**Residential capacity and location**

The City has opportunities for significant residential redevelopment for the next 20 years that will cater for the forecast population and housing increase.

Substantial, Incremental and Limited change areas are identified on the Framework Plan that forms part of this Clause.

**Housing growth area framework**

| **Substantial change areas** | Significant redevelopments are proposed for the Maribyrnong Defence Site (MDS), Kinnears site in Footscray, the former Defence site in Beachley Street, Braybrook, the Bradmill Precinct in Yarraville and the Maidstone Hampstead Road East Strategic Redevelopment Sites. Other smaller sites across the municipality will also contribute to the supply of new housing. |
| **Substantial change activity centres** | In the future the Highpoint PAC and Footscray CAD will assume a stronger role and greater capacity for substantial medium and higher density housing developments. |
| **Incremental change areas** | All other residential areas without heritage significance or an identified residential character that warrants planning protection through specific overlays. |
| **Incremental change activity centres** | The mixed use and residential developments occurring in activity centres will continue and increase. |
| **Limited change areas** | Existing residential areas with heritage significance or an identified residential character that warrants planning protection through specific overlays, and areas with an identified constraint, such as inundation, that necessitate protection through an overlay. The majority of these areas have been identified in Council’s Heritage Study (2001) and neighbourhood character studies. |

The mixed use and residential developments occurring in key activity centres will continue and increase. This will extend housing choice, improve access to infrastructure, services and transport for residents and will help support and broaden the function of centres.

Core employment areas, key passenger and freight transport corridors and major hazard facilities need protection from residential encroachment to maintain their viability and prevent adverse risk and amenity impacts.

**Objective 1**

To provide significant opportunities for new residential development in substantial change areas and substantial change activity centres.

**Strategies**

Determine the form, amount and mix of housing of substantial change areas through site planning.

Ensure the site planning of larger sites facilitates the development of diverse, high amenity precincts which have an identifiable sense of place.

Encourage residential development in substantial change areas to predominantly comprise medium and higher density housing in the form of townhouses; units; apartments; and shop-top dwellings.

Encourage a range of dwelling types and sizes, including affordable housing, to be provided in larger developments.
Ensure new development integrates with existing areas and communities.

Ensure new larger scale developments establish a preferred urban design and architectural character that complements existing areas and creates safe and liveable communities.

Encourage new higher density development to provide space for planting, communal spaces and rooftop gardens to improve amenity and liveability of dwellings.

Ensure developments with sensitive interfaces have a scale and massing that respects the character and scale of their context.

Support developments located away from sensitive interfaces that create a new, higher density urban character.

Ensure development of sites greater than 60 dwellings are well served by public transport, the bike/shared path network, and cater for potential changes to the public transport network.

Encourage higher density residential and mixed use developments within activity centres that are well served by public transport.

Require larger scale residential land redevelopment to contribute to high quality, accessible open space for a range of activities.

Require provision of land for a formal sports reserve and parkland for unstructured recreational activities on the former Maribyrnong Defence Site.

When applying overlays or other planning tools to larger substantial change sites ensure the requirements include:

- provision of a diversity of dwelling types, sizes and tenures
- appropriate provision of community infrastructure and open space
- consideration of public realm improvements and amenity protection at residential interfaces
- preparation of an adverse amenity report
- incorporation of environmentally sustainable design principles.

**Objective 2**

To provide incremental opportunities for new residential development in incremental change areas and incremental change activity centres.

**Strategies**

Ensure development has regard to and clearly responds to preferred character statements and design guidelines for specific neighbourhood character precincts.

Ensure the siting and design of infill development respects the scale, form and siting of surrounding development.

Encourage residential development within incremental change areas to predominantly comprise of low and medium density housing in the form of separate and semi detached houses and in appropriate locations units, shop top dwellings and low scale apartments.

Support low scale apartment developments at locations within key Neighbourhood Activity Centres; they must reflect existing local character in terms of height, mass setbacks and building materials; and provide a sensitive and appropriate interface to adjoining streetscapes, buildings and residential areas.

Support gradual medium density ‘infill’ development, in the form of townhouses, units and shop-top dwellings, located close to transport, activity centres and community infrastructure.

Support smaller scale infill residential development in keeping with the streetscape and character of the centres and their adjacent residential in incremental change activity centres.
Encourage the retention of existing housing that positively contributes to preferred neighbourhood character.

Ensure development in activity centres follows relevant structure plans and urban design frameworks.

Protect areas that contribute to the range of housing choice especially for families and lifestyle choices.

**Objective 3**

In Limited change areas, limit development in residential areas with heritage significance; an identified residential character protected through a specific overlay; and identified constraints, such as inundation, that necessitate protection through an overlay.

**Strategies**

Maintain and enhance these areas and ensure that new development respects the existing heritage values and preferred neighbourhood character.

Ensure the scale, form and appearance of new housing is in keeping with the surrounding development and the heritage and preferred neighbourhood character values of the area.

Support the renovation and redevelopment of single houses as a means of ensuring diversity across the municipality, and providing accommodation for larger household types.

Support a diversity of dwelling types and sizes, including affordable housing, where appropriate.

**Objective 4**

To protect core employment areas, key passenger and freight transport corridors and major hazard facilities from residential encroachment.

**Strategies**

Ensure appropriate buffers are provided between new residential areas and core employment areas, key transport corridors and major hazard facilities.

Incorporate appropriate noise attenuation measures in residential developments adjacent to noise generating sources.

Protect and maintain existing buffers to the core employment areas.

**Policy Guidelines**

Apply the Preferred Neighbourhood Character Statements policy at Clause 22.05.

Request applications for residential development provide an assessment against the preferred character statements included in the local policy Preferred Neighbourhood Character Statements at Clause 22.05.

Request applications for key strategic redevelopment sites and for developments with more than 300 dwellings provide a social impact assessment.

Support the rezoning of strategic redevelopment sites to provide for higher density residential and mixed use development.

Support the Neighbourhood Character Overlay in appropriate areas.

**Housing Diversity and Affordability**

The city has a range of housing comprising detached housing (67%), semi detached (13%), and apartment (20%); this varies across its suburbs. Recent significant developments indicate densities are increasing with more medium density housing forms and some high-rise developments,
particularly within the Footscray CAD. In the future there will be an increasing proportion of medium and higher density housing in the municipality. However, detached housing will remain the predominant form of housing across the municipality.

The existing stock of detached ‘family’ housing (lots greater than 500 sqm) contributes to the diversity and choice of housing available within the municipality, as they can cater for family households and people preferring these forms of housing as part of their lifestyle. It is expected that this stock of housing will reduce as a proportion of overall housing.

The city has been an affordable area offering housing opportunities for a wide range of households and incomes. The increasing popularity of the area and rising housing prices is reducing affordability and housing opportunities for some lower and middle income households. Increasing the supply and diversity of housing opportunities can assist in meeting affordability objectives.

**Objective 5**

To encourage a mix of housing.

**Strategies**

Support increased housing choice by providing a diversity of dwelling types, sizes and tenures.

Ensure new residential developments provide a mix of housing that caters for a range of households, lifestyles, age, incomes and life stages appropriate to the scale and nature of the project.

Encourage larger developments to provide a range of dwelling types and sizes, including affordable housing.

Encourage forms of housing suitable for the needs of an ageing population.

Encourage forms of housing suitable for home based businesses.

Protect areas that contribute to the range of housing choice especially for families and lifestyle choices.

Support the renovation and redevelopment of single houses as a means of providing accommodation for larger household types.

**Objective 6**

To encourage housing affordability.

**Strategies**

Support the provision of social housing, in particular development that improves the distribution of social housing across the municipality.

Encourage public, social and affordable housing in activity centres, close to public transport and as part of developments on strategic redevelopment sites.

Encourage the use of dwellings above shops in activity centres for affordable housing.

Encourage new residential development to provide opportunities for public, social and community based affordable housing.

Increase the overall stock of housing within the municipality, particularly medium and higher density development to ensure greater diversity to meet changing household needs.

Implement social and affordable housing targets at the Bradmill Precinct, Maribyrnong Defence Site and Beachley Street, Braybrook redevelopment sites.

**Policy Guidelines**

Request applications for ten or more dwellings provide an assessment of their housing mix, projected household mix, affordability, and options for including public, social and community affordable housing.
**Student Housing**

Housing is needed for students, and to support the role of Victoria University. Increasingly housing is provided privately as well as directly by the university. The possible closure of the university’s student village in Maidstone will result in the relocation of housing to other areas, such as Footscray CAD.

Many residential developments located within the Footscray CAD provide specialised student housing. However, not all of these developments provide a suitable design, or are speculative and don’t respond to an identified need. Some have been converted to other forms of housing.

The most suitable locations for student housing are within the Footscray CAD and close to the university campuses where students have good access to transport, facilities and services and can contribute to the life of the activity centre.

**Objective 7**

To encourage a sustainable supply of student housing.

**Strategies**

Encourage appropriate student housing in Footscray CAD and close to the university campuses.

Integrate student housing and services into the role, function and life of the Footscray CAD.

Identify and monitor the long term demand and supply of student housing.

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**Caretaker’s Houses**

Industrial areas need to be protected from the intrusion of residential development in the form of inappropriate Caretaker’s Houses.

**Objective 8**

To discourage Caretaker’s houses in the Industrial 1, Industrial 3 and Business 3 zones.

**Strategies**

Discourage Caretaker’s houses, unless it is demonstrated they are a necessary ancillary use to an existing or proposed building, operation or place.

Discourage subdivision of Caretaker’s houses from the use or development to which they are ancillary.

**Policy Guidelines**

Assess proposals for Caretaker’s houses against the following criteria:

- The design of Caretaker’s houses should minimise potential amenity conflicts.
- Caretaker’s houses should not exceed 30% of the total gross floor area of the industrial or commercial building, or 100 sqm, whichever is the lesser.
- Parking at the rate specified in Clause 52.06 should be provided unless it can be demonstrated by a qualified professional that a variation is justified.
Housing Framework Plan

- Areas of substantial change
- Areas of incremental change
- Areas of limited change
- Non-residential land
- Areas prone to flooding
- Industrial Buffer Areas
- Activity Centre Boundaries
- Core Employment Areas
- Train Stations
- PPTN Tram Corridor
- Principal Activity Centre and Central Activity Area