



Federal Election 2025 | Priority Project Opportunities

Version 3, February 2025





City of Port Phillip

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Introduction

The City of Port Phillip is a vibrant and diverse community, renowned for its rich cultural heritage, stunning coastal landscapes, and dynamic urban environment. Our City is home to a thriving population that values sustainability, inclusivity, and innovation.

At the City of Port Phillip, we deeply value our partnerships with all levels of government. Collaborative efforts have consistently enabled us to achieve significant milestones and enhance the quality of life for our residents. As we look towards the future, we are eager to continue this tradition of cooperation and mutual support.

This booklet outlines key priority projects that we believe present valuable opportunities for partnership with the Federal Government. These projects are designed to address critical needs within our community and to foster long-term growth and resilience. We invite you to explore these initiatives and consider how they align with your vision and goals for the upcoming election.

Should you require further information or wish to discuss any of these projects in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Cowin, Head of Advocacy, Economic Development and Partnerships at elizabeth.cowin@portphillip.vic.gov.au or via telephone on **0424 157 329**.

We look forward to the possibility of working together to create a brighter future for the City of Port Phillip.

Children's Centre Infrastructure

Setting our children up for a bright future

In August 2022, the City of Port Phillip resolved to renovate and redevelop six ageing facilities to enhance the safety, accessibility, and functionality for Early Childhood Education and Care services. Port Phillip is undertaking the redevelopment of these centres from 2026-2029 to create additional licenced education and care places.

What is the ask?

Council is seeking a funding contribution from the Federal Government to contribute to the redevelopment of six childcare centres.

What is the issue this initiative will address?

The City of Port Phillip expects a growth in demand for 3 and 4 year old early childhood education places in the preparation for school over the next 10 to 15 years. This demand is expected to exceed availability which will perpetuate the ongoing inequality in educational outcomes over a child's lifetime. The community has made their priorities clear in seeking to have a range of service delivery types available to them, particularly smaller community-based services that reflect the culture and meet the needs of the local communities. To meet the increasing demand the City of Port Phillip committed to redeveloping six childcare centres.

What is Council proposing?

Port Phillip is undertaking the redevelopment of these centres from 2026-2029. Works will include the renovation, expansion or rebuild of the centre's, resulting in an increase in

licenced education and care places to meet increasing demand. The Victorian Government has committed a total of \$12.8 million. Council has committed \$18 million, however another \$10 million is unbudgeted. Council is proposing to partner with the Federal Government to contribute to the funding of the redevelopment.

Cost and current status?

Cost

The City of Port Phillip is seeking \$10 million of funding to contribute to the redevelopment and building of the childcare centres.

This funding would be staged at \$2 million per year over five years, in line with construction, to address escalating costs associated with inflation, labour and materials.

Current status

The project is currently in the planning stage. Two centres have a planning permit and are completing detailed design. Three centres are awaiting planning permit approval, and one is in concept design. Construction will begin in 2026.

Community Safety & Social Cohesion

Safe and vibrant communities are important to everyone's health and wellbeing

Our community, including traders, are increasingly telling us they don't feel safe, raising concerns about antisocial and illegal behaviour such as public drug and alcohol use, dealing, abuse, harassment of passersby, racism and inappropriate graffiti.

Community safety requires a collaborative approach and is integral to every aspect of our lives, supporting health and wellbeing. Council works closely with key health, housing, community legal and social service providers, Victoria Police, and across all levels of Government to examine the current situation and review place-based models to address community safety issues in our high streets and surrounding areas.



What is the ask?

Council is seeking urgent intervention from the Federal Government in addressing community safety concerns and actively promoting social cohesion across our community and all others in the nation.

What is the issue this initiative will address?

Council receives numerous complaints about these issues and their impact on amenity, safety, and the appeal of high streets and other areas.

These problems include crime associated with drug and alcohol abuse (theft, violence) and perceptions of safety, with the community believing that effective action is not being taken to address these behaviours, which are often linked to rough sleeping, poor mental health, and disadvantage.

We are also experiencing a rise in antisemitism across the municipality, as seen in the firebombing attacks on the Adass Israel Synagogue and the office of the local federal MP, and an increase in antisemitic graffiti.



What is Council proposing?

Council would see the Federal Government lead a coordinated and well-resourced approach to addressing an increase in incidents of antisocial behaviour and improving feelings of safety at a local level.

Activities and projects for consideration include:

CCTV funding: Provision of funding to upgrade existing public place CCTV and mobile CCTV trailers. This will enhance public safety, deter criminal activities, and assist law enforcement agencies in monitoring and responding to incidents more effectively.

The estimated cost to upgrade existing CCTV and mobile CCTV trailers is \$800,000 across the next three financial years.

Additional outreach services: Seeking the Federal Government to lead a coordinated approach to increased resources for wrap around services, including housing and homelessness programs, drug and alcohol support services, and mental health support initiatives.

Additional housing: As the Federal and State Governments are predominantly responsible for housing policy and support, Council is seeking an increase in affordable and community housing stock for vulnerable community members.

Graffiti mitigation and removal: Seeking dedicated financial support from the Federal Government for graffiti removal and the promotion of appropriate street art.

Anti racism and social cohesion – research and evaluation: Seeking that the Federal Government perform valuable

research and evaluation of effective approaches to address community safety and promote social cohesion to help inform the activities of the State and Local Governments in a coordinated and consistent way.

Anti racism and social cohesion – Local Government funding: Based on research and evaluation, Council is proposing that the Federal Government make local governments eligible for funding to implement place-based, community-led initiatives that promote social cohesion and address racism, including antisemitism. Typically, LGAs are not eligible for these funding programs.

Local governments are well-versed in leading and partnering with relevant stakeholders and are best placed to lead on initiatives. This funding will facilitate educational programs, community outreach, and enforcement actions to foster a safer and more inclusive society. Funding will help map out local support and explore best practice for addressing incidents.

Addressing antisemitism: Increase in funding to facilitate community agencies and police to address antisemitism, allowing for a place-based approach where local communities' interests are being represented as a part of the broader response.

Also seeking funding for Council to upgrade the public space and roads around the Adass Israel Synagogue with increased safety design measures, including hostile vehicle mitigation integrated into improved public space with reconfigured parking, additional greening and improved connections to the train station and local activity centre.

More information

[Community safety - City of Port Phillip](#)

Elwood Foreshore Redevelopment

A master planned approach for an iconic beachside area

The Elwood Foreshore is an important and valued place in our City. Locals and visitors enjoy it all year round. It is home to 12 clubs and associations, a restaurant, a wellness centre and café, and a kindergarten.



Aerial photo of the Elwood Foreshore.

What is the ask?

Council requests that the Federal government co-fund the Elwood Foreshore Redevelopment.

What is the issue this initiative will address?

Buildings and other infrastructure over the years to support a range of activities are now in need work due to their age, poor condition, noncompliance with current DDA standards, and vulnerability to the risks of climate change.

What is Council proposing?

The City of Port Phillip is planning a staged renewal of the Elwood Foreshore over several years. The redevelopment aims to replace old infrastructure, improve

compliance and accessibility, and address climate change risks.

The Elwood Foreshore works will:

- protect the character, identity and amenity of the area
- respect nature and the site's history
- reflect local priorities, future needs, and Council and Federal Government policy and strategy

The plan will be implemented in stages over 10 years, with detailed designs and community consultation for each stage.

Cost and current status?

Cost

The project is staged over 10 years and is estimated to cost \$50 million.

Current status

Council has prepared a master plan to guide development of the site. This flows from community consultation and technical studies that consider flora and fauna, climate change impacts, soil conditions, heritage and landscape heritage. We are now proceeding with detailed design.

More information

[Elwood foreshore: Looking to the future - City of Port Phillip](#)



Unlocking Fishermans Bend

Connecting our growing community in Fishermans Bend

Early delivery of major public transport projects, such as a tram and train, will be one of the biggest determinants of the success of Fishermans Bend in delivering new homes and jobs. To deliver a vibrant community Fishermans Bend needs a commitment from the Federal and Victorian Governments to deliver public transport at Fishermans Bend.

What is the ask?

Delivery of catalytic public transport underpins the vision for Fishermans Bend and requires a commitment from both State and Federal Governments. Council is seeking a commitment from the Federal Government to work with the State Government on, a timeline and funding strategy for the full delivery of the planned train (Melbourne Metro 2) and tram network in Fishermans Bend.

What is the issue this initiative will address?

Housing Supply: Fishermans Bend is set to become a major urban renewal area with 80,000 residents 2050. Transport connectivity is essential to support this growth and provide well located, affordable homes close to jobs.

Economic Growth: Fishermans Bend will also be home to 80,000 new jobs by 2050. Providing easy, frequent public transport connections to the Central City will be critical to attract businesses and workers, boosting the local economy and creating jobs.

Liveability: Bringing certainty on public transport to Fishermans Bend will improve developer confidence and accelerate the construction of more homes that will alleviate housing pressures.

Sustainable Transport: The Fishermans Bend Framework aims for 80% of all journeys to be made by sustainable modes of transport (trains, trams, buses, cycling, and walking). This will reduce reliance on cars, decrease traffic congestion, and lower carbon emissions. This goal cannot be realised without a tram and train services in Fishermans Bend.

What is Council proposing?

Council seeks Federal Government commitment to the delivery of a train and tram network in Fishermans Bend including:

- Providing funding certainty for train and tram infrastructure.
- Updated timeframes for construction and delivery.
- Interim public transport improvements such as additional bus routes with enhanced frequency and consideration for alternative use of existing tram routes.

Cost?

Melbourne Metro 2 – delivery between \$27-\$37 billion (2021 estimate).

Business Case estimate - \$80 million

Fishermans Bend Tram – delivery between \$1 – 1.5 billion (2022 estimate)

Business Case estimate - \$50 million

South Melbourne Market Expansion

Project Connect: A project to futureproof this thriving retail market

South Melbourne Market is the quintessential village market. It is a prosperous, authentic destination that is home to fresh, artisanal and cultural products; creative and joyful experiences; celebrates local; is a leader in sustainability; is loved, trusted and connects our customers and community.

What is the ask?

Council requests that the Federal Government co-fund a renewed and reinvigorated South Melbourne Market (“the Market”) to ensure it can continue to thrive. This funding will support Public Realm improvements, starting with the York Street precinct.

What is the issue this initiative will address?

The Market is a 157-year-old asset built on Crown Land and owned and run by City of Port Phillip. It is a significant community hub and retail centre, and is an important attraction for local, intrastate, interstate and international tourism. The Market faces significant long-term challenges including capacity, compliance with updated building regulations, and traffic and pedestrian congestion.



South Melbourne Market Streetscape.



What is Council proposing?

As the Market moves into the future, Council is developing a comprehensive capital works program to ensure the Market remains sustainable, safe, and inclusive. This program includes:

Compliance and renewal: The Market requires significant upgrades to comply with National Construction Code (NCC). While a program of capital works to address non-compliance has commenced, compliance with the remainder of the NCC requirements requires major infrastructure improvements including, including:

- Upgrading of existing amenities and increasing the overall quantity of amenities (i.e. doubling quantity of bathroom facilities required).
- Improving pedestrian gradients via aisle and footpath regrading works.
- Adding two new lift and stair combinations for vertical access to the rooftop carpark.

Strategic Uplift: In 2018-19 Council developed a business case to shape the future strategic direction and investment in the Market to identify necessary compliance works and address the need for more public space; support growth; and revitalise the market as an important civic/community asset. This project includes:

- Public realm improvements on the street frontages of the Market:
 - York Street: Extending the footpath to 11m and developing a

new precinct with stalls, natural light, and entry points, along with public seating, greening treatments, and weather protection.

- Coventry Street: Extending the footpath by replacing angle parking with parallel parking/loading spaces to enhance public realm for seating and movement.
- **Back-of-house:** The Market's loading bay and back-of-house areas currently exceed capacity, are outdated, and are overcrowded. This project includes redesigning the loading bay and back-of-house areas to improve efficiency, productivity, storage, and safety to support the future growth of the Market.

Cost and current status?

An estimated cost for the overall project, which is currently at design phase, is \$65 million.

While funding has been allocated to the Project by Council, Federal Government funding of \$6 million is sought to support Public Realm improvements at the Market.

More information

[Help Shape The Future of South Melbourne Market | South Melbourne Market](#)

Broadway Bridge Renewal

Reinforcing the iconic Broadway Bridge

Broadway Bridge in Elwood has been in service for over 100 years, having been built circa 1905. Upgrading the bridge is critical for the to ensure safety, function, and maintain its heritage values.



Broadway Bridge over Elwood Canal, Elwood.

What is the ask?

With the Broadway Bridge having reached its 100-year lifespan, Council is seeking to ensure the safety of users of the bridge by strengthening the superstructure.

What is the issue this initiative will address?

This initiative will address the poor condition of the Broadway Bridge superstructure, as identified in recent inspection reports. The reconstruction promises significant community benefits by enhancing safety and accessibility for the community. The bridge provides an important connection for vehicles, public transport (via a public bus route), and both pedestrians and cyclists alike. There is a clear benefit from this project in eliminating safety concerns and risk, particularly for nearby schools.

What is Council proposing?

The Council is proposing to:

- Strengthen the bridge by constructing a reinforced concrete superstructure.
- Retain the bridge’s current alignment which includes traffic lanes and cycle paths on each side separated by a large median with built-up islands.
- Maintain current cycling, walking, and car access, including pedestrian raised crossings and pram ramps on the north and south of the Elwood canal.
- Ensure the reconstruction is in a like-for-like format to retain heritage aspects.

Cost and current status?

Cost

Council is seeking a co-contribution for the total project cost of approximately \$4,000,000.

Current status

Currently in the design phase of the project.

Station Pier & Waterfront Place

Renewing the gateway to Victoria

Station Pier and the Waterfront Place Precinct is a significant asset not only to the City of Port Phillip, but to Melbourne and Victoria and is a gateway for the many overseas visitors who arrive by cruise ship.

What is the ask?

Council is seeking funding from the Victorian and Federal Governments to develop and implement the Station Pier/Waterfront Place Precinct Masterplan. This funding is crucial to transform the area into a vibrant and bustling precinct.

What is the issue this initiative will address?

Station Pier’s strategic location, and historical significance make it an ideal candidate for development that can benefit both the local community, nearby business precincts and overseas visitors. Despite its potential, Station Pier has not received the attention and investment it deserves. This initiative aims to address several key issues:

Underutilisation: Station Pier/ Waterfront Place remains underdeveloped. The former TT lines freight yard is now vacant and ready for new life.

Economic Growth: By developing the precinct, we can stimulate local businesses, create jobs, and attract tourists. Private development can be stimulated to progress with on-hold projects.

Community Engagement: Improved public spaces, activation activities and amenities will enhance the foreshore, the quality of life for residents and foster a sense of community.



Historical Preservation: The redevelopment will ensure that the historical significance of Station Pier is preserved and celebrated.

What is Council proposing?

Council is proposing a comprehensive masterplan which will develop plans for Station Pier as the home of cruise shipping in Victoria, and Waterfront Place as the landing/departure point for local and international visitors, a regional attractor as a hub of activity on the foreshore, and a place of pride for local residents. Leveraging its strategic location and historical significance, the masterplan includes:

- Enhancing public spaces and amenities to create a welcoming environment strengthening connections to water and foreshore.
- Improving transport connectivity to ensure seamless access to and from the pier, as a key node on the strategic cycle network connecting the Bay Trail with the Sandridge Trail, and supporting the planned duplication of the 109 tram terminus.
- Developing commercial, community, and recreational facilities to boost local economic activity.
- Preserving and celebrating the historical aspects of Station Pier to maintain its cultural heritage.

