

## 12.05 RIVERS

28/03/2018  
VC145

### 12.05-1 River corridors

21/12/2015  
VC121

#### Objective

To protect and enhance the significant river corridors of metropolitan Melbourne.

#### Strategies

Ensure strategic planning and land management for all river corridors protects their environmental, cultural and landscape values.

Ensure development responds to and respects the significant environmental, conservation, cultural, aesthetic, open space, recreation and tourism assets of all river corridors.

Ensure new development is sensitively designed and sited to maintain and enhance environmental assets, significant views and the landscapes along all river corridors.

Ensure development does not compromise bank stability, increase erosion or impact on a river's natural capacity to manage flood flow.

#### Policy guidelines

Planning must consider as relevant:

- *Guidelines for Approval of Jetties 2011*, Melbourne Water
- *Healthy Waterways Strategy 2013*, Melbourne Water
- Maribyrnong River – Vision for Recreational and Tourism Development (Melbourne Parks and Waterways, 1996)
- *Maribyrnong River Valley Design Guidelines 2010*, Department of Planning and Community Development

### 12.05-2 Yarra River protection

31/03/2017  
VC134

#### Objective

Maintain and enhance the natural landscape character of the Yarra River corridor in which the topography, waterway, banks and tree canopy are dominant features providing a highly valued, secluded, natural environment for the enjoyment of the public.

#### Strategies

Strengthen the 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.

Maintain a sense of place and landscape identity by:

- Retaining a dominant and consistent tree canopy along the river corridor and within 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 avoid contrast 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, or greater, from the banks of the river.

### **Policy guidelines**

Planning must consider as relevant:

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