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GEELONG PORT

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Key issues and influences

The Geelong Port is a vitally important resource for the City's economy. It is the second largest port in Victoria with a total throughput of approximately 12 million tonnes in 2004/05 with an estimated value of approximately \$5.6 billion.

Forecast trade growth will place significant demands on port infrastructure capacity requiring potential expansion.

The current availability of suitably zoned land in the port area is critical to the continued viability of the port. Where demand for land cannot be met in the immediate Port environs, the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct offers potential for port related industries to locate.

Efficient freight movements by road and rail within Geelong and beyond are critical to the port's growth and efficiency.

The maintenance of public amenity in surrounding communities needs to be a consideration in context of growth pressures at the port.

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Objectives

- To provide for the continued growth and development of Geelong Port as a key economic resource to the Victorian community.
- To maintain and enhance the efficiency of the port.
- To safeguard the port as a focal point for infrastructure development and economic prosperity within south-west Victoria.
- To ensure that development in the port area is environmentally sustainable.
- To give appropriate weight to the needs of a working port having regard to the amenity of the land uses at the port interface.

Strategies

- To ensure that future development of the port and surrounding industrial land is linked and opportunities protected.
- Protect the port area from encroachment by non-compatible land uses or developments.
- Ensure that sufficient land is available for future port-related developments by discouraging non-port related land use and development.
- Facilitate increased throughput at the port through the development of extended berths at Corio Quay North and South and Lascelles Wharf.
- Facilitate and advocate for growth of the development of the port.
- Discourage further fragmentation of land holdings in the port area where this threatens to close off strategic development options for the port.
- Secure a dual gauge rail connection to Lascelles Wharf and appropriate road connections to the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct and the Geelong Ring Road.
- Ensure that appropriate mechanisms are in place to protect the operation of the port and minimise potential conflicts with surrounding land uses.
- Facilitate and advocate for growth of the development of port related industries in the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct.

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Implementation

These strategies will be implemented by:

Using policy and exercise of discretion

Ensure that subdivision, use and development applications in the Port Zone are port related and port dependent.

Applying zones and overlays

Applying the Port Zone to proposed port facilities.

Further work

Implement the Geelong Port Structure Plan 2007.

Liaise with VicRoads to investigate options for providing direct linkages between the port, the Geelong Ring Road and the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct.

Advocate with the relevant agencies to secure rail links to Lascelles Wharf.

References

Geelong Economic Development Strategy 2005-2010, City of Greater Geelong, 2005.