

# HEALTH AND WELLBEING ACTION PLAN 2021–2025



CITY OF MELBOURNE

## **Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners**

The City of Melbourne respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. We are committed to our reconciliation journey, because at its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples, for the benefit of all Victorians.

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November 2021

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# INTRODUCTION

Under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, all Victorian local councils are required to address the health and wellbeing needs of their municipality through a Health and Wellbeing Plan. This is a strategic plan that establishes the overall aims and priorities for the local council in protecting, improving and promoting the public health and wellbeing of the people in the municipality. Council also has a commitment to health and wellbeing planning requirements under the *Gender Equality Act 2020* and the *Climate Change Act 2017*.

For the fourth time, the City of Melbourne has integrated our cities Health and Wellbeing Plan into the [Council Plan 2021-25](#), which was endorsed by Council in June 2021. We do this to elevate health and wellbeing activity across Council, and highlight our commitment to putting planning for the health and wellbeing of our people at the heart of what we do. The Council Plan 2021-25 therefore forms the overarching strategic framework for health and wellbeing planning at the City of Melbourne.

# PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This Health and Wellbeing Action Plan outlines what we will do over the next four years to achieve improved health and wellbeing outcomes in the municipality across our six areas of focus as outlined in the Council Plan 2021-25. The six focus areas are; Public health and safety, Mental wellbeing and inclusion, Healthy and sustainable lifestyles, Housing and homelessness, Food security and Health impacts of climate change.

These focus areas were informed by an analysis of municipal data drawn from the [Health and Wellbeing Profile 2020](#), together with insights from our [community consultation](#) with over 900 members of the community.

The purpose of this Action Plan is to house all of Council's key health and wellbeing actions to make it easier for our community to track and engage with our health and wellbeing related activity. This Action Plan presents the following inputs for each of the six health and wellbeing focus areas:

- **Narrative:** An explanation of each focus area, to better understand what is in scope.
- **Evidence base:** A snapshot of key data and community insights.
- **Action plan:** Summary of health and wellbeing related actions Council and its partners will undertake over the next four years from July 2021 to June 2025 to deliver on the Council Plan's strategic priorities ❤️. Actions are a collection of activities from Council Plan 2021-25 Major Initiatives (MI) and City of Melbourne Branch Operational Plans 2021-22 (Delivery Roadmaps = R). Some activity will occur in the 2021-22 financial year and others have a four year timeline. It will also provide a snapshot of council activity which supports each focus area.
- **Evaluation:** A summary of indicators will track and gauge progress including the targets and/or desired trends that we will strive for plus linkages to the Sustainable Development Goals.

Note: Actions in this Plan often cover more than one strategy or priority. For example, actions promoting active lifestyles and healthy eating may also improve mental health. For easy reading, each action has been placed under the priority of best fit.

# HEALTH AND WELLBEING FOCUS AREAS FOR 2021–2025



## 1. Public health and safety

All people feel safe and included when participating in community life, with a zero tolerance of violence in our community including family violence, gender inequality, violence against women, racism and discrimination in all forms.



## 2. Mental wellbeing and inclusion

Melbourne's diverse community is celebrated, with our Aboriginal community and history central to our city. Bonds and social connections are strengthened, and all people have equal access to employment, arts, culture, nature and physical activity in the city and core services such as mental healthcare, lifelong learning and the internet.



## 3. Healthy and sustainable lifestyles

People are supported and encouraged to make healthy and sustainable lifestyle decisions. This includes increasing opportunities for participating in sport and physical activity, healthy food choices, reducing alcohol and other drug related harm; and promoting smoke free environments.



## 4. Housing and homelessness

Fair, appropriate and accessible range of affordable housing for people of all backgrounds is available, with special focus on people experiencing homelessness.



## 5. Food security

Access to nutritious, safe, fair and culturally appropriate food for everyone, especially the most vulnerable.



## 6. Health impacts of climate change

Resilient and safe communities that are adapting to the public health impacts of climate change.



### Planning lenses guiding our work

Health and social inequalities through a people and place-based approach  
City recovery and resilience

# 1. PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY





This focus area recognises the importance of all people feeling safe and included when participating in community life, with zero tolerance of violence in our community including family violence, gender equality, violence against women, racism and discrimination in all forms.

This plan has been prepared as we live through the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the defining global public health emergency of our time, especially for Melbourne as the only major Australian city to face multiple and prolonged lockdowns. While the acute and primary care health systems response to COVID-19 has been nothing short of remarkable, we are mindful that the lasting impact on our communities' social determinants of health and wellbeing will be prolonged and far reaching.

Other public health and safety issues that have come to the forefront in this plan are community safety and the prevention of violence against women. Neighbourhoods which are perceived as safe, foster community participation and connectedness and add to the health and wellbeing of local residents, workers and visitors. A safe city needs to address the underlying causes of safety issues, not just the management of their impact. Factors that have a positive influence on community safety are social justice, gender equality, inclusiveness, connectedness and resilience.

Violence within the home is also a focus. Family violence is any behaviour or act perpetrated against a family member that causes harm or distress and includes financial, physical, emotional and sexual abuse, and neglect. Family violence encompasses other commonly used terms such as domestic violence, intimate partner violence and elder abuse. Family violence has a profound impact on health and wellbeing – with far-reaching impacts including deteriorated physical and mental health, loss of housing, loss or limited access to employment, precarious financial security, isolation and alienation of extended family/social support and, in extreme cases, death. COVID-19 has significantly exacerbated family violence, including increases in the onset, severity and frequency.

#### Evidence Base

- Increasing reports of family violence (rose 18.5% from 2019-20 to 2020-21).
- Alcohol related assaults during the day increasing.
- Declining perceptions of safety (79% feel safe during the day and 47% feel safe at night).
- Increased reports of racism during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Total crime has declined since the onset of the pandemic.
- Infectious disease rates are increasing (from 2162 events per 100,000 residents to 2450 per 100,000 residents).

## Some comments received during community consultation:

“Because as a female who is often travelling in and around the city by myself it is my top concern.”

- Female, 25-34 years, worker

“People deserve to go about their lives and business without having to worry about being abused.”

- Female, 55+ years, visitor

“We are in the middle of a pandemic that is likely to have a profound impact on the viability of the city and everything else.”

- Female, 25-34 years, worker

## Action Plan

### Focus Area 1: Public Health and Safety acts on the following four year strategic priorities from the Council Plan 2021-25:

- All people feel safe and included when participating in Melbourne’s economic, visitor and community life ❤️
- Enforce zero tolerance of violence in our community including family violence, violence against women, racism and discrimination in all forms ❤️
- An efficient and safe transport network where our streets are safer for all users ❤️

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
Safety and Wellbeing	(MI 45) Continue to implement the Transport Strategy 2030, including delivery of a protected bike lane network, station precincts as key gateways, and little streets as streets for people, safer speed limits, micro mobility trials, more efficient traffic signal timing and bicycling encouragement programs.	<p>To deliver protected bike lanes including Arden, Flinders, Royal Pde wand St Kilda Rd</p> <p>To develop Strategic plans and capital works for major station precincts.</p> <p>To deliver a Little Streets trial in cooperation with the DoT</p> <p>To Introduce safer 40kph area speed limits and other safer reduced speed limits</p> <p>To deliver micro mobility trials including e-scooter trials</p>	<p>Advocate</p> <p>Partner</p> <p>Deliver</p>	2021 -2025	DoT, Yarra Trams, Residents and Trader groups, RACV and multiple bicycle networks/ groups.	Transport Strategy 2030
Safety and Wellbeing	(MI 49) We will be a leading organisation on equality and inclusion and deliver programs in communities that will reduce physical and psychological harm to all people and we will adopt and deliver the Prevention of Violence Against Women Action Plan 2021-2024 and meet our obligations under the <i>Gender Equality Act 2020</i> .	To meet our obligations under the <i>Gender Equality Act 2020</i> , adopt and deliver the Prevention of Violence Against Women Action Plan 2021-2024.	Deliver	2021 - 2025	Community members, Victoria Police, University of Melbourne, Crime Stoppers Victoria and Domestic Violence Services Australia, Western Region Preventing Violence Together partnership, Inner North West Primary Care Partnership (INWPCP)	Prevention of Violence Against Women Action Plan 2021-2024
Safety and Wellbeing	(MI 50) We will continue to work with Victoria Police and other agencies to deliver a range of initiatives that improve physical safety on the streets of Melbourne and within our communities.	To establish baseline data including direct complaints, crime statistics and statistics regarding graffiti, littering, dumped rubbish, rough sleeping and other contributing factors that impact on the amenity of the city.	<p>Partner</p> <p>Deliver</p>	2021 - 2025	Victoria Police, businesses, residents, visitors and contractors (Spotless, Citywide, Calcorp, Serco, SECUREcorp)	Council Plan 2021-25

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Safety and Wellbeing	(MI 51) Deliver and maintain a clean city through the Rapid Response Clean Team initiative.	<p>To deliver a brand new service, providing a rapid response to street cleaning issues reported by the community, that are located within the CBD Hoddle Grid neighbourhood.</p> <p>To improve community perception of city cleanliness during the city recovery and reactivation period.</p>	Deliver	2021 - 2023	<p>Contractor (Spotless), VicRoads, Yarra Trams, Telstra</p> <p>City of Melbourne business community, visitors / residents</p>	
Safety and Wellbeing	(MI 52) Engage and prepare residents and communities to enhance their resilience to hazards, disasters and the health impacts of climate change.	<p>To establish a cross-functional governance team for program development and end-to-end delivery.</p> <p>To conduct a council wide survey and targeted interviews to better understand operational capacity and capability to prepare, respond to and recover from shocks and stresses, using COVID-19 as a lens.</p> <p>To develop a roadmap or theory of change for 2022-24 program delivery.</p>	Deliver	2021 - 2025	<p>Proposed partners: Australian Red Cross, Humanitech</p> <p>Advisors: Emergency Management Victoria, Victorian Council of Social Services, Insurance Council of Australia, University of Melbourne: Chair of Urban Resilience and Innovation</p> <p>Internal: Community Development; Health and Wellbeing; Emergency Management; Climate Adaptation; Creative City; City Lab; Smart City Incubator</p>	Climate Change and Adaptation Strategy

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
Safety and Wellbeing	(R) Plan and implement a public facing child safe city campaign.	<p>Connect with Commission for Children and Young People to discuss collaborative partnership.</p> <p>Develop a child safe public statement for use at city events, centre/ facility openings, children/young people awareness raising days etc.</p>	Partner Deliver	2021-2022	<a href="#">Commission for Children and Young People</a>	
Safety and Wellbeing	(R) Raise awareness of hygiene and infection control measures via the roll out of hand sanitiser units in high traffic public location with appropriate community (COVID) safety messaging.	<p>To install free standing hand sanitiser units within the CBD area and high traffic areas in other outer precinct areas within the municipality.</p> <p>Promote public health messaging to align to COVIDsafe hygiene and infection control practices.</p>	Deliver	2021-2022	Partnerships for Health Cities/ Bloomberg Philanthropies/ Vital Strategies/ World Health Organization, Untap Media	

**Other council activity supporting this focus area:**

- **Municipal Emergency Management Plan and CBD Safety Plan:** Facilitate planning for emergencies including mitigation, response and recovery activities.
- **Council Services:** Management of amenities including graffiti, lighting and rubbish management.
- **Preventing Violence Together Partnership:** The City of Melbourne is part of this regional partnership made up of 23 organisations working together to prevent violence against women across Melbourne's west.
- **Gender Equality Statement:** Outlines the goal of eliminating all forms of violence against women, girls and persons of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities in public and private spaces across the municipality.

## 2. MENTAL WELLBEING AND INCLUSION



This focus area recognises the importance of celebrating Melbourne’s diverse community, with our Aboriginal community and history central to our city. Bonds and social connections are strengthened, and all people have equal access to employment, arts, culture, nature and physical activity in the city and core services such as mental healthcare, lifelong learning and the internet.

Mental health is an essential ingredient of individual and community wellbeing and significantly contributes to the social, cultural and economic life of Melbourne. The World Health Organisation defines mental health as: “A state of wellbeing in which every individual realises his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to her or his community”. Our community reported that COVID-19 has emphasised the need to address community mental health now more than ever. They advocated for greater mental health promotion activities, in addition to provision of more mental health services.

A key determinant of mental health is social inclusion. The United Nations define social inclusion as “the process of improving the terms of participation in society for people who are disadvantaged on the basis of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, or economic or other status, through enhanced opportunities, access to resources, voice and respect for rights”. Melbourne is a diverse city and this is one of our cities greatest strengths and community assets. Council policies and programs designed to promote a sense of belonging, increase awareness and acceptance of diversity, prevent violence, enhancing equitable access to health and community services, can all support a healthy and inclusive Melbourne.

In this day and age, being able to connecting digitally is also important. Some segments of the community have low to no digital inclusion or literacy (i.e. do not have the skills or cannot access online technologies effectively) which can place them at greater disadvantage. There is a real and critical need to support our vulnerable and marginalised communities to thrive in the digital age.

Another key determinant of mental health includes employment. People who lose employment or are unemployed long-term tend to experience chronic stress and difficulty accessing basic needs such as food and shelter.

Our natural environment also has benefits to our mental wellbeing. Our green and blue spaces provide places for exercise, relaxation and shade which can contribute to improved mental health and lower rates of chronic diseases. They enable social interaction, which builds and maintains community connection. The threat of the climate emergency is also a source of anxiety for our population.

#### Evidence Base

- Declining levels of subjective wellbeing (70% CoM, 75% Australian average).
- 22% diagnosed with depression and/or anxiety and 15% have sought professional help for a mental health issue.
- 22% experience high-very high levels of psychological distress in their day to day lives (23% Vic).
- Climate-related anxiety is on the rise, particularly for young people.
- Decrease in sense of community belonging (64% CoM, 71% Australian average).
- Decrease in community engagement and participation (volunteering, arts and cultural activities, civic participation).
- 94% agree it is good for society to be made up of different cultures.
- 96% believe the relationship with Aboriginal people is important.
- 10.5% of households have no internet access.
- 92% residents live within a 300m walk to open space.
- 37% of residents live alone, particularly older adults (19%).

## Some comments received during community consultation:

“Because an inclusive city is a harmonious city”

– Male, 35-54 years, visitor

“COVID has shown that mental health is vital for all aspects of life, and COVID had a significantly negative impact on mental health for many Australians.”

– Female, 18-24 years, student

## Action Plan

### Focus Area 2: Mental Wellbeing and Inclusion acts on the following four year strategic priorities from the Council Plan 2021-25:

- Bonds and social connections between individuals and communities of different backgrounds are strengthened ❤️
- Increased economic participation, with a city economy that is more inclusive and fair, enabling resident's access to employment and key workers access to accommodation in the city ❤️
- Melbourne's diverse communities are celebrated ❤️
- Governing with First Peoples drives our city forward and allows community to make the changes needed for the City of Melbourne to be an Aboriginal city ❤️
- We embrace and promote our First Peoples' identity across all areas of the city, including city design, and give voice to the treaty process with First Peoples ❤️
- First Peoples experts are consulted and lead sustainable land management practices and implement 'Caring for Country' principles in the management, planning and development of city land ❤️
- Core services are accessible and affordable to everyone, with special attention to mental health, lifelong education and internet services ❤️
- City activities including events, the arts and culture are accessible and affordable for everyone ❤️
- People with disability feel welcome in the city and have equal access ❤️



COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
<b>Economy of the Future</b>	(MI 1) Continue to strengthen Melbourne's economic recovery, including through precinct and shopfront activation, delivery of an enhanced business concierge service and support for the night-time economy.	Strengthen Melbourne's economic recovery.	Advocate	2021-2025	Melbourne Businesses	Economic Development Strategy 2021 - 2024
<b>Safety and Wellbeing</b>	(MI 14) Deliver Queen Victoria Market precinct improvements through quality public open space, new connections to the city, community services and facilities such as the Munro Community Hub.	Deliver Queen Victoria Market precinct improvements.	Deliver	2021 - 2025	Queen Victoria Market Board Traders	
<b>Access and Affordability</b>	(MI 15) Deliver public art projects that reflect Melbourne's unique culture and heritage, attract visitors to the city and help stimulate our city's recovery.	Deliver public art programs.	Partner	2021 - 2025	QVM, Victorian State Government, University of Melbourne, RMIT, NGV, ACCA, ACMI, PHOTO.	
<b>Melbourne's Unique Identity and Place</b>	(MI 18) Facilitate increased investment in unique Melbourne events to further activate and celebrate the city.	Facilitate Increased investment in unique Melbourne events.	Deliver	2021-2025	Visit Victoria, Creative Victoria	Economic Development Strategy
<b>Aboriginal Melbourne</b>	(MI 23) Explore and deliver opportunities for 'truth-telling' to facilitate learning, healing, and change within Melbourne and beyond. This will be an opportunity to impart knowledge of thousands of years of rich history, language and stories, as well as provide a form of restorative justice by acknowledging Aboriginal peoples' experiences of dispossession and inequity.	Explore opportunities for truth telling to facilitate learning, healing and change within Melbourne and beyond.	Deliver	2021-2025	Traditional Owners Elders	Reconciliation Action Plan

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<b>Aboriginal Melbourne</b>	(MI 25) Govern with Sovereign First Nations to enable true self-determination, where deliberative engagement is proactive, responsive and consistent.	Govern with Sovereign First Nations.	Partner	2021-2025	Traditional Owners Elders	Reconciliation Action Plan
<b>Aboriginal Melbourne</b>	(MI 26) Commence planning for a co-designed First Nations Cultural Precinct with First Peoples – a place to retain, maintain and recreate in a culturally specific geography, where First Peoples can practice continuity of customs and traditions, through uninterrupted connection to lands and waters	Plan and deliver a co-designed First Nations Cultural Precinct with First Peoples.	Partner	2021-2025	Traditional Owners Elders	Reconciliation Action Plan
<b>Safety and Wellbeing</b>	(MI 37) Implement a neighbourhood model by working with communities to develop neighbourhood plans and neighbourhood service centres that respond to the local community's existing and projected needs.	Implementation City of Melbourne's Neighborhood Model.	Partner	2021-2025	Community Leaders General community Business owners	
<b>Access and Affordability</b>	(MI 38) Deliver a revitalised library network, including pop-up libraries, to increase access for our diverse community and to help revitalise the city.	Deliver a revitalised library network.	Partner	2021 - 2025	Culturally diverse community groups	Council Plan 2021 -2025

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
Access and Affordability	(MI 39) Deliver the Disability Access Plan 2020-2024 including ensuring our services and events are more accessible, increasing the number of accessible adult change facilities, and partnering with community and transport groups to make transport more accessible.	Deliver the Disability Access Plan 2020-2024.	Advocate	2021 - 2025	Travellers Aid Aust.  Ross House (local disability groups)  Transport providers  Tourist sites and businesses within the city  City of Melbourne's Disability Advisory Committee.	Disability Access Plan
Access and Affordability	(MI 41) As part of a new corporate strategy for the City of Melbourne, ensure our core services remain accessible and affordable.	Refine the future approach to service planning to ensure the City of Melbourne's core services remain accessible and affordable.	Deliver	2021, 2022,	Not required	Council Plan 2021 -2025

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
<b>Access and Affordability</b>	(MI 43) Deliver programs that will build digital literacy skills and capabilities, improve access to free Wi-Fi from our community facilities and advocate for appropriate digital infrastructure, to improve digital inclusion for all, particularly for vulnerable groups.	Deliver programs that will build digital literacy skills including capabilities; and digital inclusion.	Advocate	2021 - 2025	Community Agencies for Digital inclusion (CADI) - includes Neighbourhood Houses in Carlton, Kensington, Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Farnham Street Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Neighbourhood Houses Victoria, North Eastern Neighbourhood House Network, North Melbourne Language & Learning, The Centre, The Venny, Wingate Avenue, Community Centre/ Frontyard, The Drum, The Salvation Army, The Couch, other public libraries and state government services, NBN co. and ACCAN.	Council Plan 2021 -2025
<b>Safety and Wellbeing</b>	(MI 48) Adopt in 2021-22 and then implement an Inclusive Melbourne Strategy that will increase access to opportunities for all people and outline how the City of Melbourne will respond to the diversity of religions, cultures, age groups, gender and ability among the people who live, work, study and visit the city.	Development and implementation of City of Melbourne's Inclusive Melbourne Strategy.	Deliver	2021-2025	Inner North West Primary Care Partnership (INW PCP)	Inclusive Melbourne Strategy

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
Safety and Wellbeing	(R) Implementation of key projects aligned with the City of Melbourne's Children's Plan (in development).	Implement the City of Melbourne's Children's Plan (under development).	Deliver	2021-2022	Peak bodies, Businesses service providers, Children & families	Children's Plan
Access and Affordability	(R) Advance our commitment to Reconciliation.	Implement Year 2 actions of the Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan.	Deliver	2021	Traditional owners Elders	
Safety and Wellbeing	(R) Ageing and Inclusion: Deliver the Melbourne: A Great Place to Age Strategic Plan 2020-2024	Deliver Year 2 Actions : A Great Place to Age Strategic Plan 2020-2024	Deliver	2021-2022	Community members, community groups, peak bodies representing older people and carers, community health, housing services, service providers, research institutions, Victorian Government	

**Other council activity supporting this focus area:**

- **Council Services:** City of Melbourne delivers a wide range of inclusive and accessible services and programs. These range from childcare, maternal and child health, recreation facilities, arts and cultural initiatives and libraries.
- **Community Grants:** City of Melbourne also provides a significant amount of funding to the community in the form of various grants focused on supporting local groups and initiatives, such as neighbourhood houses and community events.
- **Pride Network:** We support our LGBTIQA+ community and culture, and work to ensure everyone is welcomed, engaged and included equitably.
- **International Student Support:** The City of Melbourne provides a range of support for international students.
- **Community Support Directory:** A central resource of essential support services for our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. The directory includes information about the virus as well as contact details for mental health, family violence, alcohol and other drug use, housing and homelessness, food relief, medical services, financial and legal support services.

# 3. HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE



This focus area recognises the importance of supporting and encouraging people to make healthy and sustainable lifestyle decisions.

A healthy lifestyle is determined by day-to-day behaviours and functions of people in their employment, living environment, recreation and diet which promote health and reduce the risk of poor health outcomes.

Lifestyles and behaviours are also known as modifiable risk factors. Unlike non-modifiable risk factors such as age or genetic composition which are beyond the control of an individual, modifiable risk factors can be changed or adjusted. For example, individual behaviours such as smoking, alcohol consumption and drug use, physical inactivity, and poor nutrition increases the risk of obesity and chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes and poor mental health.

A city which provides opportunities for people to lead a healthy and sustainable lifestyle fosters opportunities for all who live, work, play and learn in the city to achieve positive physical, mental and social wellbeing.

#### Evidence Base

- Leading chronic diseases in the municipality are obesity/overweight, hypertension, asthma and type 2 diabetes.
- 93% do not eat enough fruit or vegetables.
- 11.5% drink soft drink daily and 17% eat takeaway food more than once a week.
- 45% do not get adequate physical exercise.
- 22% sit for 8+ hours on an average weekday.
- Declining participation in organised physical activity e.g. through a local leisure centre or sporting clubs.
- High rates of ambulance attendances, hospitalisations associated with alcohol and drug misuse in metropolitan Melbourne.
- 12% are current smokers and increased density in the inner city increases exposure to second-hand smoke in the community.
- Share of all trips originating within the municipality on an average weekday; (36% walking, 19% public transport, 3% bicycle).
- Delayed health screening and tests due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Some comments received during community consultation:

**“If people are encouraged to have a balanced lifestyle then good health would follow.”**

– Male, 35-54 years, resident

**“A good lifestyle is key to facilitating good overall wellbeing.”**

– Female, 25-34 years, resident

### Action Plan

**Focus Area 3: Healthy and Sustainable Lifestyles acts on the following four year strategic priorities from the Council Plan 2021-25:**

- People are supported and encouraged to make healthy and sustainable lifestyle decisions ❤️





COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
<b>Economy of the Future</b>	(MI 4) Work in partnership with the Victorian Government and other stakeholders to advocate for and deliver integrated high-quality public and active transport in urban renewal areas including Melbourne Metro 2 and tram to Fisherman's Bend and tram to connect the Arden precinct.	To be developed and shared with Councillors in November	Deliver	2021-2025	Victorian Government	Transport Strategy 2030
<b>Melbourne's Unique Identity and Place</b>	(MI 12) Partner with the Victorian Government and other stakeholders to deliver specific components of Greenline along the north bank of the Yarra River (including the implementation of the Yarra River - Birrarung Strategy).	Develop and deliver a Greenline Implementation Plan.	Deliver	2021-2025	Traditional Owners, Victorian Government	Yarra River Birrarung Strategy
<b>Safety and Wellbeing</b>	(MI 16) Increase the amount of public open space in the municipality with a focus on areas of greatest need, such as Southbank and emerging urban renewal areas.	This initiative is made up of the following projects in 2021-2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Southbank Open Space reserve</li> <li>• Urban Renewal Open Spaces</li> <li>• Pocket Parks</li> <li>• Climate Adaptation Urban Landscapes New Works</li> </ul>	Partner	2021-2022	Community and neighbourhood stakeholders, Victorian Government.	Open Space Strategy
<b>Access and Affordability</b>	(MI 36) Increase and upgrade accessible, inclusive spaces for women in City of Melbourne sports facilities.	Develop a Recreational Provisional Master Plan including scope of future works to be inviting, accessible, safe and fit for purpose for all sporting participations, with a focus on gender equity. Works to begin on three pavilions in Royal Park - Western, Bren's and Ryder Pavilions over 2021-2022.	Deliver	2021-2025	Pavilion user groups, parks friends groups and local residents.  Heritage Victoria.	Active Melbourne Plan 2020-2025

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
Safety and Wellbeing	(R) Continue working to provide a healthier city through the implementation of the Smoke-Free Melbourne policy.	Investigate expanding smoke-free areas in the central city and how and where smokers can smoke without impacting others.	Partner	2021-2025	Quit Victoria National Heart Foundation VicHealth Victorian Government	Smoke-Free Melbourne policy
Safety and Wellbeing	(R) Investigate and determine appropriate responses to identified issues in managing gambling, alcohol and drug related harm including the impact on mental health.	Work in partnership with our stakeholders to monitor the impacts of gambling, alcohol and other drugs on our community including their mental health and deliver programs to minimise harm in our municipality.	Deliver	2021-2025	Melbourne Alcohol and Other Drug Services Network The Local Government Gambling, Alcohol and Other Drugs Issues Form The Local Government Safe Cities Network CoHealth Victorian Government	Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021 - 2025

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
Safety and Wellbeing	(R) Finalise the 4 year Active Melbourne Plan and implement actions.	Commence implementation of Active Melbourne Plan actions.	Partner	2021-2022	New partners to be established existing partners include:  YMCA Victoria, Michael Lawn, Development Victoria, Sporting Associations and clubs, community groups, Sport and Recreation Victoria, Industry Associations, Vic Health, Life Saving Victoria, Inner Melbourne Action Plan, Parks Victoria	Active Melbourne Plan 2020-2025

**Other council activity supporting this focus area:**

- **Active Melbourne Facilities and Spaces:** The City of Melbourne manages places and spaces for people to be active including community recreation and aquatic facilities, skate parks, senior citizen centres, child care centres, neighbourhood houses and community hubs, waterways, parks and ovals, golf and bowls clubs, tennis courts and walking and cycling routes.
- **Make Melbourne a Safe, Convenient Cycling City:** The City of Melbourne fast-tracked 44 kilometres of new protected bike lanes and bicycle friendly treatments which will make it easier for people to ride in the city during the COVID-19 recovery. The accelerated roll-out of protected bike lanes is also part of The City of Melbourne's Climate Emergency response to reduce transport emissions.
- **Healthy Choices:** The program helps food providers to improve their menus, offer more healthy options and enable consumers to make better food choices. Based on the Victoria government's *Healthy choices: food and drink classification guide*, which assesses a food's ingredients list to determine its overall nutritional value. Healthy choices are available at major events and facilities across the City of Melbourne including Moomba, Melbourne Fashion Week, Melbourne Awards, North Melbourne Recreation Centre, Melbourne City Baths, Kensington Community Recreation Centre, Carlton Baths and Riverslide Skate Park.
- **Food Safety:** Food businesses are regularly inspected by Environmental Health Officers. These officers provide advice to food businesses to ensure food safety and process complaints about food handling and cases of food poisoning.
- **Alcohol and Other Drugs:** Responsibility for co-ordinating the City of Melbourne Alcohol and Other Drug Services and Stakeholder Network who meet quarterly and provide proactive support to marginalized community members impacted by their drug use.
- **Syringe Disposal:** The City of Melbourne provides a range of free services to ensure that needles and syringes are disposed of safely. These include: approximately 470 syringe disposal bins located across the municipality and in all public toilets that are serviced regularly, daily weekday clean-up of syringes in public spaces and fast on-call collection of inappropriately discarded syringes.

# 4. HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS



This focus area recognises the need for a fair, appropriate range of affordable housing for people of all backgrounds is available with special focus on people experiencing homelessness.

Safe and secure housing is a basic need for our health and wellbeing, but housing in Melbourne is more expensive than many can afford. Too many people experience homelessness in our city and many struggle to find housing that meets their needs. When housing is inadequate, or precarious, it can be harmful to health and wellbeing. Housing stress and homelessness impacts mental health and social wellbeing as a result of chronic stress and a lack of stability, safety and sense of control over one's life. Housing stress and homelessness also affects daily living practices, such as the ability to access, store and prepare adequate food, access to a safe space to self-isolate during the COVID-19 pandemic or protection from extreme weather (heatwaves and cold snaps).

There are a range of factors which can lead to homelessness including unemployment, housing affordability, mental illness, substance abuse and exposure to trauma or abuse. Family violence is the major reason for women seeking assistance from homelessness support services. The COVID-19 pandemic and the associated economic recession has exacerbated the key risk factors. This will likely change the nature and scale of homelessness and rough sleeping in the months and years to come.

Many people experiencing homelessness present to services in inner metropolitan Melbourne for a range of reasons, including homelessness services and programs and to seek safety in numbers. As a result, City of Melbourne is the site of a disproportionate number of people sleeping rough. Rough sleeping is the most visible expression of homelessness. It has profound impacts for the health and safety of those affected and the community as-a-whole through impacts to public amenity. An effective response to rough sleeping is vital to protect the safety and wellbeing of some of our community's most vulnerable people and to ensure a healthy, inclusive and vibrant city.

#### Evidence Base

- 32% of private households experiencing rental and mortgage stress.
- 5.5% live in social housing, double metropolitan Melbourne (2.5%).
- Overcrowded dwellings are on the rise.
- The proportion of people experiencing absolute homelessness (defined by the United Nations as persons in improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping out and persons in supported accommodation for the homeless) has increased between ABS census years of 2011 and 2016.
- Melbourne is experiencing a housing crisis. There is currently a significant shortage of affordable homes in Melbourne.
- 74 people are currently sleeping rough on our streets (as of June 2021).

## Some comments received during community consultation:

“With safe and secure housing, many other issues are helped; there’s no point having nice parks or inclusive activities without a decent place to live.”

- Female, 55+ years, worker

“Appropriate accommodation for citizens is critical to the health and wellbeing of people. Without it, morale drops sharply alongside their physical and mental health.”

- Male, 25-34 years, student

## Action Plan

**Focus Area 4: Housing and Homelessness acts on the following four year strategic priorities from the Council Plan 2021-25:**

- Fair, appropriate and accessible range of affordable housing for people of all backgrounds is available, with special focus on people experiencing homelessness ❤️



COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
<b>Economy of the Future</b>	(MI 6) Market and promote Melbourne as a great place to live for all while ensuring key workers have access to affordable housing.	Develop a marketing campaign to promote the reduction in stamp duty available to CBD apartments and other incentives to encourage more people to reside in the city.	Deliver	2021-2022	Visit Victoria  Key agencies, industry associations, developers and real estate agents	Economic Development Strategy 2031
<b>Access and Affordability</b>	(MI 44) Create a new entity 'Homes Melbourne', to coordinate and facilitate more affordable housing for key workers and people on low-incomes and progress a demonstration project on Council-owned land, support the Make Room accommodation project and new homeless support hubs for vulnerable citizens to access essential support services including food, showers, lockers, information, and housing and homelessness advice.	Homes Melbourne established.  Commence and complete <i>Makeroom</i> accommodation at 602 Little Bourke St.  Source, scope and establish locations suitable for access and service hubs.	Partner	2021-2025	The City of Melbourne Service Coordination Team (SCT)  Sector providers	Affordable Housing Strategy 2030



COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
Access and Affordability	(R) Deliver priorities of the Affordable Housing Strategy	Deliver Year 1 of the Affordable Housing Strategy	Deliver	2021-2022	Homes Victoria Not for profit Housing providers	Economic Development Strategy 2030

#### Other council activity supporting this focus area:

- **Connect Respect:** Training program which helps businesses understand and engage with people sleeping rough and help them to support – rather than displace – people experiencing homelessness around their premises.
- **Libraries Social Support Worker:** Libraries are among the last few public indoor spaces where people who are homeless or vulnerable can seek shelter, access technology and use resources. In an Australian-first program, the Library Social Worker works proactively with library visitors and staff to help them respond appropriately to people who may require extra assistance.
- **The Daily Support team:** A specialised team which works with people sleeping rough in the city, with the aim of finding permanent pathways out of homelessness. The City of Melbourne are the first Council in Victoria to have an in-house assertive outreach program for rough sleepers.
- **Extreme weather program:** Notification out to services when extreme weather events are forecast. During extreme heat the City of Melbourne provides swim passes, movie passes and drink bottles to service providers for people experiencing homelessness in the municipality.
- **Operation protocol:** Council protocol to address rough sleeping in the city that considers both public safety and amenity, and the welfare needs of people who are vulnerable.
- **Night Time Safe Space Program:** Provides a welcoming, safe and inclusive space for men and women experiencing homelessness from 11pm to 7am, 364 nights each year. During COVID-19, resources were redirected to supporting an on-street outreach service for people who continued to sleep rough on our streets.
- **COVID-19 support to the homeless:** City of Melbourne is working together with the Victorian Government, support agencies and businesses to provide hotel emergency accommodation, care, and health and wellbeing support for more than 300 people who were sleeping rough prior to COVID-19 pandemic. We continue to check in with people experiencing homelessness in the city to offer a safe place to sleep. Together with other service providers, we are offering masks, hand sanitiser, and mask education to people sleeping rough.

# 5. FOOD SECURITY



This focus area recognises the importance of secure access to nutritious, safe, fair and culturally appropriate food for everyone in our community, especially the most vulnerable.

Food security exists when everyone has the physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active, healthy lifestyle at all times. Food insecurity occurs when there is a disruption of food intake or eating patterns because of lack of money and other resources. People are considered to be experiencing food insecurity if they have to skip or reduce their meals due to a lack of money, they are worried they may run out of food and potentially not have enough to buy more, or they completely run out of food and have no money to purchase more and/or need to access emergency food relief services.

Food is a foundational factor to people's overall health and wellbeing. Not having enough food to feed yourself or your family can not only lead to poorer physical health due to malnutrition, hunger and a lack of energy. It can also lead to mental health issues such as depression and anxiety due to a sense of powerlessness and social exclusion.

Through our community engagement process, community highlighted the importance of access to food being a basic need essential for survival. Many spoke about their concern about the number of individuals and families who are going without adequate access to food. They advocated for improved awareness and accessibility of local food relief services, as well as more community education around growing food at home and provision of community gardens.

#### Evidence Base

- 1 in 3 households are food insecure (33%).
- 19.3% of residents of residents ran out of food at some point in 2020.
- Food insecurity has risen by 7% since the COVID-19 pandemic hit.
- Demand for food relief has doubled since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 39% of residents who have experienced food insecurity in the past three years have accessed a food relief program or service. 66% of which accessed food relief for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 62% of local residents are producing, preserving and consuming their own food.
- At the broader level, our cities food systems will also be increasingly impacted by the climate emergency. Extreme weather events, changes in rainfall pattern, hotter temperatures, future pandemics, fuels shocks and other events will all impact our cities food supply.

## Some comments received during community consultation:

“Food is the lynch pin to good health.”

- Female, 55+ years, resident

“Because there are so many families that don’t have food.”

- Female, 35-54 years, worker

“Because we can’t survive if we can’t eat.”

- Male, 35-54 years, worker

## Action Plan

Focus Area 5: Food Security acts on the following four year strategic priorities from the Council Plan 2021-25:

- Increased food security for everyone, especially the most vulnerable ❤️

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
Access and Affordability	(MI 13) Protect Queen Victoria Market as a traditional open-air market, through heritage restoration and the provision of essential services and facilities that enhance the customer and trader experience, including projects such as the Shed Restoration, Food Hall, Trader Shed, Market Square, waste and logistics facility and future developments to the south of the market.	Renewal of Queen Victoria Market Food Hall.	Deliver	2021-2025	Queen Victoria Market Board and Management Queen Victoria Market Traders Australian and Victorian Government, Heritage Victoria	Queen Victoria Market Master Plan
Access and Affordability	(MI 40) Develop and deliver initiatives and programs that will provide food relief to vulnerable members of our community and improve local food production by supporting communities to grow their own food.	Develop and deliver a Food Security Action Plan, including research on food relief in the municipality.	Deliver	2021-2022	Food relief providers, community members, peak bodies, Victorian government	City of Melbourne Food Policy

**Other council activity supporting this focus area:**

- **Community Food Guide:** A resource for community support agencies or DELWP members of the community who need information about how to access affordable, fresh and healthy food within the municipality of Melbourne. The guide includes information on food banks, parcels and vouchers; community meals, including free and cheap meals; food education, including classes and community kitchens; community gardens; fresh food and groceries and food rescue. A COVID-19 pandemic version has been made available to show which services remain operational. Go to our website [melbourne.vic.gov.au](http://melbourne.vic.gov.au)
- **Communal Gardening:** Communal gardens can be found at Kensington Stockyard Food Garden, Drill Hall Community Garden on Therry Street, Stevenson Lane, Boyd Community Hub in Southbank, East Melbourne Library, Geographe Street in Docklands, and Courtney Street in North Melbourne. Communal gardens are an important way for people to access fresh produce, boost their wellbeing and build community connections as Melbourne's population grows. Growing sustainable, local produce and composting organic waste is also a great way to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and take action on climate change.
- **Community Grants:** Financial support to community groups wanting to develop food capacity building projects such as community kitchen programs, food growing education and community gardens.

# 6. HEALTH IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE



This focus area recognises the importance of resilient and safe communities that are adapting to the public health impacts of climate change.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has described climate change as the defining issue for public health in the 21st century, with implications at the global, national and community levels. Our climate in Victoria has already warmed by 1°C. Temperature rise above 1.5°C will lead to major and irreversible damage to ecosystems and human health.

The Melbourne City Council has joined the growing movement calling for urgent action to address climate change. In July 2019, Council declared a climate and biodiversity emergency. The declaration recognised that climate change and species extinction pose serious risks to the people of Melbourne and should be treated as an emergency.

Human health must go hand in hand with planetary health and sustainability. A focus on healthy and green interventions such as promoting active and public transport, increasing blue-green infrastructure and eating locally produced plant based foods could deliver better health for our community together with economic, social and environmental benefits.

Tackling the climate emergency and its impact on health was identified as one of the most significant issues for the community. The community expressed the need for urgency in taking action. There were multiple requests for more local living, encouraging sustainable and active forms of transport such walking and cycling and improved access to open green spaces and increase vegetation across the city to reduce emissions and increase biodiversity.

#### Evidence Base

- Direct physical and mental health impacts include:
  - Respiratory conditions such as asthma rates are on the rise in Melbourne (15%), which will be exacerbated by exposure to pollution, thunderstorm asthma events and bushfire smoke haze.
  - Increased deaths associated with heat stress with studies showing increased demand on health services and higher mortality rates in Melbourne during the 2009 and 2014 heatwaves.
  - Changes in the spread of infectious diseases (e.g. COVID-19 pandemic).
  - Eco or climate related anxiety is increasing, particularly amongst young people.
- Indirect health and wellbeing impacts include risks to our cities water and food security, and risks to local infrastructure such as open green spaces and transport.
  - Melbourne currently has 23% tree canopy coverage and 21% percent of open space across our municipality. This contributes to reducing the urban heat island effect, in turn impacting on the health our community.
  - Flash flooding and power outages can disrupt transport systems across the city. Sustainable transport use in the municipality is good (41%) and car ownership is declining. This contributes to exercise as well as reduced greenhouse gas emissions.
  - Drought conditions will impact agricultural food production and the cities food security. There is increasing demand for localised food production in Melbourne (62% of the community currently produce their own food in some form).
- Research from the City of Melbourne's Municipal Emergency Planning Committee shows that residents think extreme weather will have a moderate or great deal of impact and that they currently have low levels of preparedness.

## Some comments received during community consultation:

“So we have a liveable place to be in the near future. The rest won’t matter if we can’t get this right.”

– Female, 35-54 years, worker

## Action Plan

**Focus Area 6: Health Impacts of Climate Change acts on the following four year strategic priorities from the Council Plan 2021-25:**

- City of Melbourne is a leading city globally that sets the standard in climate action ♥
- Spaces and buildings showcase world-leading sustainable design principles to enhance liveability and lead innovative responses to climate change, including protecting communities from the impact of extreme weather events ♥
- Resilient and safe communities that are adapting to the public health impacts of climate change ♥
- Biodiversity, habitat, green spaces, water quality and tree canopy cover are increased in the city ♥



COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
Climate and Biodiversity Emergency	(MI 30) Progress a planning scheme amendment to improve the environmental performance of buildings in order to reduce emissions to zero by 2040.	To introduce updated Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) standards in the Melbourne Planning Scheme in order to achieve Council's target of zero net emissions by 2040 and improve the city by increasing green cover and reducing water use, electricity consumption and the amount of waste going to landfill.	Deliver	2021- 2025	General community, resident groups, CASBE Councils, peak industry bodies; developers and landowners, media, environmental groups and the State Government.	Green Our City Action Plan
Climate and Biodiversity Emergency	(MI 31) Deliver on our Urban Forest Strategy including tree canopy, private greening incentives and city greening.	To continue to implement the Urban Forest Precinct Plans, implement the Urban Forest Fund grants, deliver on the Tree Planting Program and to protect the trees through application of the Tree Retention and Removal Policy (2012).	Deliver	2021- 2025	General community	Urban Forest Strategy
Climate and Biodiversity Emergency	(MI 32) Lead the reduction of food waste and diversion of waste from landfill, by continuing the Food Organics, Green Organics rollout through high-rise apartment innovation and by addressing food-waste reduction.	To address food and garden waste diversion from landfill from low-rise unit and apartment complexes (up to five storeys in height) and to develop and pilot solutions for managing food waste in high-rise buildings.	Deliver	2021-2025	DELWP, Sustainability Victoria, Victorian councils, composting networks and community groups; body corporates, building managers and resident groups.	Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
Climate and Biodiversity Emergency	(MI 33) Support the development of a circular economy through bold leadership and community neighbourhood projects, including the container deposit scheme, alternative waste technologies, circular economy guidelines and partnered or aggregated demand to stimulate end markets.	<p>Review of impacts and options of the State Government scheme, to assist City of Melbourne maximise recycling opportunities.</p> <p>Review opportunities available to City of Melbourne regarding advanced waste technologies available which can process our residual waste, maximising landfill diversion.</p> <p>Review partnership options and opportunities with neighbouring Councils aimed at driving innovation within the recycling market and circular economy outcomes.</p> <p>Development of guidelines to support circular economy in new or transforming precincts, involving new circular material flow guidelines for built form materials for construction, and end of life processes for decommissioning.</p>	Partner	2021-2025	M9 councils, Sustainability Victoria, DELWP	Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030
Climate and Biodiversity Emergency	(MI 35) Implement the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency action plan.	Implement Year 1 Actions.	Deliver	2021- 2022	Not required	Response to the Climate and Biodiversity Emergency
Safety and Wellbeing	(R) Mitigating urban heat – cooling in the city	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Analysis of next steps for cool routes</li> <li>- Communications over summer months</li> <li>- Data collection and analysis</li> </ul>	Deliver	2021-2022	<p>Internal City of Melbourne: Climate Change Action (cool routes) and Open space and Green Infrastructure (data collection).</p> <p>Others to be established.</p>	Green our City Strategic Action Plan

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	KEY ACTIVITY MAJOR INITIATIVE (MI), DELIVERY ROADMAP (R)	ACTION	COUNCIL ROLE	TIMELINE	KEY PARTNERS (IF KNOWN)	KEY STRATEGIC LINKS
Melbourne's Unique Identity and Place	(R) Open Space Strategy Implementation review.	Undertake 'Health Check' of Open Space Strategy	Deliver	2021-2022	Not required	Open Space Strategy
Climate and Biodiversity Emergency	(R) Deliver Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030.	Minimise waste to landfill by reusing and recycling.	Deliver Partner	Ongoing	M9 Councils, DELWP, Sustainability Victoria, composting networks and community groups; body corporates, building managers and resident groups. waste and recycling business sector.	Green our City Strategic Action Plan

**Other council activity supporting this focus area:**

- **Heatwave Response Plan:** Service providers, agencies and established community group organisations that interact with people who may be vulnerable to heat-related illnesses are notified when a heat health alert from the Department of Health has been issued.
- **Cool Routes and Cool Places Maps:** Information on the route best protected from the sun and heat through the city, and cool places to go if it is too hot where you are living.
- **Drinking Fountains:** There are many free bubbler drinking fountains as well as more than 60 drinking fountains fitted with water bottle refill taps across the city, as part of a joint initiative between the City of Melbourne and VicHealth.
- **Tree Canopy:** Plant 3000 trees a year to grow our urban forest, with over 22,000 trees planted since 2012.
- **Stormwater Harvesting:** The City of Melbourne invests in stormwater harvesting and water sensitive design, capturing and reusing around 180,000 kilolitres of water per year.
- **City Greening:** The City of Melbourne greens the city and increased permeability through park expansion and streetscapes projects.
- **Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery:** Through centralised garbage and recycling hubs across the city our Food Organics, Green Organics (FOGO) program is helping reduce food waste and divert waste from landfill.
- **The City of Melbourne Emission Reduction:**
  - Our Melbourne Renewable Energy Project has been highly successful at reducing emissions, with power purchase agreements now being replicated around the country.
  - Our Power Melbourne project is delivering coordinated neighbourhood-scale batteries to put sustainable energy back into the grid.
  - We have switched our major events such as Melbourne Fashion Week, Melbourne Music Week and Melbourne Knowledge Week to be certified carbon neutral.
  - We are leading the way on transitioning City of Melbourne assets away from gas.
  - We have reduced our operational emissions by over 75 per cent; and
  - We are an accredited Carbon Neutral organisation since 2012.



# EVALUATION AND REPORTING

As required under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, Council will review our health and wellbeing activity on an annual basis and report against our progress on this plan through councils Annual Report. The Action Plan 2021-2025 will also be updated on an annual basis to reflect the work of the year ahead.

A set of 22 indicators have been elevated from the full set of Council Plan 2021-2025 indicators to help track the health and wellbeing of the community, and gauge progress made towards the health and wellbeing focus areas. These indicators form our health and wellbeing evaluation framework.

The indicators in this plan will also help demonstrate progress against the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a United Nations framework supported by the City of Melbourne. The City of Melbourne has identified an initial set of localised indicators - starting with those that appear in the Council Plan - that will help us track Melbourne's performance against the global SDGs over time. This will enable us to benchmark our performance against other cities and make informed decisions on where to prioritise our effort, share success and learn from others.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING FOCUS AREA	LINK TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	INDICATORS	TARGET OR DESIRED TREND
Public health and safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Wellbeing	Proportion of people who report feeling safe in the city.	90% by day, 65% by night
	SDG 5: Gender Equity	Rate of recorded family violence incidents.	Decrease
	SDG 16: Promote Justice, Peace and Inclusive Societies	Rate of ambulance attendance for alcohol and drug misuse in the municipality.	Decrease
		Number of transport related injuries and fatalities.	Decrease
Mental wellbeing and inclusion	SDG 1: No Poverty	Proportion of residents employed in the municipality.	Increase
	SDG 8: Decent Work and Growth	Proportion of residents within 300m of public open space.	Increase
	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	Proportion of people surveyed who visit a park in the municipality on a regular basis.	Increase
	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	Proportion of people who support the city being made up of different cultures.	100%
		Proportion of people surveyed who believe the relationship with Aboriginal people is important.	100%
		Proportion of people who participate in arts and cultural activities in the municipality.	Increase
		Number of programs that are inclusive and respond to the needs of people with a disability.	Increase
		Melbournians' self-reported sense of belonging.	At least 70 on a scale of 100
	Complaints of discrimination based on sexual orientation, sexuality, disability, sex, gender, race, religious or political beliefs or other grounds for unlawful discrimination.	Decrease	

HEALTH AND WELLBEING FOCUS AREA	LINK TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	INDICATORS	TARGET OR DESIRED TREND
Healthy and sustainable lifestyles	SDG 3: Good health and wellbeing	Proportion of adults who get adequate physical exercise.	Increase
	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	Proportion of trips made by public transport, bicycle or on foot.	Increase
Housing and homelessness	SDG11: Sustainable cities and communities	Number of people sleeping rough and have not been offered accommodation.	Zero
		Number of people supported through a range of accommodation including long-term supportive and affordable housing.	500 (by 2025)
		Number of new demonstration social and affordable housing units facilitated on City of Melbourne land.	100 (by 2025)
Food security	SDG 2: Zero Hunger	Proportion of people reporting food insecurity.	25%
Health impacts of climate change	SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities	Hospital admissions in relation to extreme weather events.	Decrease
	SDG 13: Climate Action	Tree canopy cover in the public realm.	TBD
	SDG 15: Life on Land	Number of trees planted in the municipality.	TBD

# GLOSSARY

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<b>CoM</b>	City of Melbourne
<b>CP</b>	Council Plan 2021-2025
<b>LGBTIQA+</b>	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer or Questioning, Asexual, Plus.
<b>AOD</b>	Alcohol and Other Drugs
<b>PVAW</b>	Prevention of Violence Against Women
<b>Delivery Roadmap (R)</b>	City of Melbourne branch business plans
<b>Major Initiative (MI)</b>	Major project included in the City of Melbourne Council Plan 2021-2025
<b>DELWP</b>	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Environment

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# REFERENCES

## General

City of Melbourne Council Plan 2021-25  
City of Melbourne Annual Report 2020-21  
City of Melbourne Health and Wellbeing Profile 2020  
Health and Wellbeing Plan Community Consultation Report 2021  
City of Melbourne Health and Wellbeing Impacts of Covid-19 Report 2020  
CoM Covid Social Survey 2020

## Public Health and Safety

City of Melbourne COVID-19 Reactivation and Recovery Plan (2020)  
City of Melbourne Family Violence and Violence against Women Fact Sheet 2020

## Mental Wellbeing and Inclusion

City of Melbourne Mental Health and Wellbeing Fact Sheet 2020  
WHO (2014), Mental health: A state of wellbeing, <https://www.who.int/news-room/facts-in-pictures/detail/mental-health>  
Inner North West Primary Care Partnership Social Inclusion Measurement Project Summary Report 2019, [http://inwpcp.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Social-Inclusion-Summary-Report\\_Final\\_210819.pdf](http://inwpcp.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Social-Inclusion-Summary-Report_Final_210819.pdf)

## Healthy and Sustainable Lifestyles

City of Melbourne Physical Activity Fact Sheet 2020  
City of Melbourne Active Melbourne Plan 2021-25

## Food Security

City of Melbourne Food Policy (2012)  
Food Security in Melbourne Research Report 2021 – produced by Kantar Public  
City of Melbourne Food Security Fact Sheet 2020

## Housing and Homelessness

City of Melbourne Affordable Housing Strategy 2030  
City of Melbourne StreetCount 2018

## Health Impacts of Climate Change

City of Melbourne Climate Change and Extreme Weather Events Fact Sheet 2020  
Climate Change Adaptation Strategy Refresh 2017  
Tackling climate change and its impacts on health through municipal public health and wellbeing planning, Guidance for local government, 2020  
CoM's Municipal Emergency Planning Committee

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### Interpreter services

We cater for people of all backgrounds  
Please call 03 9280 0726

03 9280 0717 廣東話  
03 9280 0719 Bahasa Indonesia  
03 9280 0720 Italiano  
03 9280 0721 普通話  
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03 9280 0723 Español  
03 9280 0725 Việt Ngữ  
03 9280 0726 عربي  
03 9280 0726 한국어  
03 9280 0726 हिंदी  
03 9280 0726 All other languages

### National Relay Service:

If you are deaf, hearing impaired or speech-impaired,  
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users phone 1300 555 727 then ask for 03 9658 9658  
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CITY OF MELBOURNE