



Merri-bek
City Council

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday 11 September 2024

Commencing 7 pm

Council Chamber, Merri-bek Civic Centre, 90 Bell Street, Coburg

Language Link

This is the Agenda for the Council meeting.
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ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 9280 0751 ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Acknowledgement of the traditional custodians of the City of Merri-bek

Merri-bek City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways in the area now known as Merri-bek, and pays respect to their elders past, present, and emerging, as well as to all First Nations communities who significantly contribute to the life of the area.

Information about Council Meetings

These notes have been developed to help people better understand Council meetings. All meetings are conducted in accordance with Council's Governance Rules.

WELCOME The Mayor, who chairs the meeting, formally opens the meeting.

APOLOGIES Where a Councillor is not present, their absence is noted in the minutes of the meeting. Council may also approve leaves of absence in this part of the meeting.

DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS INTERESTS A Councillor has a duty to disclose any direct or indirect financial or other interests, they may have in any matter to be considered by Council that evening.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES The minutes of the previous meeting are put before Council to confirm the accuracy and completeness of the record.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND OTHER MATTERS At each Council Meeting provision of 10 minutes will be made in the Agenda for the Mayor and Councillors to acknowledge and recognise achievements of local individuals and organisations; and raise matters considered important to Council.

PETITIONS Council receives petitions from citizens on various issues. Council formally accepts petitions at Council meetings.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME This is an opportunity (30 minutes), for citizens of Merri-bek to raise questions with Councillors.

COUNCIL REPORTS Council officers prepare detailed reports, which are considered by Councillors and a Council position is adopted on the matters considered. The Mayor can invite firstly Councillors, secondly Officers, and then citizens in attendance to identify Council reports which should be given priority by the meeting and considered in the early part of the meeting.

NOTICES OF MOTION A motion which has been submitted to the Chief Executive Officer no later than 12 pm (noon) 10 business days prior to the meeting which is intended to be included in the agenda. The motion should outline the policy, financial and resourcing implications.

NOTICE OF RESCISSION A Councillor may propose a motion to rescind a resolution of the Council, provided the previous resolution has not been acted on, and a notice is delivered to the CEO or delegate setting out the resolution to be rescinded and the meeting and date when the resolution was carried. If a motion for rescission is lost, a similar motion may not be put before the Council for at least one month from the date it was last lost, unless the Council resolves that the notice of motion be re-listed at a future meeting.

FORESHADOWED ITEMS This is an opportunity for Councillors to raise items proposed to be submitted as Notices of Motion at future meetings.

URGENT BUSINESS The Chief Executive Officer or Councillors, with the approval of the meeting, may submit items of Urgent Business (being a matter not listed on the agenda) but requiring a prompt decision by Council.

CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS Whilst all Council meetings of Council are open to the public, Council has the power under the *Local Government Act 2020* to close its meeting to the public in certain circumstances which are noted where appropriate on the Council Agenda. Where this occurs, members of the public leave the Council Chamber or Meeting room while the matter is being discussed.

CLOSE OF MEETING The Mayor will formally close the meeting and thank all present.

NEXT MEETING DATE The next Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 9 October 2024 commencing at 6 pm, in the Council Chamber, Merri-bek Civic Centre, 90 Bell Street, Coburg. The next Planning and Related Matters meeting will be held on Wednesday 25 September 2024 commencing at 6.30 pm.

WELCOME

APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

2. MINUTE CONFIRMATION

The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14 August 2024 and the Special Council Meeting held on 2 September 2024 be confirmed.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND OTHER MATTERS

4. PETITIONS

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

6. ITEM TO BE TABLED UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020

In accordance with section 147(4) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, a copy of the Arbiter's determination and statement of reasons in the matter of Cr Riley and Cr Yildiz is tabled (published separately) and will be recorded in the Minutes of this meeting.

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	<p><i>Pursuant to section 3(1)(g)(ii) of the Local Government Act 2020 this report has been designated as confidential because it relates to private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.</i></p>	

7.5 AMENDMENT C231MBEK - INTRODUCTION OF MOVING AROUND MERRI-BEK TRANSPORT STRATEGY AND THE MERRI-BEK OPEN SPACE STRATEGY - DECISION GATEWAY 2 - CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS AND REQUEST FOR A PANEL

Director Place and Environment, Pene Winslade

City Strategy and Economy

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Using its powers as a planning authority under s23(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, requests that the Minister for Planning appoint an Independent Panel to consider all submissions to Merri-bek Planning Scheme Amendment C231mbek.
2. Endorses the responses to submissions as set out in Attachment 1 to this report to form the basis of Council's submission to an Independent Planning Panel.
3. Endorses the proposed changes to the Amendment documentation at Attachment 2 of this report.
4. Refers any late submissions to the Independent Panel.
5. Authorises the Director Place and Environment to consider any late submissions, make minor changes to Merri-bek Planning Scheme Amendment C231mbek and to give direction on issues which arise in the course of the Panel hearing in response to expert evidence and submissions if required.

REPORT

Executive Summary

Amendment C231mbek seeks to introduce new policy direction from the endorsed *Moving Around Merri-bek* Transport Strategy and the *Merri-bek Open Space Strategy* into the Merri-bek Planning Scheme.

Moving Around Merri-bek is a long-term strategic document that guides the way Council manages and makes changes to Merri-bek's transport system. Council adopted the *Moving Around Merri-bek* strategy at its meeting of 13 March 2024 (Council Report 7.1).

The *Merri-bek Open Space Strategy* will guide the way Council plans, delivers, and maintains open space in Merri-bek. Council adopted the *Merri-bek Open Space Strategy* at its meeting of 10 April 2024 (Council Report 7.2)

Council exhibited Amendment C231mbek from 18 July 2024 to 19 August 2024. The Amendment received a total of five submissions during the exhibition period. This included three submissions supporting the Amendment, and two submissions objecting to the Amendment. The submissions are summarised with an Officer response for each in **Attachment 1**.

This report recommends that Council endorses the changes to the Amendment set out at **Attachment 2**. The report also recommends that Council requests the Minister for Planning appoint an Independent Planning Panel to consider the Amendment and submissions.

Previous Council Decisions

Amendment C231mbek – Introduction of the Moving Around Merri-bek Transport Strategy and Merri-bek Open Space Strategy into the Merri-bek Planning Scheme – Decision Gateway 1 – 10 April 2024

That Council:

1. *Using its powers as a planning authority under ss8A and 8B of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, seeks authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare Amendment C231mbek to the Merri-bek Planning Scheme as detailed in Section 3 of this report and in Attachment 1 to this report.*
2. *Following receipt of the Minister's authorisation, exhibits the Amendment in accordance with Section 19 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 as outlined in the Consultation section of this report.*
3. *Authorises the Director Place and Environment to make changes to the Amendment to ensure consistency with the Council adopted version of the Merri-bek Open Space Strategy.*
4. *Authorises the Director Place and Environment to make changes to the Amendment based on conditions imposed in any authorisation granted by the Minister for Planning and to make minor changes.*

Adoption of New Merri-bek Open Space Strategy – 10 April 2024

That Council:

1. *Endorses as final the Merri-bek Open Space Strategy (Attachment 1) and associated Action Plan (Attachment 2), with the following changes to the Action Plan:*
 - a) *Insert a new action for 2024/25 in the Action Plan under Direction 1: Providing parks close to home and enhancing existing open spaces after action 1.9 to "Prepare a municipal-wide view of priority of gap areas in addition to the suburb by suburb view, in preparation for the refresh of the Park Close to Home Framework"*
 - b) *Amend action 1.10 listed for 2025 to 2029 under Direction 1: Providing parks close to home and enhancing existing open spaces so that it reads "Refresh the Park Close to Home Framework to guide land acquisition and prioritisation of projects across Merri-bek, taking into account the Open Space Background Technical Report, the Merri-bek Strategic Property Framework, consideration of the Merri-bek Planning Scheme and ensuring the framework is practical to apply."*
 - c) *Amend action 4.13 listed for 2024/25 in the Action Plan under Direction 4: Providing open space for everyone to add "d) consideration of whether additional land is required under the Park Close to Home Framework for new sporting facilities."*
 - d) *Insert a new action for 2024/25 in the Action Plan under Enabling Actions after action 6.8 to "Develop and present to Council principles and a procedure to govern the management of the Public Resort and Recreation Land Fund so that it holds adequate funding to support significant strategic property purchases."*
2. *Authorises the Director City Infrastructure to make minor editorial changes in finalising the documents for publication, including graphical design and numbering of actions, that do not change the meaning of the Strategy or Action Plan.*
3. *Notes the Community Engagement Report (Attachment 3) detailing the methodology and findings of community engagement, including from the Hearing of Submissions, on the Merri-bek Open Space Strategy and Action Plan and thanks the community for their participation throughout the process of preparing the Open Space Strategy.*

4. *Endorses the approach to open space planning represented in the Open Space Technical Background Report (Attachment 4) and 20-year Project List (Attachment 5), noting that these documents align with the Open Space Strategy and Action Plan.*

Moving Around Merri-bek – Final Transport Strategy for Consultation – 13 March 2024

That Council:

1. *Endorses as final the Transport Strategy Moving Around Merri-bek (Attachment 1) and associated Action Plan (Attachment 2) with the following changes:*
 - a) *Attachment 1 on page 5 delete the following sentence “We will continue to make sure those who need to drive are able to reach their destinations” and replace it with “We will make sure that trips not suited to walking, riding or public transport can still be made.”*
 - b) *Attachment 1 on page 39, amend “It is a key local door to door transport service that support people who are unable to drive or use public transport.” To read “It is a key local door to door transport service that support people who are unable to travel to local destinations independently.”*
 - c) *Attachment 1 on page 40 truncate the sentence “We need to make sure our driving network is safe for all road users and ensure that those who need to use a car, for personal use or freight delivery, are able to.” So that it reads “We need to make sure our driving network is safe and accessible for all road users.”*
 - d) *Attachment 1 on page 42, delete the dot point “People who need to use their car are supported” and replace with “The transport needs of businesses for freight consignment and deliveries are met” and add a new point “The access needs of people who experience transport disadvantage are met.”*
 - e) *Attachment 1 on page 39, add to “Improve bus services in Fawkner” the extra words “and the Newlands area of Coburg North”.*
2. *Refers to the 2024/25 Budget Process funding requests for the following two Action Plan items:*
 - a) *\$50,000 for expert advice to prepare a business case for pedestrian operated signals;*
 - b) *\$130,000 for development of a Streets for People plan.*
3. *Authorises the Director City Infrastructure to make minor editorial changes in finalising the documents for publication that do not change the meaning of the Strategy or Action Plan.*
4. *Notes the Community Engagement Report (Attachment 3) detailing the methodology and findings of community engagement, including from the Hearing of Submissions, on the Moving Around Merri-bek transport strategy and Action Plan.*
5. *Notes that Council is collecting traffic volume and speed data on Stockade Avenue and Pentridge Boulevard in Coburg, which will inform Council’s submission to the Department of Transport and Planning to advocate for reconsideration of speed limits, and that Council will also investigate the travel patterns of concrete trucks using the route and then work with consigners and receivers of the material in the vicinity on ways to minimise their impact on residential amenity.*

1. Policy Context

Council Plan 2021-2025

The *Council Plan 2021-2025* (Council Plan) aims to create an environmentally proactive Merri-bek, a Merri-bek that allows people to move and live safely in vibrant spaces and places.

The Merri-bek Planning Scheme (Planning Scheme) underpins delivery of the Council Plan by directing land use and development in Merri-bek. Introducing new content into the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) and Planning Policy Framework (PPF) to support implementation of *Moving Around Merri-bek* and the *Merri-bek Open Space Strategy* aligns with the following themes of the Council Plan:

- Theme 1 – An environmentally proactive Moreland.
- Theme 2 – Moving and living safely in Moreland.
- Theme 3 - A healthy and caring Moreland.
- Theme 4 – Vibrant spaces and places in Moreland.

State Planning Policy

State planning policies are policies that apply in all planning schemes across the State. Local policy must align with State policy but can't duplicate it. There are existing State policies relating to transport and open space.

Transport

Existing State planning includes important strategies about supporting sustainable and active transport.

Clause 18.01-3S includes an objective *to facilitate an environmentally sustainable transport system that is safe and supports health and wellbeing*. Strategies to support this objective include:

- *Prioritise the use of sustainable personal transport.*
- *Protect, conserve and improve the natural environment by supporting forms of transport, energy use and transport technologies that have the least environmental impact.*
- *Plan the transport system to be safe by:*
- *Separating pedestrians, bicycles and motor vehicles, where practicable.*
- *Reducing the need for cyclists to mix with other road users.*
- *Design development to promote walking, cycling and the use of public transport, in that order, and minimise car dependency.*

There are specific clauses relating to increasing the proportion of trips made by walking, cycling and public transport across the State.

Open Space

Clause 19.02-6S includes an objective *to establish, manage and improve a diverse and integrated network of public open space that meets the needs of the community*. Strategies to support this objective include:

- *Improve the quality and distribution of open space and ensure long-term protection.*
- *Ensure land identified as critical to the completion of open space links is transferred for open space purposes.*
- *Ensure that urban open space provides for nature conservation, recreation and play, formal and informal sport, social interaction, opportunities to connect with nature and peace and solitude.*

- *Ensure open space provision is fair and equitable with the aim of providing access that meets the needs of all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, ability or a person's location.*
- *Develop open space to maintain wildlife corridors and greenhouse sinks.*

2. Background

Moving Around Merri-bek

Moving Around Merri-bek (the Transport Strategy) is Council's new transport strategy. It outlines Council's own transport projects and objectives as well as our transport advocacy priorities to the State and Commonwealth Governments.

The Transport Strategy sets out six core values to help guide the way in which Council will improve and manage Merri-bek's transport system: safe, accessible, healthy, liveable, sustainable, and inclusive. Each value is supported by a set of transport objectives.

The Transport Strategy also sets out Merri-bek's transport system and the planned approach to support each transport network within the system. The transport system includes the pedestrian network, cycling network, driving network, public transport network, and land-use.

Accompanying the Transport Strategy is an Action Plan. The Action Plan is a separate but linked document that outlines practical actions in the immediate term (2024/25) and foreshadows actions beyond that year (2025+) to apply the values and achieve objectives outlined in the Strategy.

Merri-bek Open Space Strategy

The *Merri-bek Open Space Strategy* (the Open Space Strategy) is Council's new open space strategy. It sets out Council's vision, objectives, and directions on how to plan, deliver, and maintain open space in Merri-bek.

Development of the Open Space Strategy was guided by *Planning Practice Note 70 – Open Space Strategies*.

The vision and objectives for open space set out in the Open Space Strategy are supported five strategy directions:

1. Providing parks close to home.
2. Having a mix of open spaces and open space experiences
3. Ensuring our open space network is adaptive, biodiverse, cooling, healthy, and resilient.
4. Providing open space for everyone.
5. Improving access to our open space network through better links, corridors, and collaborations.

Each of these directions is accompanied by specific actions that support their delivery and the overarching vision. The Open Space Strategy also includes a set of enabling actions to ensure the Open Space Strategy can be implemented.

Accompanying the Open Space Strategy is an Action Plan. The Action Plan is a separate but linked document that outlines practical actions in the immediate term (2024/25) to help achieve the vision of the Open Space Strategy. Subsequent Action Plans will be four-year Action Plans aligned with Council Plan cycles.

3. Issues

The Amendment received a total of five submissions during the exhibition period. This included three submissions supporting the Amendment, and two submissions objecting to the Amendment. The submissions are summarised with an Officer response for each in **Attachment 1**. Key issues raised are identified below.

Key matters raised in submissions

Planning Policy Framework

One submitter provided minor comments outlining suggested changes to Clause 02.04 Transport Framework Plan regarding some Strategic Cycling Corridor (SCC) links shown as local cycling links and a typo in the Plan's legend.

Council officer response

Strategic Cycling Corridor (SCC) links included in Clause 02.04 Transport Framework Plan have been crossed checked with the State Government's SCC map and can be corrected to clearly show SCC routes. A typo in the Framework Plan's legend can also be corrected.

Moving Around Merri-bek Transport Strategy

Two submitters raised several concerns about the development of the Transport Strategy and its implementation, including a lack of transparency regarding decision-making on infrastructure and community consultation with the proposed Streets for People Framework, alignment of the Transport Strategy with the *Council Plan 2021-2025*, human rights considerations, and the authority of Council officers to develop a new Transport Strategy.

Council officer response

The items raised in the submissions relate to specific details of the Transport Strategy such as how the strategy was created and how it works in operation with other council policies.

These matters fall outside the scope of what needs to be considered for this Amendment. The Amendment's purpose is to ensure that the Merri-bek Planning Scheme has local policy that is consistent with Council adopted strategies. This is done to ensure that land use and development within Merri-bek is undertaken with regard to current policies and objectives of Council's strategies.

The Amendment does not provide another opportunity to revisit the merits of the Transport Strategy.

Consultation

One submitter raised concerns with the exhibition process for the Amendment.

Council officer response

The Amendment was publicly exhibited in accordance with the requirements of the Act. Section 4 of this report outlines how exhibition was done. Exhibition included directly notifying people who provided feedback on the draft Transport Strategy and Open Space Strategy.

Changes required to exhibition documents

As detailed above and in **Attachment 1**, the following changes to the Amendment are proposed in response to submissions:

Affected Land/ Planning Policy	Proposed Change	Reason for Change
Clause 2.04 Transport Framework Plan	Show the following local bike routes as part of the SCC: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ O'Hea Street between Turner and Sussex Streets.▪ O'Hea Street between Sydney Road and the rail line.▪ Portion of link through De Chene Reserve connecting to Connolly Avenue, Coburg. Replace the word 'buses' with 'bus' in the legend.	Response to submission to correctly show the SCC links and correct a typo in the legend.

Human Rights Consideration

The implications of this report have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and there are no adverse impacts. The human rights considered as part of the preparation of this report relate specifically to freedom, dignity, and equity.

The most relevant section of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights to the preparation of this report is property rights. This report does not deprive any party of any legal or proprietary interest in land, or the ability to use and develop that land in accordance with the planning regulatory framework.

Gender Equality Considerations

A gender impact assessment has not been undertaken for the Amendment because it does not relate to a new policy, program or service that directly or significantly impacts on the public. The changes proposed through the Amendment introduce policy directions that implement Council adopted strategies and seek to improve planning outcomes throughout Merri-bek, for the benefit of everyone.

4. Community consultation and engagement

Amendment C231mbek was publicly exhibited from 18 July 2024 to 19 August 2024. In accordance with Section 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act), notice of the amendment via direct mail was given to:

- People who provided feedback on the draft Transport Strategy and Open Space Strategy.
- Relevant state government departments and Ministers.
- All abutting Municipal Councils.

To comply with other notice requirements in section 19 of the Act and to reach the wider community, the following was provided throughout the exhibition process:

- Notice of the preparation of the amendment in *The Age* and the Herald Sun on 16 July 2024 and the Government Gazette on 18 July 2024.
- Copies of the amendment documentation were available on Council's website and hard copies were made available to residents upon request.
- Social media posts (Facebook) on 18 July 2024.

Under section 19(1A) of the Act, it was considered impractical to individually notify owners and occupiers throughout the municipality of changes proposed by the amendment.

5. Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

6. Financial and Resources Implications

Financial

Administrative costs associated with the processing of the amendment will be met within the base budget of the Strategic Planning Unit.

Resources

The resources required to prepare for and attend a Planning Panel hearing can be provided within the existing resourcing of the Strategic Planning Unit. The amendment is likely to come into effect in the 2025/26 financial year. The impacts on the Urban Planning Unit will be minimal as the amendment does not introduce any new planning permit requirements that would trigger the need for a planning permit.

7. Implementation

The following timelines for the Amendment are broken down into the key 'decision gateways' for Council.

Decision Gateway 1: Authorisation and Exhibition (Completed)



Decision Gateway 2: Submission Review and Panel Request

- September 2024: Report to Council to consider submissions and refer to Panel.
- October 2024: Directions Hearing pre-set week commencing 28 October 2024.
- November 2024: Panel Hearing pre-set week commencing 25 November 2024.
- February 2025: Receive Panel report.

Decision Gateway 3: Panel report review and approval request

- March/April 2025: Report on the Panel's recommendations and consider adoption of the final version of the Amendment.
- March/April 2025: Submission of the Amendment to the Minister for Planning for approval.
- Late 2025: Anticipated approval by the Minister for Planning and gazettal of the amendment.

Attachment/s

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 1  | C231mbek - Summary of Submissions | D24/412660 |
| 2  | C231mbek - Revised Clause 2.04 | D24/395442 |

MERRI-BEK PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C231mbek – Summary of submissions

September 2024

SUBMITTER DETAILS	AFFECTED PROPERTY ADDRESS	SUBMISSION TYPE	SUMMARY OF SUBMISSION	THEMES	COUNCIL OFFICER RESPONSE TO SUBMISSION	RECOMMENDATION
Name, address and contact details of the individual or party making the submission.		Submissions have been classified as:	Submissions have been summarised into their key points and include any specific requests for changes to Amendment C231mbek.	The following key themes have been identified from submissions received:	Council Officer response to each submission.	Council Officer recommendation to Council in response to each submission.
		Supportive (Submission expresses general support for the amendment and no changes are requested)		Planning Policy Framework Changes proposed to the Planning Scheme.		
		or	Summaries do not list all arguments in support of key point's and requests for change.	Consultation Concerns on the consultation process for the Amendment		
		Supportive and change requested (Submission expresses general support for the amendment but requests a change)	Individual submissions should be referred to for further detail.	Transport Strategy Concerns on how the Transport Strategy was developed and how specific actions will be implemented		
		or				
		Not supportive (Submission does not support the amendment but no changes are suggested)				
		or				
		Not supportive and change requested (Submission does not support the amendment and changes to the amendment are suggested)				

NO.	SUBMISSION TYPE	SUMMARY OF SUBMISSION	THEMES	COUNCIL OFFICER RESPONSE TO SUBMISSION	RECOMMENDATION
1	Supportive	1. Supports the changes proposed to implement <i>Moving Around Merri-bek</i> and the <i>Merri-bek Open Space Strategy</i> by introducing them into the Planning Scheme. Appreciates that the <i>Merri-bek Open Space Strategy</i> explores the opportunities to improve existing public spaces and enhance connectivity between these activity areas locally as well as within the metropolitan urban environment.	Planning Policy Framework	1. Noted	No change proposed. Refer submission to an Independent Planning Panel.
2	Supportive and change requested	1. Supports the amendment and provides suggested minor changes to Clause 02.04 Transport Framework Plan regarding the Strategic Cycling Corridor (SCC) and a typo.	Planning Policy Framework	1. Strategic Cycling Corridor (SCC) links included in Clause 02.04 Transport Framework Plan have been crossed checked with the State Government's SCC map and can be corrected to clearly show SCC routes. A typo in the Framework Plan's legend has can also been corrected.	Change proposed. Refer submission to an Independent Planning Panel.
3	Not supportive	1. The transport strategy lacks transparency regarding decision-making on infrastructure and community consultation. Also questions how the "Streets for People" framework, Council's community engagement policy, and the Future Bike Projects policy (adopted in March 2022) work together.	Planning Policy Framework	1. These matters fall outside the scope of the Amendment. The Amendment's purpose is to ensure that the Merri-bek Planning Scheme has local policy that is consistent with policy direction from Council adopted strategies. This is done to ensure that land use and development within Merri-bek is undertaken with regard to the current policies and objectives of Council's strategies.	No change proposed Refer submission to an Independent Planning Panel.

NO.	SUBMISSION TYPE	SUMMARY OF SUBMISSION	THEMES	COUNCIL OFFICER RESPONSE TO SUBMISSION	RECOMMENDATION
4	Not supportive	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The privacy collection notice for the Amendment discourages public submissions by requiring excessive personal information. Also questions if the recent <i>Councillor Interactions with Developers, Lobbyists and Submitters Policy</i> is linked to the need to collect personal information. Council has not properly advertised the Amendment. Acknowledges that a link to "Planning Scheme Amendments" exists on the Conversations Merri-bek website but argues that is not the same as a project being on the home page of Conversations Merri-bek. Council has not properly assessed the strategies against the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006. The <i>Moving Around Merri-bek</i> Transport Strategy contradicts the <i>Council Plan 2021-2025</i> and uses the "Streets for People" framework to limit community involvement. Believes that the strategy does not align with the Community Engagement Principles and the Public Transparency Policies of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>. Council officers lacked the authority to write a new transport strategy and should have only revised the existing Moreland Integrated Transport Strategy 2019 (MITS 2019). Council's role as a Planning Authority or Responsible Authority could be disputed given Council is in disarray and disorder and cannot ensure peace, order and good governance. The Amendment should not proceed, and MITS 2019 should remain in the Merri-bek Planning Scheme, with the next group of councillors given the task to revise the strategy. 	<p>Consultation</p> <p>Transport Strategy</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Name and contact details of submitters are required so Council can consider submissions and to notify submitters of the opportunity to attend planning authority meetings and any public hearing held to consider submissions. This requirement is included in the notice of preparation template prepared by the State Government, that all Councils use when undertaking formal notice of a planning scheme amendment. As set out in the privacy collection notice for the amendment, personal information collected from submissions is used for the purpose of the planning scheme amendment process as set out in the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>. It is not related to the Councillor Interactions with Developers, Lobbyists, and Submitters Policy. Notification of the Amendment occurred in accordance with Section 19 of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>. Notification included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directly notifying people who provided feedback on the draft Transport Strategy and Open Space Strategy. Notice in the Age and Herald Sun newspapers. Notice in the Government Gazette. Providing copies of amendment documentation on a dedicated Council webpage for the Amendment. Social media post (Facebook). Providing information about the Amendment on Council's corporate website meets the requirements of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>. In addition, a link to the planning scheme amendments page of the corporate website is included on the Conversations Merri-bek website. Human rights were considered during the development of both <i>Moving Around Merri-bek</i> and the <i>Merri-bek Open Space Strategy</i>. This is not a relevant consideration for this planning scheme amendment. The report to Council which recommended adoption of <i>Moving Around Merri-bek</i> outlined the Council Plan themes that the strategy aligns with. Future Streets for People projects will include community engagement that aligns with Council's community engagement policy. This is not a relevant consideration for this planning scheme amendment. Council's determination to write a new transport strategy is addressed in the March 2024 Council report. Council has appropriately exercised its role as a planning authority for this amendment as set out under section 8A of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>. The Amendment is strategically justified and implements policy direction from Council adopted strategies. <i>Moving Around Merri-bek</i> was adopted by Council on 10 March 2024 and reflects Councils current strategic direction for transport projects and objectives. As Council resolved to adopt the strategy, MITS 2019 is no longer Council policy and should not be referenced in the Planning Scheme. This amendment is an appropriate administrative step in implementing an adopted Council strategy. 	<p>No change proposed</p> <p>Refer submission to an Independent Planning Panel.</p>
5	Supportive	Strongly supported Council's adoption of the <i>Merri-bek Open Space Strategy</i> (MOSS) and thus supports the intent of the Amendment to bring the MOSS into the Planning Scheme. Appreciates Clause 19.02-6S and Clause 19.02-6R for their strategies to plan for local open space networks for recreation, conservation, and urban redevelopment, ensuring quality, accessibility, and the creation of new parkland in areas with an undersupply.	<p>Planning Policy Framework</p>	Noted.	<p>No change proposed.</p> <p>Refer submission to an Independent Planning Panel.</p>

MERRI-BEK PLANNING SCHEME

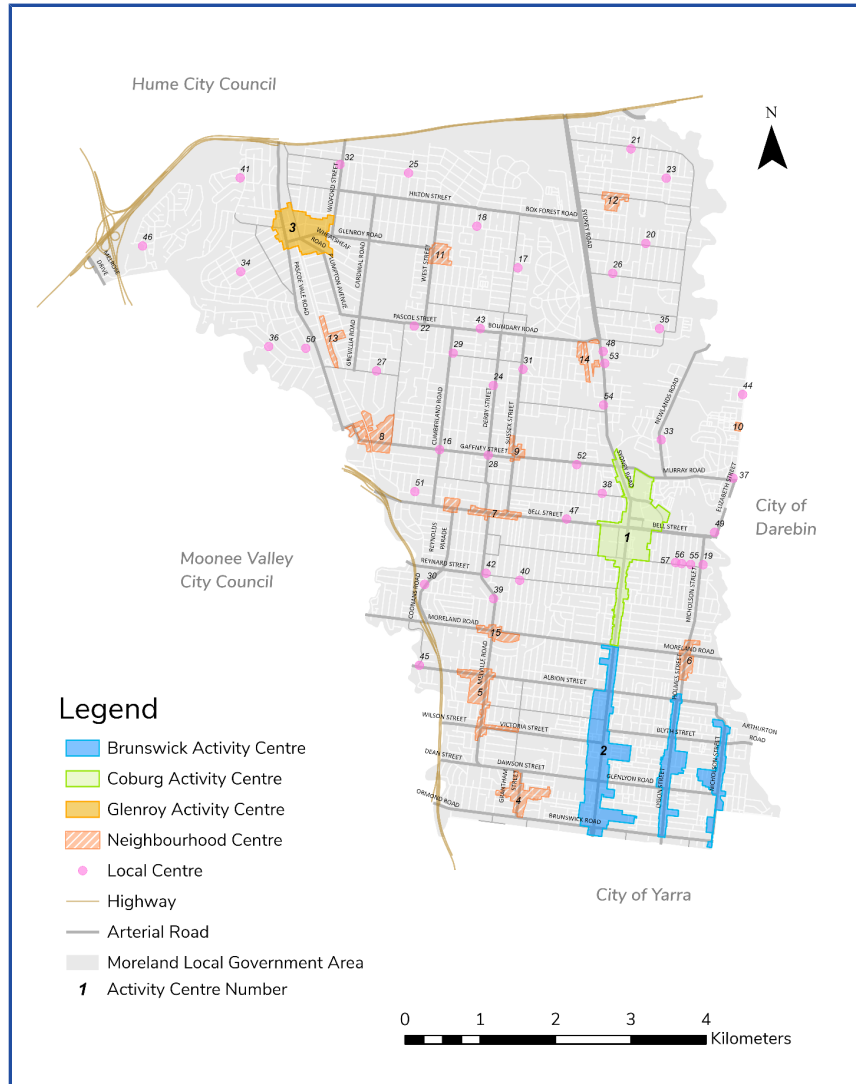
02.04

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK PLANS

09/03/2023
G201moreProposed C231mbek

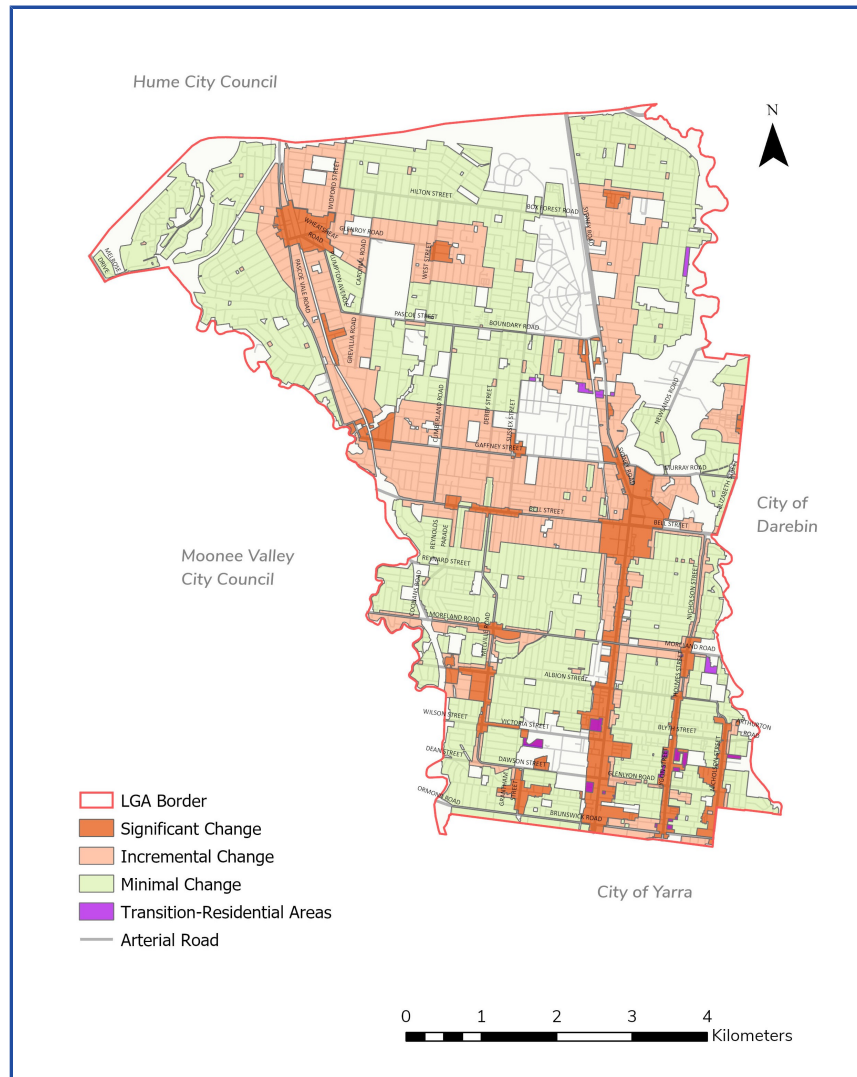
The plans contained in Clause 02.04 are to be read in conjunction with the strategic directions in Clause 02.03.

Activity Centre Framework Plan



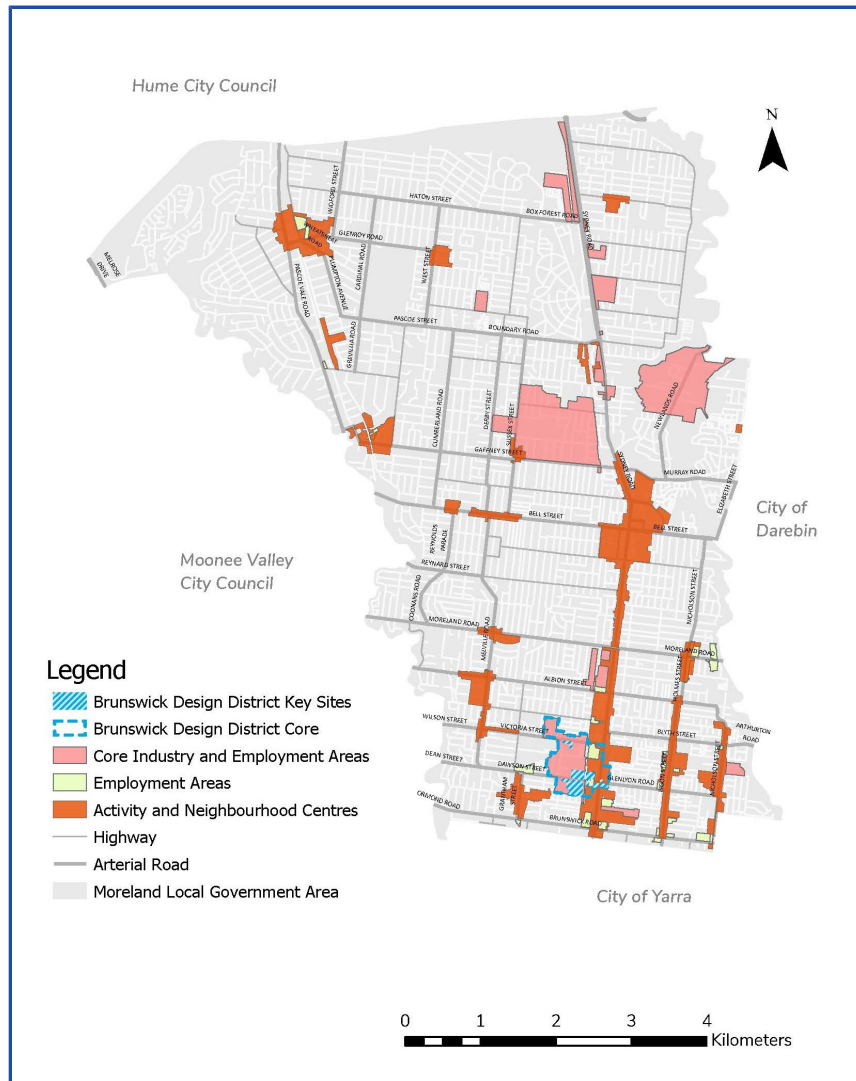
MERRI-BEK PLANNING SCHEME

Housing Framework Plan



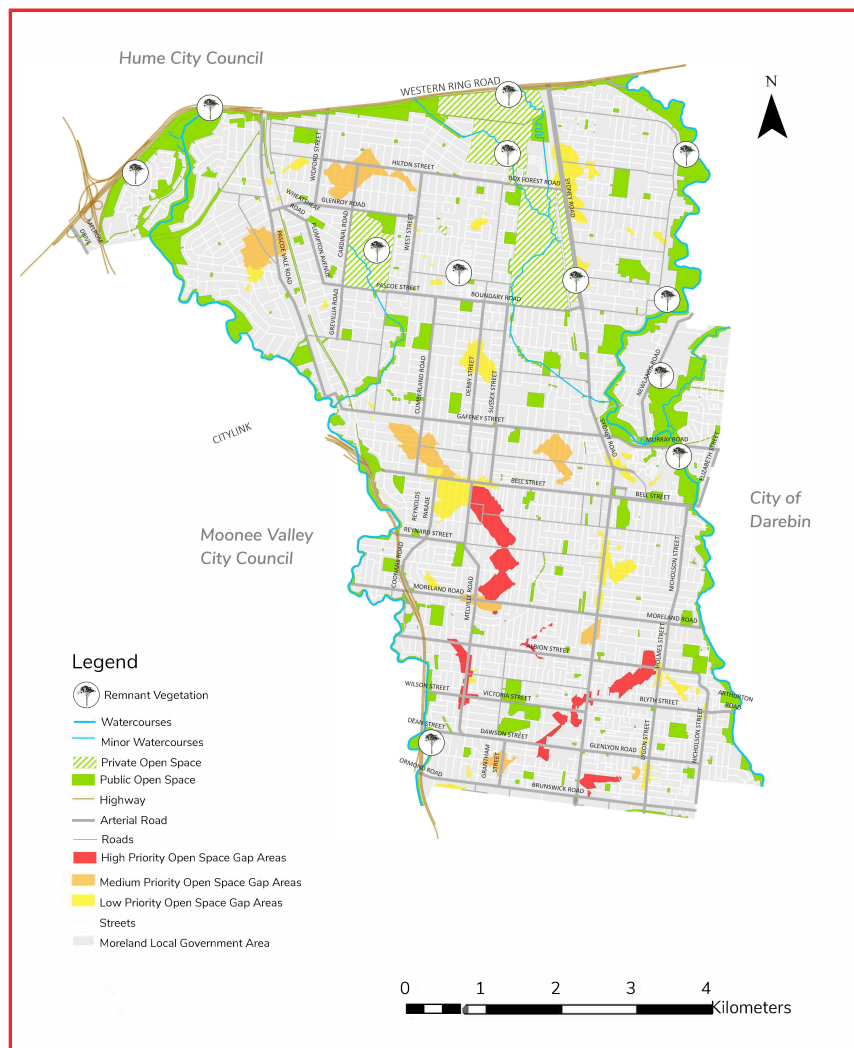
MERRI-BEK PLANNING SCHEME

Economic Development Framework Plan

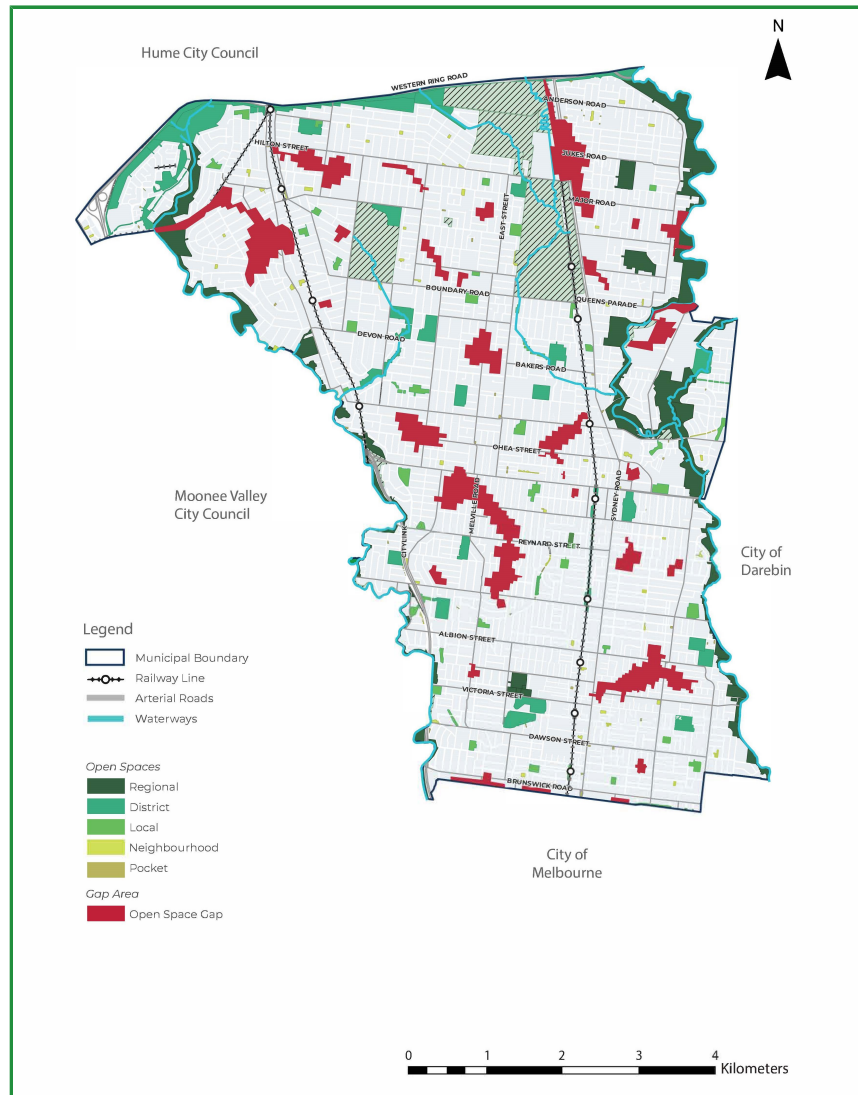


MERRI-BEK PLANNING SCHEME

Open Space Framework Plan

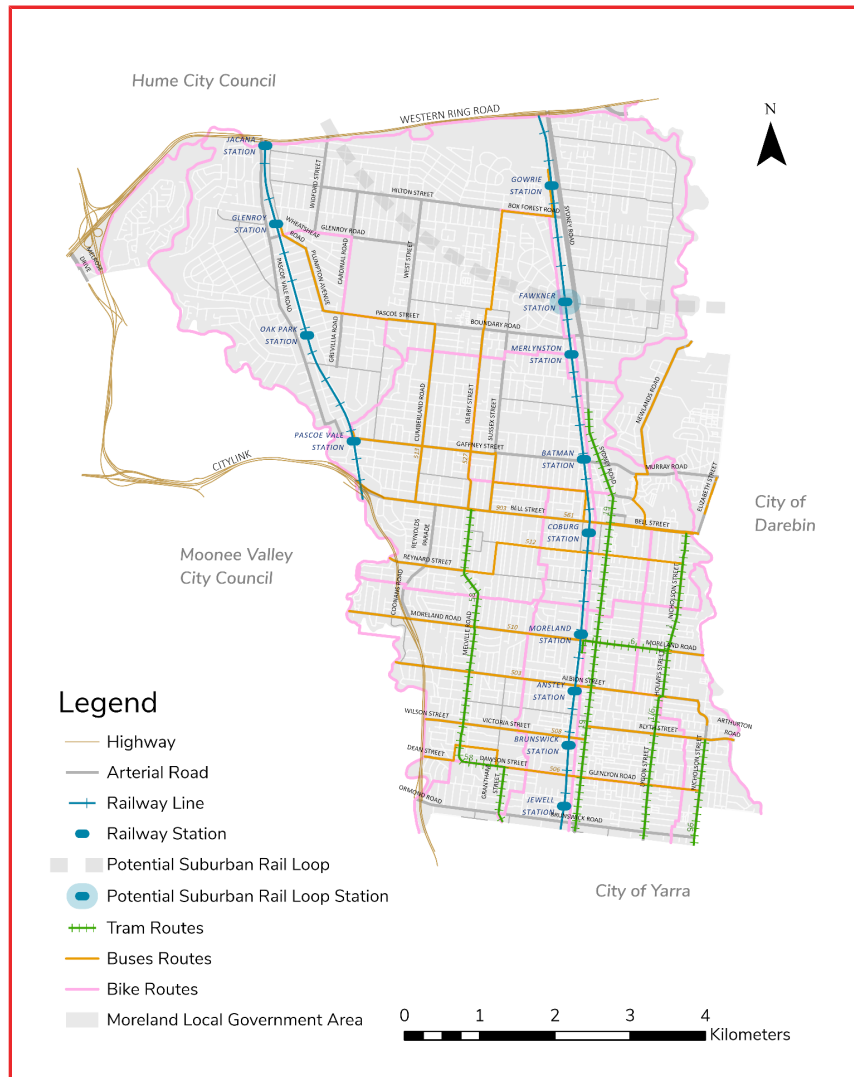


MERRI-BEK PLANNING SCHEME



MERRI-BEK PLANNING SCHEME

Transport framework plan



MERRI-BEK PLANNING SCHEME

