

Growth areas**Objective**

To locate urban growth close to transport corridors and services and provide efficient and effective infrastructure to create sustainability benefits 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 in the Growth Area Framework Plans.

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 and services, 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.

Provide a diversity of housing type and distribution.

Retain unique characteristics of established areas impacted by growth.

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.

Develop Growth Area Framework Plans that will:

- Include objectives for each growth area.
- 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 constrained areas, including quarry buffers.

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 documents

Consider as relevant:

- *The Victorian Transport Plan* (Victorian Government, 2008)
- Any applicable 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*

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Peri-urban areas

Objective

To manage growth in peri-urban areas to protect and enhance their identified valued attributes.

Strategies

Identify and protect areas that are strategically important for the environment, biodiversity, landscape, open space, water, agriculture, energy, recreation, tourism, environment, cultural heritage, infrastructure, extractive and other natural resources.

Provide for development in established settlements that have capacity for growth having regard to complex ecosystems, landscapes, agricultural and recreational activities including in Warragul-Drouin, Bacchus Marsh, Torquay-Jan Juc, Gisborne, Kyneton, Wonthaggi, Kilmore, Broadford, Seymour and Ballan and other towns identified by Regional Growth Plans as having potential for growth.

Establish growth boundaries for peri-urban towns to avoid urban sprawl and protect agricultural land and environmental assets.

Enhance the character, identity, attractiveness and amenity of peri-urban towns.

Prevent dispersed settlement and provide for non-urban breaks between urban areas.

Ensure development is linked to the timely and viable provision of physical and social infrastructure.

Improve connections to regional and metropolitan transport services.

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Coastal settlement

Objective

To plan for sustainable coastal development.

Strategies

Plan and manage coastal population growth and increased visitation so that impacts do not cause unsustainable use of coastal resources.

Support a network of diverse coastal settlements that provide for a broad range of housing types, economic opportunities and services.

Encourage urban renewal and redevelopment opportunities in existing settlements to reduce the demand for urban sprawl.

Identify a clear settlement boundary around coastal settlements to ensure that growth in coastal areas is planned and coastal values are protected. Where no settlement boundary is identified, the extent of a settlement is defined by the extent of existing urban zoned land and any land identified on a plan in the planning scheme for future urban settlement.

Direct new residential and other urban development and infrastructure to locations within defined settlement boundaries of existing settlements that are capable of accommodating growth.

Support the sustainable management of growth around coastal, estuary and marine assets to protect environmental values, and to achieve regional economic and community benefits.

Avoid linear urban sprawl along the coastal edge and ribbon development in rural landscapes.

Protect areas between settlements for non-urban use.

Avoid development on ridgelines, primary coastal dune systems and low lying coastal areas.

Encourage the restructure of old and inappropriate subdivisions to reduce development impacts on the environment.

Ensure a sustainable water supply, stormwater and sewerage treatment for all development.

Minimise the quantity and enhance the quality of stormwater discharge from new development into the ocean, bays and estuaries.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Victorian Coastal Strategy* (Victorian Coastal Council, 2014)
- *G21 Regional Growth Plan* (Geelong Region Alliance, 2013)
- *Gippsland Regional Growth Plan* (Victorian Government, 2014)
- *Great South Coast Regional Growth Plan* (Victorian Government, 2014)

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Distinctive areas and landscapes

Objective

To protect and enhance the valued attributes of identified distinctive areas and landscapes.

Strategies

Recognise the significant geographic and physical features of these areas.

Recognise the important role these areas play in the state as tourist destinations.

Protect the identified key values and activities of these areas.

Support use and development where it enhances the valued characteristics of these areas.

Avoid use and development that could undermine the long-term natural or non-urban use of land in these areas.

Protect areas that are important for food production.

Develop Localised Planning Statements for the Bellarine Peninsula, Macedon Ranges, Mornington Peninsula and the Yarra Valley and Dandenong Ranges.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Bellarine Peninsula Localised Planning Statement* (Victorian Government, 2015)
- *Mornington Peninsula Localised Planning Statement* (Victorian Government, 2014)
- *Yarra Ranges Localised Planning Statement* (Victorian Government, 2017)