

BAYSIDE 2050 LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE

Bayside 2050 Community Panel Report

September 2020





Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

Bayside City Council respectfully acknowledges that the original inhabitants of this land that we call Bayside were the Boon Wurrung people of the Kulin nation and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging leaders.

We acknowledge that they loved this land, they cared for it and considered themselves to be part of it. We acknowledge that we have a responsibility to nurture the land and sustain it for future generations.

Our community's vision for Bayside

A community vision is a consensus aspirational view of a desired future that sets out the key priorities, aspirations and values that Council and the community will use to help make decisions to shape the Bayside of the future.

The draft Bayside 2050 Community Vision was developed by a representative Community Panel of local residents over February-July 2020.

The Vision will inform Bayside's strategic planning process including the four-year Council Plan established at the start of each term. The plan sets out infrastructure, social support and financial goals to help Council and the community achieve the long term aspirations and priorities outlined in the Bayside 2050 Community Vision.

All Victorian Councils must develop a Community Vision statement under the new Local Government Act 2020. Councils must also advocate on behalf of the community to other level of governments to ensure their aspirations are met.

Developing the vision

Between October and December 2019, Bayside City Council commenced community engagement on the Bayside 2050 Community Vision.

More than 850 local residents shared their ideas and feedback for the future via a range of activities including workshops, discussion groups, interviews, pop ups and a survey.

An expression of interest (EOI) process to participate in the Bayside 2050 Community Panel attracted more than 200 applications. Community Panel members were selected via a random, stratified selection process managed by external consultant MosaicLab to be broadly representative of the municipality in age, locations and gender.

The 28 member Bayside 2050 Community Panel held their inaugural workshop session in late February 2020 to consider the question:

"The world is changing, and life in Bayside will be very different in 30 years' time. What's our vision for Bayside in 2050 and what do we need to prioritise in order to get there?" The group focused on developing a vision statement (and rationale) document that would guide decisions for Bayside towards 2050.

After a brief interval following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the panel reconvened online in May with slightly reduced participant numbers.

The Bayside 2050 Community Panel Report was presented to the Mayor and CEO of Bayside City Council in late May, with a response from Council provide to the panel for consideration.

The Panel's final report was noted by the full Council in August 2020. The report contains a vision and rationale, ten recommendations for themes and priorities that received 'super majority' support from the panel and two minority reports.



Bayside 2050 Community Vision DRAFT Panel Report 30 May 2020

The Bayside 2050 Panel Report was generated and refined over several months due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The panel was asked to consider priorities for 2050, and emerging issues likely to shape Bayside's future and to determine what would serve the community of Bayside best.

The panel communicated predominantly online, this restricted the social interaction that would normally be expected in community discussion.

Bayside 2050 Community Vision Vision Statement

Bayside in 2050 leads the way demonstrably as a diverse, healthy and liveable place. We value economic and cultural progress, environmental sustainability and protection of open spaces and coastline, and we nurture inclusiveness, safety, accessibility, community vibrancy, creativity and innovation.

The Vision does not dictate specific actions, however in ensuring accountability to the community, it requires Council to ensure that their decisions align with moving closer to achieving this Vision.



More than 850 local residents shared their ideas and feedback for the future via a range of activities including workshops, discussion groups, interviews, pop ups and a survey.

Vision themes

1. The living environment/natural environment

Theme title

Bayside will mitigate coastal erosion and protect and enhance indigenous biodiversity from the effects of climate change in the natural environment.

Key priorities

Priority 1.1

To mitigate coastal erosion and to proactively act on climate change plans to protect the biodiversity of the foreshore and all its inhabitants, including flora and fauna and marine life.

Priority 1.2

Protect the coast, land and sea through measures such as increased tree planting, sensitive landscaping and enhanced pedestrian connections with nature, planning for the effects of extreme weather.

Priority 1.3

Enhance and protect the full range of botanical flora and fauna biodiversity, which will be climate appropriate for 2050. Ensure our city remains a sustainable and biologically diverse environment, where residents and nature can co-exist.

Priority 1.4

To create a sustainable community that prioritizes recycling and reusing at the local level, for example community gardens. Bayside City Council must ensure that they act on plans to reduce emissions and negate the effects of climate change.

Place based considerations?

Whole municipality.

Rationale

Underpins the whole fabric of our vibrant and enjoyable Bayside amenity.

2. Increase and enhance open space

Theme title

Bayside will ensure open space and its protection and amenity is a priority for 2050.

Key priorities

Priority 2.1

Ensure existing open space is maintained, protected and accessible to all.

Priority 2.2

Have an active strategy to acquire more open space, reclaim space and purchase land where required. Encourage microparks, pocket parks and community garden projects.

Priority 2.3

Ensure that open space and community infrastructure on that land has the potential for multipurpose use.

Priority 2.4

Design public open space so that it reflects careful consideration of the environmental, cultural and heritage value of Bayside.

Priority 2.5

Council encourages developers to include open gardens accessible for all.

Place based considerations?

Whole municipality.

Rationale

Increased sense of community, provides places for our community to meet and engage. Improve their mental and physical health.

3. Transport, walkability and rideability

Theme title

Bayside will support provision of effective, sustainable and inclusive transport services and infrastructure.

Key priorities

Priority 3.1

Encourage innovation within the provision of co-ordinated land, water and air transport services and infrastructure, thus decreasing dependence on environmentally inefficient transport.

Priority 3.2

Continually improve sustainability, cost effectiveness and efficiency of transport services and infrastructure.

Priority 3.3

Equal access to transport for everyone.

Priority 3.4

Increase the emphasis on the development of safer and more inclusive pedestrian infrastructure.

Place based considerations?

Bayside municipality and adjoining municipalities.

Rationale

As population grows a good integrated transport system will reduce congestion, decrease the need for parking and be better for the environment, enabling residents and visitors to move freely within the community.

4. Community feel and direction

Theme title

Bayside will be a city that is greener and has more open space, and creates a community that is inclusive, respectful and accessible.

Key priorities

Priority 4.1

Green open space: increasing open space by the acquisition of more land and better utilisation of existing spaces for pocket parks and community gardens.

Priority 4.2

Accessibility: walkable, sustainable transport, less congestion, safe, ease of connectivity between retail strips and neighbourhoods with consideration of all abilities and ages. This includes Council encouraging accessibility in the built environment.

Priority 4.3

Open/Built Space Integration: That open spaces are integrated within any large scale developments.

Priority 4.4

Involvement: Bayside City Council prioritizes strong active resident involvement in all civic, social and cultural activities and will nurture the structural and technological supports to maximise that involvement. Community groups and Council to work together to facilitate activities to recognise the history of the area, including indigenous history.

Note: There was a priority here to include inclusiveness and access. However these now have their own Theme. This also pertains to indigenous issues. Nonetheless, we believe that rather than a separate theme, it would be right and proper to include these issues in all themes where appropriate.

Place based considerations?

Whole municipality.

Rationale

Bayside wants to encourage all residents to participate and feel part of the local community. This leads to social cohesion and hence less crime, cost savings, increased standard of living and achieving community goals.

5. Nurturing Creativity

Theme title

Bayside will nurture creativity.

Key priorities

Priority 5.1

Bayside will nurture a vibrant and connected community by promoting creativity in the arts in all its forms.

Priority 5.2

Making use of public areas and infrastructure to encourage more people to be involved. Regular reviews of the use of community facilities to ensure all creativity is encouraged and space is shared.

Priority 5.3

Commitment to providing grants to Bayside-based individuals and groups to nurture creativity in the arts.

Place based considerations?

Whole municipality.

Rationale

Bayside's leadership in creativity in the arts.

6. Promoting Innovation

Theme title

Bayside will nurture innovation to encourage a thriving and vibrant community.

Key priorities

Priority 6.1

We require the Council to employ innovative methods, ideas and products across all Council operational matters and future planning.

Priority 6.2

Commitment to providing grants and awards to innovative endeavours in the sciences.

Priority 6.3

Nurturing broad community support and involvement for the sciences and innovation through public/private partnerships and community associations.

Place based considerations?

Whole municipality.

Rationale

Creativity and thinking outside the box improves problem solving and the opportunity to have a competitive advantage.

7. Council operations and accountability

Theme title

Council Operations and Accountability.

Key priorities

Priority 7.1

The Bayside City Council actions and decisions align fully to the intent of the Bayside 2050 Vision and that Council reports back on an annual basis as to its achievement/performance of the Vision.

Priority 7.2

That Bayside City Council constantly monitors and updates its activities in relation to the Vision 2050.

Priority 7.3

Where actions are the responsibility of other stakeholders or are beyond Council's remit, to advocate strongly on behalf of our community to achieve the community's desired outcomes.

Place based considerations?

Whole municipality.

Rationale

That Bayside City Council serves the needs of its communities, engaging with them, reflecting their desires and aspirations in its activities, including, where appropriate, encouragement for community members to drive the Vision.

8. Access and Inclusion

Theme title

Bayside will be inclusive and accessible for all.

Key priorities

Priority 8.1

Barriers to participation for all people in accessing Council and community services to be identified and solutions implemented.

Priority 8.2

Bayside will improve accessibility to public infrastructure.

Priority 8.3

Bayside encourages and advocates for people of all abilities and backgrounds to be involved in the community and in leadership roles in Council.

Place based considerations?

Whole municipality.

Rationale

Bayside values all individuals. Bayside wishes to demonstrate that they value the lived experiences of all cultures and that they want to be inclusive of people of all abilities in the community.

9. The built environment

Theme title

The built environment includes residential and commercial properties, roads and transport infrastructure and all aspects that a Council would 'build'/'rate' as part of the overall environment across 'Bayside.

Key priorities

Priority 9.1

Land is a scarce commodity and therefore the highest value use of land must Always take priority in decision making. Where property acquisition for more public space is not available, Council should consider reclaiming car parking and established road space for that purpose.

Priority 9.2

Heritage consideration should be given to properties with a Heritage Precinct. The establishment of any heritage listing will be subject to an owner's consent (for individual properties) and utilise an introductory time window where Council intends to establish a Heritage precinct of its own volition

Priority 9.3

All assets leased and any project considered by Council will be subject to a cost benefit analysis in the period prior to renewal of a lease/undertaking of project

Priority 9.4

With the anticipated population increase, both within and beyond Bayside, Council must focus on creating and enhancing civic infrastructure (walking paths, lighting, increasing open space) including commercial and retail needs.

Place based considerations?

Adaptive as suits each location

Rationale

Caters for multiple and varying views on how to best develop the Built environment across the city to allow for future accommodation increases and protection of the liveability of Bayside

10. Tourism, commercial & economic opportunities

Theme title

Encouraging a vibrant commercial sector of environmentally compatible industries including tourism, high-tech and commercial activities to underpin the economy of the city.

Key priorities

Priority 10.1

Enhancing, protecting, and compatibly developing, the foreshore and its environs as popular, attractive and desirable locations for locals and tourists, including imaginative redevelopment of council-owned facilities, encouragement of new accommodations and built tourism attractions in appropriate locations.

To protect the endemic and unique botanical and scenic values of the foreshore for the benefit of residents and visitors always ensuring that resident amenity is maintained. To devise new ways of connecting and integrating the foreshore area with Bayside City proper including use of water transport.

Priority 10.2

Identify the benefits the foreshore offers and focus on protecting its specific and signature botanical and scenic values. Express the different flavours of Bayside's specific villages such as the villages of Brighton, Hampton, Sandringham, Black Rock, Beaumaris, Highett and Cheltenham and their smaller strip shopping business areas are different to each other and have their own signature style and amenities, as a way of attracting visitors to each, rather than a homogenous 'Bayside' area.

Priority 10.3

Create more events and facilities focused around or beside the foreshore - eg. Sculpture by the Bay, night food markets, outside gyms a la Muscle beach in Venice Beach, Los Angeles. Seek better designed, better managed and more attractive and sophisticated hospitality and tourism facilities along the foreshore. Ensure that all development and commercial activities are not detrimental to residential amenity of the area.

Priority 10.4

Encouraging, supporting and fostering local businesses across all of Bayside which underpin the viability and character of our individual village structures and give easy accessibility to local populations.

Council to facilitate the delivery of measures, events and activities by community groups or commercial enterprises to promote the villages and enterprise in the city and also, on occasion, instigate and run.

Place based considerations?

Whole municipality.

Rationale

No rationale provided by the Panel.



Next steps

The Bayside 2050 Community Vision provides a strong basis for long term planning for Council and the community.

The Vision establishes a clear link between the future aspirations of the community and Council decision making over the coming 30 years.

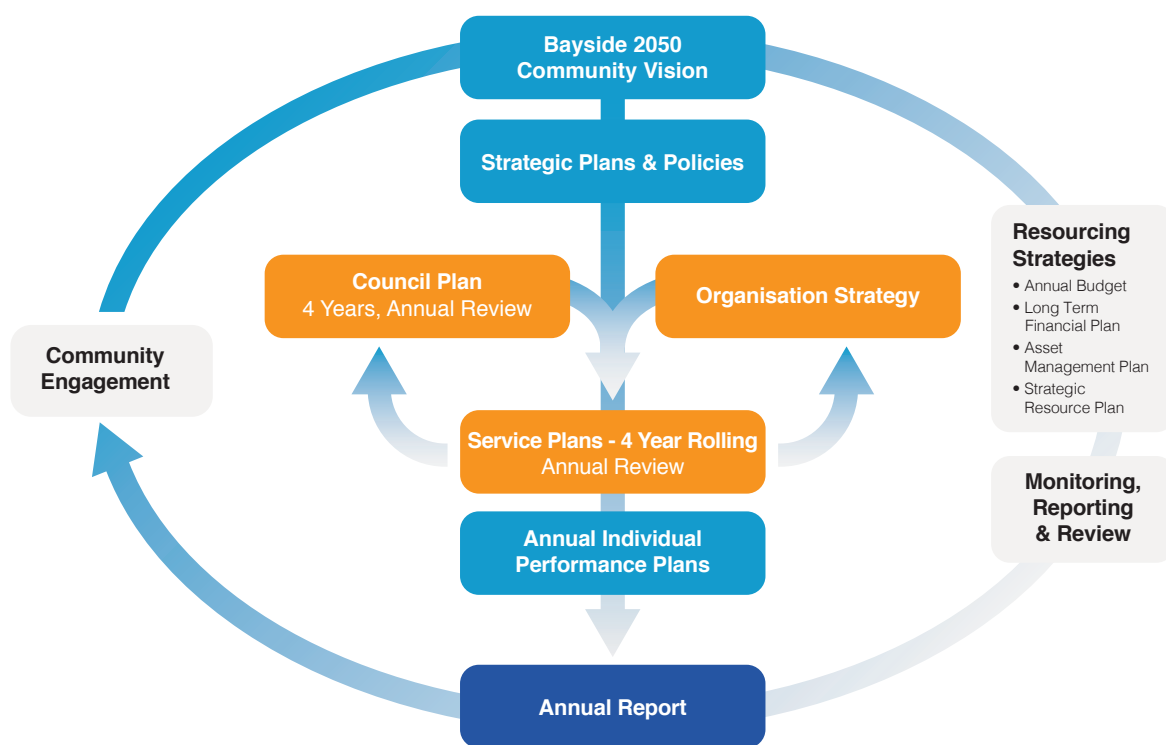
The Vision will be formally incorporated into Council's strategic planning, budgeting process and advocacy programs to ensure we are advocating for our community's aspirations to all levels of government and agencies.

The priorities outlined in the Vision will inform long term resourcing strategies and medium term strategic plans and policies.

The incoming Council elected at the October 2020 Bayside City Council elections will consider the Bayside 2050 Community Vision for adoption in early 2021.

This Council will also consider priorities outlined in the Bayside 2050 Community Vision in the development of the next Council Plan 2020-2024.

We will also provide the Bayside 2050 Community Vision to other agencies, government departments and stakeholders to inform their own long term planning and prioritisation processes.



Bayside City Council Strategic Planning framework

BAYSIDE 2050 LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE



Bayside City Council
76 Royal Avenue
Sandringham VIC 3191
Tel (03) 9599 4444
enquiries@bayside.vic.gov.au
bayside.vic.gov.au

