Yarra River protection

Objective
To maintain and enhance the natural landscape character of the Yarra River corridor.

Strategies
Strengthen the Yarra River’s natural environment, heritage and overall health by:

- Protecting the river’s riparian vegetation, natural riverbank topography and flood management capacity.
- Ensuring development does not increase the rate or quantity of stormwater, sediment or other pollutants entering the river.
- Protecting and enhancing both terrestrial and aquatic habitats and their linkages along the river corridor.

Promote a sense of place and landscape identity by:

- Retaining a dominant and consistent tree canopy along the river corridor and in its broader landscape setting.
- Ensuring that the appearance of development is subordinate to the local landscape setting, with any views of development being filtered through vegetation.

Retain and enhance people’s enjoyment of the river and its environment by:

- Planning for the river and its environs as a recreation and tourism resource.
- Ensuring linkages and public access to the river and its parklands are maintained, enhanced and new links created where appropriate.
- Avoiding overshadowing of the river, its banks and adjacent public open space to ensure that the amenity of the public realm is maintained year-round.

Ensure that development is designed and sited to maintain and enhance the river’s secluded and natural environment by:

- Minimising the visual intrusion of development when viewed from major roads, bridge crossings, public open space, recreation trails and the river itself.
- Ensuring that the siting and design of buildings avoids conflicting with the local natural landscape and environmental character.
- Ensuring building height is below the natural tree canopy and all development is set back a minimum of 30 metres from the banks of the river.

Policy documents
Consider as relevant:

- Middle Yarra River Corridor Study - Recommendations Report (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2016)
- Lower Yarra River Corridor Study - Recommendations Report (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2016)