, 2008).