



# VICTORIA'S 30-YEAR INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S FORUM

Final Report

June 2023




## LIMITATIONS OF USE

This report has been prepared by MosaicLab on behalf of and for the exclusive use of Infrastructure Victoria.

The sole purpose of this report is to provide a report of the methodology and process undertaken for the Young People's Forum 2023 that will inform Victoria's 30-year infrastructure strategy.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the scope of services set out by Infrastructure Victoria.

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*MosaicLab is a team of engagement practitioners and facilitators based in Victoria. We work with government agencies, community groups, industry and commercial organisations and support them to have meaningful conversations that lead to action. Our processes bring diverse people together to solve complex problems and make a positive difference to decision-making.*



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# REMIT

Victoria's 30-year infrastructure strategy advises the Victorian Government. It makes recommendations to improve the use of existing infrastructure, and deliver new infrastructure where it is needed most. Infrastructure can help unlock many opportunities and overcome challenges. However, governments cannot do everything, and must make choices.

**WHAT MATTERS MOST TO  
VICTORIANS AND HOW DOES  
INFRASTRUCTURE HELP ACHIEVE IT?**



# INTRODUCTION

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S FORUM OVERVIEW

The infrastructure Victoria Young People's Forum randomly selected participants aged between 15-25 from Victoria. The forum included people from different cultural backgrounds and from a range of geographical regions.

Thirty nine young people actively participated throughout the entire process. The group selected broadly and descriptively represent Victoria's young population.

The participants met online and in person over two sessions and were provided opportunities to learn about the current challenges, opportunities for Victorian infrastructure planning. The group considered information on a range of Infrastructure areas including transport, energy, water, health families and social, education, environment, justice, culture and digital connectivity.

This forum is built around several principles including:

- ◆ A random sample of young people are selected to participate.
- ◆ Participants are provided with detailed, in-depth information from a range of sources that helps them to understand the issues and opportunities.
- ◆ Participants are encouraged to discuss their ideas in small groups, weigh up issues and agree on big ideas.
- ◆ Participants write their own report which is presented directly to decision makers. The contents in the report will influence the final scoping decisions made by Infrastructure Victoria

### THE PROCESS INVOLVED:



A **clear question (remit)** to focus the conversation and access to a broad range of information from a variety of sources relevant to the remit.



Conversations and Q&A with expert **speakers** (see information inputs section)



**10 hours** of discussion and decision making across **2 sessions** (1 online and 1 workshop)



Support from experienced **facilitators**



Group agreements

The forum agreed on 10 'Big Ideas' that will be used to inform the final scoping decisions for Infrastructure Victoria's 2025 draft strategy planning. The group wrote their own report which contained:

- ◆ A brief introduction
- ◆ 10 big ideas
- ◆ Description of the idea and the main challenges addressed.
- ◆ What the idea would look like if delivered
- ◆ Measures of success

All forum participants had the opportunity to write and/or review and refine each idea.

At the conclusion of the in-person forum on Saturday 20th May 2023, the participants handed over their report to the Infrastructure Victoria CEO, Jonathan Spear.

Infrastructure Victoria will consider all feedback on the big ideas from the young peoples' forum and use this to prepare the next update of the 30-year infrastructure strategy. This will be prepared throughout 2023 – 24 with the strategy being delivered in 2025.

# FAST FACTS

## About the Infrastructure Victoria Young People's Forum

### THE PROCESS



**2**  
sessions



**10**  
hours



**39**  
Participants  
between 15-25  
years of age



**7**  
Expert speaker  
interactions



**10**  
Big Ideas

### THE OUTPUTS



Working  
agreements  
developed by the  
forum participants



Critical thinking  
questions



Hopes for the  
Young Peoples  
Forum



'Your Big  
Ideas' report  
authored by the  
participants

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

Victoria's 30-year infrastructure strategy provides recommendations to the Victorian Government. Infrastructure Victoria is required to update the strategy every 3 to 5 years.

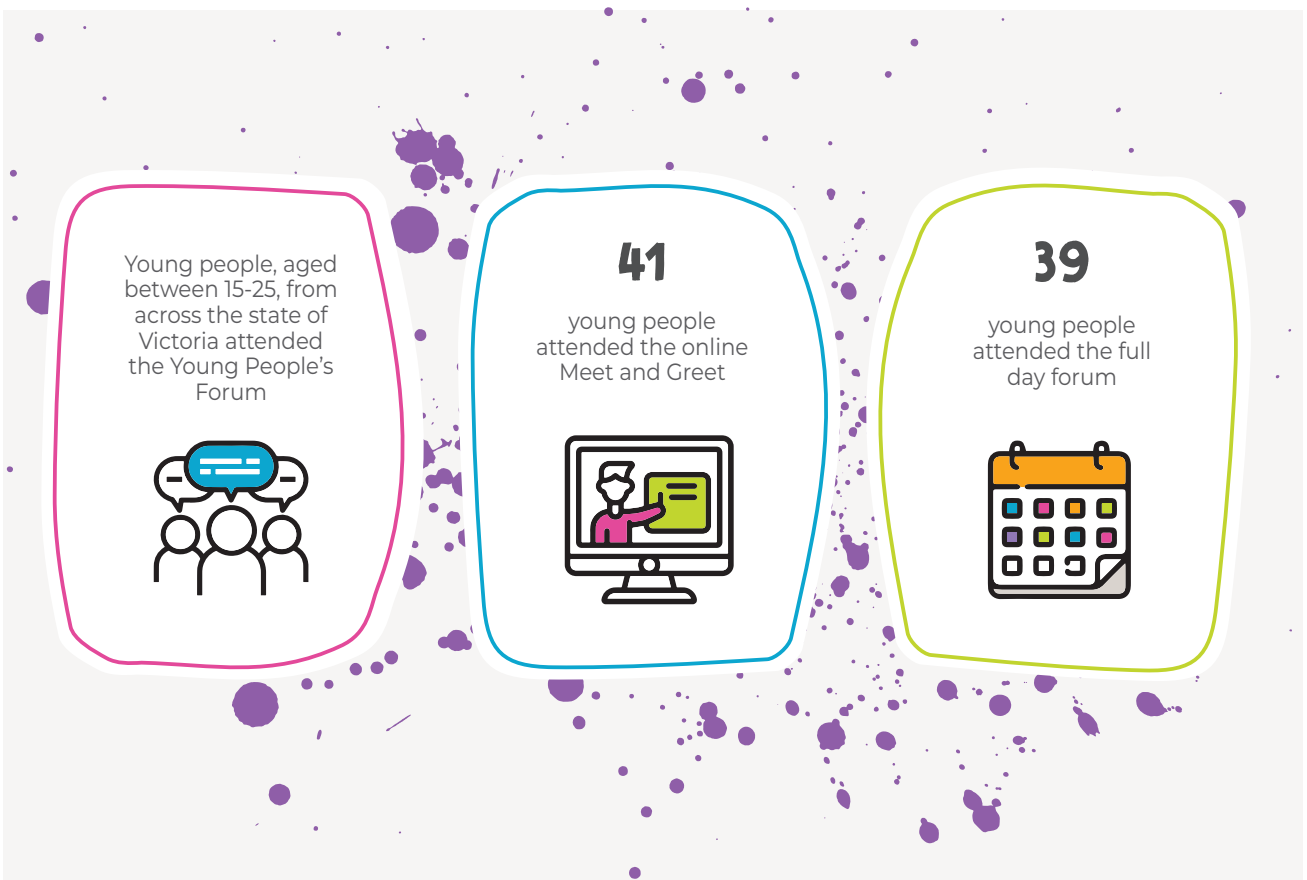
The process of updating the strategy for the next iteration has begun, with an anticipated completion date in 2025. Infrastructure Victoria recognises the importance of gathering input from Victorians to shape the objectives of the 2025 strategy, identify significant infrastructure challenges, and explore potential options and policies to address them.

## PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

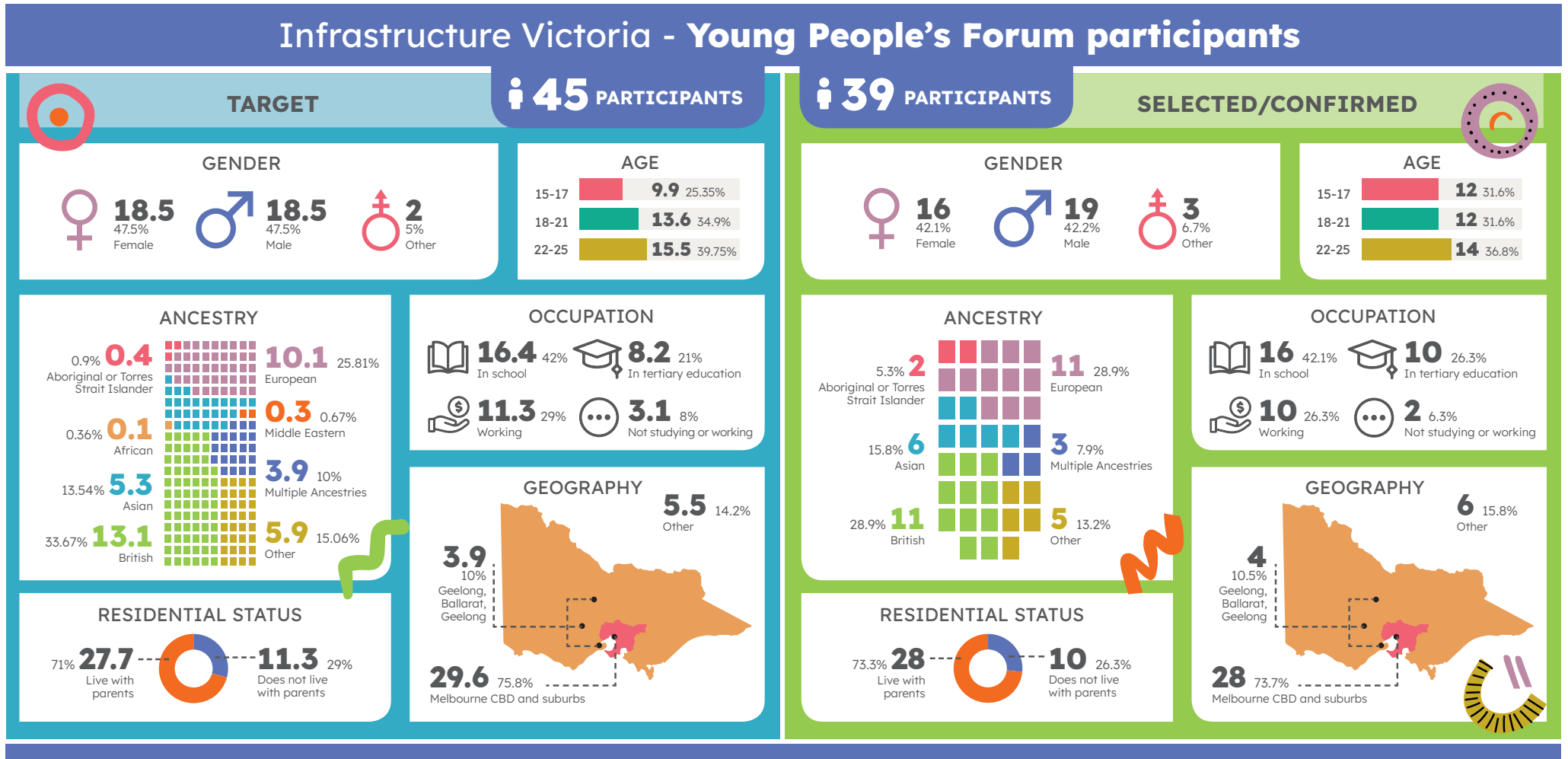
This report summarises the design and implementation of the Infrastructure Victoria Young People's Forum and has been prepared by MosaicLab as independent facilitators.

The purpose of this report is to provide a transparent record of the design and implementation of the young people's forum, including deliberative elements, and to share what was said and what was captured by the participants.

## FORUM ATTENDEES



# FORUM PARTICIPANTS BROADLY REPRESENT THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF VICTORIA'S YOUNG POPULATION





# INFRASTRUCTURE VICTORIA AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Infrastructure Victoria values understanding the needs, interests and preference of Victorian communities. People could input to the start of the 30-year infrastructure strategy update through a survey on priorities and objectives, or by providing evidence through detailed ideas and submissions. They can also provide feedback on the draft strategy when it is completed in early 2025.

A 30-year timeline means young people are most impacted by recommendations in Victoria's infrastructure strategy. That's why Infrastructure Victoria wanted young Victorians at the centre of its community engagement program.

Infrastructure Victoria Chair Jim Miller opened the Young People's Forum and encouraged participants to 'be bold and think big'. Infrastructure Victoria CEO Jonathan Spear and Deputy CEO Allison Stewart attended the forum and were on-hand to answer questions and provide encouragement and feedback.

Young people's reflections, ideas and input will help set the direction of Victoria's 30-year infrastructure strategy update.

The following Infrastructure Victoria people attended:

- ◆ Jim Miller, Board Chair
- ◆ Jonathan Spear, Chief Executive Officer
- ◆ Allison Stewart, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
- ◆ Mandy Frostick, Executive Director, Communications & Engagement
- ◆ Sean Williams, Principal Economist
- ◆ Lydia Hanna, Senior Communications Advisor
- ◆ Jenny Strangward, Principal Adviser
- ◆ Meara Ahmed, Intern



The MosaicLab facilitators were Lyndal Mackintosh, Polly Cameron and Aaron Bosch

## AGENDA – MEET AND GREET

Session 1: Wednesday 17 May 2023 - Online



TIME	DETAILS
6:00PM	Welcome & scene setting
	Message from Infrastructure Victoria
6:30PM	Working agreements
6:50PM	Critical thinking
7:10PM	<b>BREAK time! 15 mins</b>
7:25PM	Infrastructure Victoria – building our knowledge and a Q&A
8:10PM	Final reflections and next steps
8:30PM	<b>Close</b>

## AGENDA – FORUM

Session 2: Saturday 20 May 2023 - In person



TIME	DETAILS
10:00AM	Welcome & scene setting
	Message from Infrastructure Victoria
10:20AM	Planning for future infrastructure needs
11:10AM	<b>BREAK time! 15 mins</b>
11:25AM	Speed dialogue – let's hear from a range of perspectives
1:05PM	<b>BREAK time! 40 mins</b>
1:45PM	Thinking about our BIG ideas
2:35PM	Building on our BIG ideas
3:15PM	<b>BREAK time! 15 mins</b>
3:30PM	Writing and refining our big ideas
5:00PM	Hand over and final reflections
5:30PM	<b>Close</b>

# OUTCOMES FROM THE SESSIONS

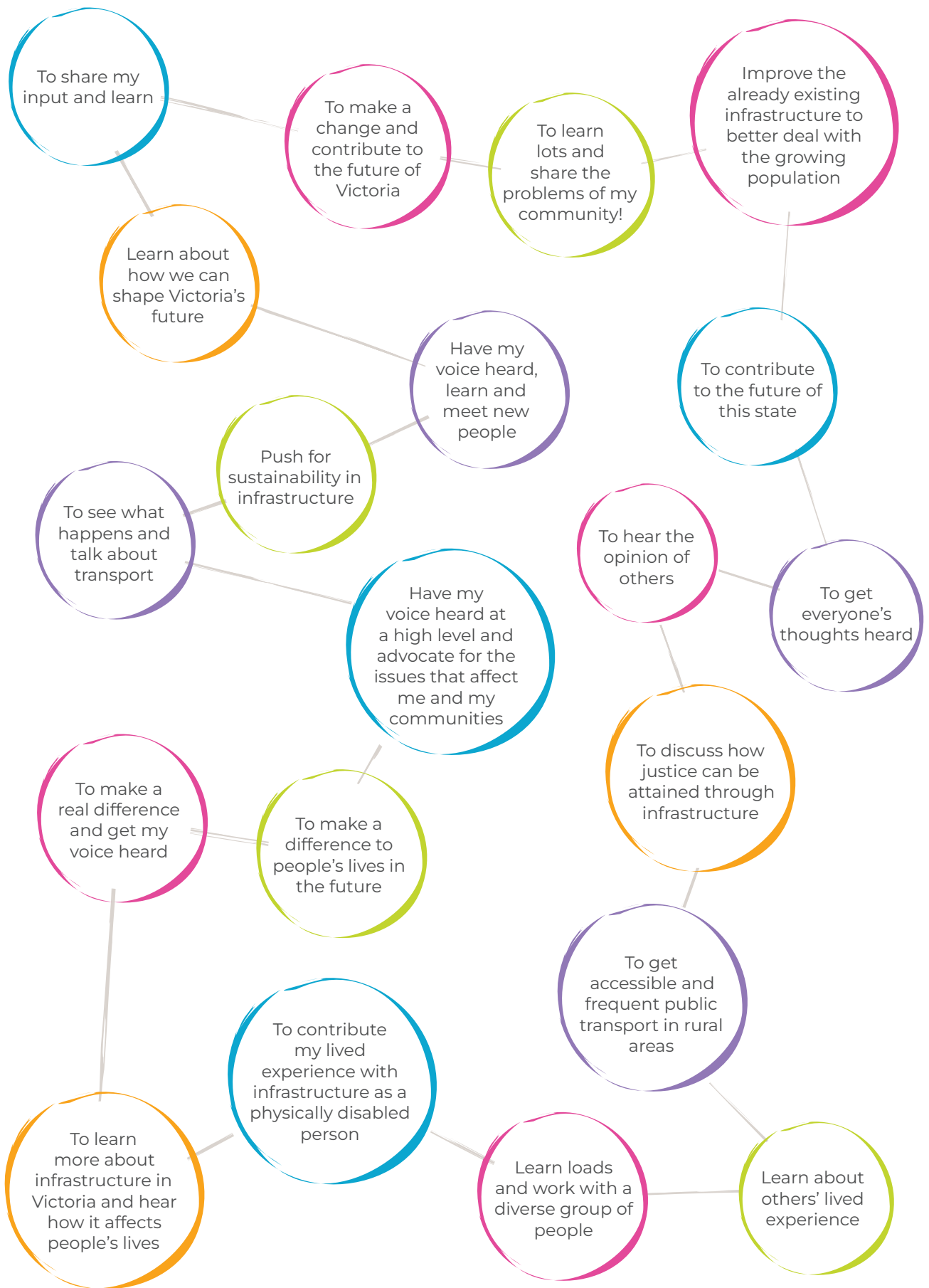
## SESSION 1: MEET AND GREET

### HOPES

Participants were asked about their hopes for the sessions ahead. They captured their responses using the online tool GroupMap.



...continued overleaf



## WORKING AGREEMENTS









Participants were placed into small groups and asked to think about and discuss three ways in which they could work together to create a comfortable environment. This was grouped into similar ideas by the facilitators and became their working agreements:

**mosaicLAB**

**WORKING AGREEMENTS**

**INFRASTRUCTURE VICTORIA**

**Infrastructure Victoria Young People's Forum**

-  Actively listening and being open to other people's lived experiences and ideas.
-  We come in open-minded and make sure we give equal time to be heard and we don't talk over others.
-  Being respectful to other people's opinions and beliefs. Agreeing that there may not be mutual agreement; and that it is okay to disagree.
-  Create an environment where everyone can ask questions and can share the knowledge. Come with a curious mindset.
-  Have regular check-ins to update everyone.
-  Keep record of everyone's input to ensure everyone's voice is heard and captured.
-  We make sure that we are flexible and willing to budge BUT if we start to argue, we stay calm and own it if we step outside our working agreements.
-  We understand that we will have our own biases and experiences that lead us a certain way. We are all equal when we come together, no matter our background.

## CRITICAL THINKING

To support the development of critical thinking skills and prepare for how the young people delve into information organised by Infrastructure Victoria, a short video about critical thinking was shared.

They were then split into small groups of four, and asked to explore questions under the critical thinking focus areas. These questions help refine how to critically assess information and was put into practice on data and information shared by experts, including Infrastructure Victoria.

Here's a list of the questions that they came up with:

### ACCURACY

Can you elaborate? Can you give me an example?

Can you please elaborate further?

Has the source been corrected in the time since? Is the data still current/in date?

Have we gathered a representative opinion from the community!

Is there a clear action we can take?

What data/ evidence did you use to make that conclusion?

What further facts might we need to prove that?

Where did you get that information from?

### BREADTH

Are there unintended consequences from this idea?

Does that address the complexity of this issue/problem?

Does this benefit the general public? Or is there only one group that is benefiting/being impacted?

Does this consider the impact on environment?

Has this come from a wide range of people/demographics?

How many people does this impact? and will it impact the next generations of people?

Is there a consensus of backing around the argument?

Is there a wide range of stakeholders?

Is there any additional information that is required to cover the range of issues?

What assumptions does this come from?

### CLARITY

Can you please simplify that?

Has everyone had a chance to ask clarifying questions?

How does this idea achieve our objectives? What are the objectives?

How is it possible to be both x and y? Isn't there a contradiction there?

...continued overleaf

## CLARITY

...continued

Is there a specific aspect of the issue we could focus on right now?

Is there another way to phrase that to make your language more accessible?

Using plain English and explaining acronyms and more complex words?

What does [BLANK] mean?

Who is the target audience for this information? Would they be able to understand?

Does the depth match the audience's understanding?

Have you considered the implications of this project?

Have you made sure to gather different perspectives on this issue?

How is that related to this issue?

language/perspective barriers

What are the barriers to the issue being resolved in the past?

What does previous research suggest?

What level of research and investigation is required?

Can you please justify your opinion/comment?

How can we be sure that the infrastructure is connected as a network for optimised performance?

Is that really true? How can we verify that?

Is there a correlation?

Is there a correlation between these two things?

What led you to that conclusion?

Can you please explain how this applies to this general context?

Does this statement accommodate other viewpoints?

Have you considered future technology in the implementation of this? Will this idea be made redundant in the long run?

Is this something that Infrastructure Victoria can action?

Were there historical views that were relevant to this idea? How should we consider history in this idea?

What are the impacts in the short, medium and long term?

What points of view have we privileged?

What points of view might be missing?

Will this be relevant for us in 30 years time?

## DEPTH

## LOGIC

## RELEVANCE

## SESSION 2: ALL DAY FORUM


The forum was held in person on Saturday 20 May 2023 between 10.00am and 5.30pm. MosaicLab designed and facilitated the day to be highly interactive and participatory.

### INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE FUTURE GAME

The objective of the Infrastructure of the Future game was to explore the challenges faced by Infrastructure Victoria in preparing for the update of the state's 30-year infrastructure strategy.

Participants were given a game kit that included:

#### WHAT IS IN THE GAME BOX?

- ◆ Each group will receive a map of their region and data on the current population, demographics, current challenges and opportunities with infrastructure in this region, and infrastructure commitments announced in the 2022/23 Victorian Government budget.
- ◆ A set of cards representing nine different types of infrastructure projects, including water, public transportation, green energy initiatives, education, and digital connectivity.
- ◆ A set of game pieces to award points for infrastructure investment... oooooohhhh curious! There were three different types of blocks each having a separate value, with all equaling up to 100 points.
- ◆ Post it note and pen
- ◆ A set of perspective cards  **(no peeking until this step is announced)**



There was a kit for each region listed below:

<b>REGIONS</b>	Barwon	Great South Coast	Mallee
	Central Highlands	Loddon Campaspe	Melbourne
	Gippsland	Ovens Murray	Melbourne growth areas
	Goulburn	Wimmera Southern Mallee	





Each group had to think about their region and decide how they would prioritise their advice for future infrastructure needs. To 'walk in someone else's shoes' they also had perspective cards to consider.



There were plenty of insightful discussions and careful consideration of each region's needs, challenges, and opportunities.



The Melbourne group has made the decision to prioritise transport and environmental infrastructure.



The Great South Coast group chose to distribute their prioritisation across all nine areas, with emphasis on the transport and water infrastructure options.



The Gippsland group felt that it was important to prioritise health, families and social housing infrastructure and energy infrastructure.

The Infrastructure of the Future game offered an interactive and fun approach to explore the challenges and decision-making processes that Infrastructure Victoria grapple with everyday. Participants had the opportunity to step into the role of planners, gaining insights into the complexities, and trade-offs involved in prioritising infrastructure projects...and they found it challenging.

*"This is hard!"* one participant commented.

By providing a hands-on experience, the session effectively conveyed the importance of strategic infrastructure planning for the future development of Victoria.

## SPEED DIALOGUE

Speed dialogue is a process that brings in a range of experts to share their knowledge in an interesting and engaging way. There were seven speakers who participated on the Saturday and they each had an area of interest or expertise in infrastructure. Participants were split into seven groups and each speaker took a seat in one of the groups, introduced their topic of interest and then answered questions from participants. After ten minutes, the speakers rotated to the next group. Each group had the chance to ask questions of each speaker. Participants were invited to take their own personal notes.

The seven expert speakers were:

NAME	POSITION
<b>1. Royce Christie</b>	Director - Policy at Roads Australia
<b>2. Professor Andrew Butt</b>	Associate Dean of Sustainability and Urban Planning at RMIT University
<b>3. Dr John Stone</b>	Senior Lecturer in Transport Planning at University of Melbourne
<b>4. Dr Crystal Legacy</b>	Associate Professor of Urban Planning, University of Melbourne

NAME	POSITION
<b>5. Dr Kath Phelan</b>	Principal Planner at Infrastructure Victoria
<b>6. Vanessa Petrie</b>	General Manager City Sustainability & Strategy, Darebin City Council
<b>7. Neil France</b>	Senior Infrastructure Advisor at Infrastructure Victoria

## THE BIG IDEAS

The participants spent the morning understanding the challenges and opportunities for infrastructure across Victoria and now it was their turn to think about what mattered to them and how infrastructure could help.

The afternoon started with a brainstorming session where individuals were asked to think of two to three big ideas. They paired up to share their ideas and decide on a combined two to three ideas. They then merged into small groups and came up with a final two to three big ideas. Participants were encouraged to think strategically and 'big'.

The ideas were collated and, with some support from the facilitators, grouped into themes or like ideas.

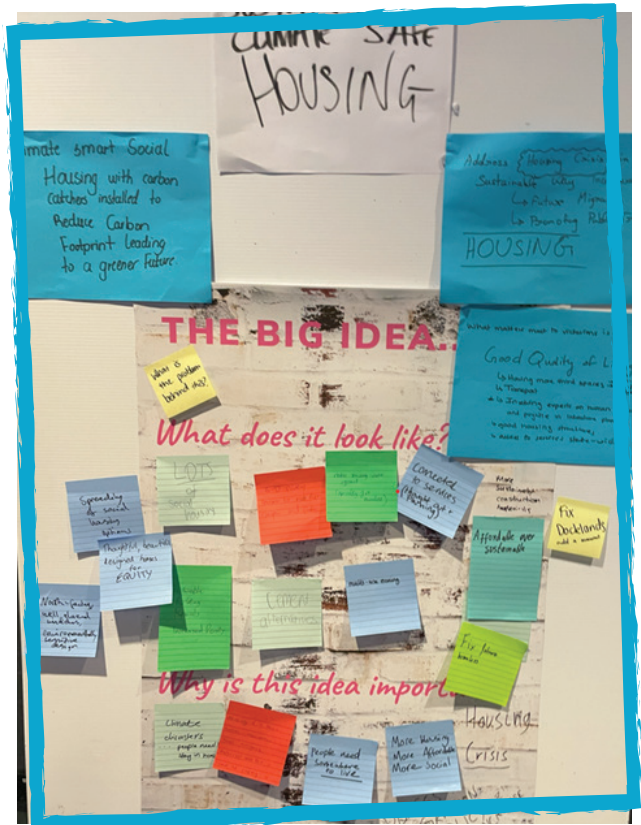
### The Big ideas:

1. Increasing sustainable housing through 20 minute neighbourhoods
2. Community input for socially inclusive infrastructure in Victoria
3. Water management
4. Renewables
5. Efficiency and cost effectiveness
6. Regional business districts
7. Improve efficiency and public safety in existing public transport
8. Climate smart practices and community connection to land
9. Adaptability
10. Transport.

## BUILDING ON THE BIG IDEAS

The ten final big ideas were showcased on large posters arranged around the room and in pairs forum participants were able to add their thoughts. They were asked to think about what each big idea looked like and why this idea was important.

Each poster was then given to a writing group to build out the big idea with more detail.



## THE BIG IDEAS REPORT

The ten big ideas were transferred to an online document, where small writing teams of three to four participants worked together to craft their big idea. They were able to draw on the morning conversations, the poster with each group's thinking and their own lived experience. The report had a simple structure that included:

- ◆ Heading
- ◆ Description of the idea and challenge
- ◆ What does this idea look like?
- ◆ What is success?

The ten big ideas underwent a review by all writing teams and Infrastructure Victoria attendees, who provided comments and suggestions for strengthening the first draft of the big idea.

Following the review the writing groups were divided, with one half remaining in their original writing group, and the other half moving to new writing group. In these new groups, each team focused on reviewing the feedback and finalising a big idea. One group also wrote an introduction to the report.

The young people's Big Ideas Report is in Appendix 1.

## HANDOVER

Two young people, Jacob and Kayla, were invited to speak to the process and the experience as they handed their final report to Jonathan Spear, CEO of Infrastructure Victoria.



# WHAT IS A YOUNG PEOPLE'S FORUM?

It is often important to emphasize or elevate the voices of young people as they often are not actively engaged in traditional engagement approaches. The 15-25 age bracket is often determined by services and government to represent young people within our communities. Through open dialogue, participants can weigh different perspectives and think critically about the topic at hand. By facilitating collaborative discussions, a forum aims to harness the collective wisdom and reach well-rounded conclusions.

**Deliberation is built around ten core principles. A number of these principles were part of the design of the young people's forum which are listed below.**

### REPRESENTATIVE

Deliberation requires that the deliberating group is representative of the whole community. The group is usually selected using an independently conducted, random, stratified process.



Deliberation isn't about allowing anyone to turn up and people to 'self-select', like the participants at a public meeting. It allows you as decision makers to have a high level of comfort, because you know what everyday people who are broadly representative of your customers or community think is reasonable (once they are informed). This is more valuable than knowing only what interest groups and highly articulate and invested people are lobbying for.

### INFORMATIVE

Deliberation requires that people have detailed, in-depth, and balanced information before they come to judgement. This includes hearing different perspectives, including the views of experts and interest groups.



Deliberation isn't about asking people for uninformed views. It allows you as organisation decision makers to know that the recommendations being provided to you are based on evidence and have considered all sides of the issue.

### CLEAR REMIT

Deliberation is about the deliberating group responding to a remit - or primary question - that goes to the core of the issue, shares the dilemma, and promotes open discussion. The remit question is clear and written in plain English.



Deliberation isn't about responding to easy issues. It allows the organisation to receive solutions to complex problems.

### BLANK PAGE REPORT

Deliberation requires that participants respond to the remit by writing their own report. Starting with a blank page, they refine and agree on their final recommendations, then present their report directly to decision makers for consideration.



Deliberation isn't about providing options or a draft report. The organisation doesn't gather feedback on their own ideas. Instead, the organisation hears directly from their customers or community without any interpretation from consultants or staff.

## INDEPENDENT FACILITATION

Deliberation is designed and facilitated by independent, professional facilitators with experience in deliberation. Facilitation enables individuals to work through a designed set of activities (conversations) to collectively and productively produce an outcome (recommendations). Facilitators ensure that all group members are given equal opportunity to participate.

Deliberation isn't about the group being led to a pre-determined result.



## INCLUSIVE

Deliberation requires that barriers to participation are removed so that anyone feels they could participate in a deliberation. Some barriers are easily managed, for example, paying people an honorarium to cover the costs of their participation (travel, childcare etc). Also, support can be provided to people living with disabilities and meetings can be held in accessible venues. Other barriers, such as people not having the time or considering that this is, (ie. 'not for them') are harder to remove.

Deliberation isn't about excluding people and it ensures that the organisation hears from a true cross-section of its community.



**Expert facilitation is a vital element to foster vibrant deliberative dialogue and a supportive, open environment. The table below summarises some of the key roles of facilitators in a deliberative process.**



Design a process that is participatory and engaging, enables the group to meet their remit, and builds in key elements. These elements include relationship building, critical thinking, information sharing and group agreement.



Encourage participants to express themselves freely.



Encourage active participation from all group members.



Protect process integrity, transparency and independence.



Keep the group moving through the process at an adequate pace in order to deliver a report during the time allocated.



Ensure no one individual dominates.



## ROLES

Multiple groups were involved in the project. Their roles are outlined in the table below.

GROUP		ROLE
<b>Forum participants</b>	<i>Randomly selected community members aged between 15-25</i>	To work together to respond to a remit and provide advice to inform the update of Victoria's 30-year infrastructure strategy.
<b>Infrastructure Victoria</b>	<i>Host</i>	To support the process, provide expertise and relevant background information and invite subject matter experts to inform the discussion, observe the process, answer specific questions directed to them, and respond to the forums output report.
<b>MosaicLab facilitators</b>	<i>Independent facilitators</i>	To provide a supportive, inclusive and productive space that enabled forum participants to deliberate, respond to their remit and offer advice within the time available.  To provide support as needed, to ensure forum members could participate in sessions.
<b>Sortition Foundation</b>	<i>Independent recruiters</i>	To manage the recruitment process (including matching demographic filters, random selection and stratification) and to ensure it was fair and unbiased.
<b>Expert speakers</b>	<i>Content experts from a range of organisations</i>	To provide expert knowledge into the process and answer questions from the participants.

## RECRUITMENT

Sortition Foundation managed forum recruitment via a random, stratified selection process. This ensured the selection of participants was conducted independently of Infrastructure Victoria and the facilitation team.

Young people (15-25) from across the state were encouraged to register their interest in the forum following a publicity campaign and through direct contact with city and regional services, such as schools, universities and councils, and advertising on social media. People who registered were then randomly selected to match demographic filters such as age, location, gender, education and work status and living at home or elsewhere. Sortition Foundation used an online tool to avoid any unconscious bias and perceived favouritism.

To achieve a representative group of 40 people, Sortition Foundation selected 45 people from 168 expressions of interest. It is normal to over-recruit for a forum, as it is usual for numbers to reduce during the process due to illness, unexpected commitments and a range of other reasons. No-one left due to misgivings with the forum process. As circumstances changed for a number of participants after registering their interest, active forum members reduced to 41, then to 39 people, during the process.

Neither Infrastructure Victoria staff, nor the expert facilitators at MosaicLab were involved in the selection of forum representatives.

The final forum participants were descriptively representative of Victoria's young population (based on census data). Forums like this generally include people that Infrastructure Victoria doesn't often hear from but who are impacted by Infrastructure Victoria's recommendations and government decisions. The diversity of the group makes sure Infrastructure Victoria hears from young people with a broad range of views and lived experiences.

# DETAILED FORUM PROCESS TIMELINE



## MEET AND GREET

**17 May 2023 | 6pm – 8.30 pm | 41 participants | Online**

### *Infrastructure Victoria, MosaicLab*

- ◊ Formal welcome and introduction from Jonathon Spear, Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure Victoria
- ◊ Opportunity to become acquainted with fellow forum participants.
- ◊ Learning about the task and how the workshop will operate.
- ◊ Establishing agreements about how the participants will work together
- ◊ Learning about critical thinking.
- ◊ Hearing from Infrastructure Victoria about the task and challenges for the forum to consider.
- ◊ Opportunity to ask questions of Infrastructure Victoria.
- ◊ Check in and reflection, preparedness for session two, Saturday workshop



## ALL DAY

**20 May 2023 | 10am – 5.30pm | 39 participants | In person**

### *Infrastructure Victoria, MosaicLab*

- ◊ Welcome, acknowledgement to country and reconnecting with each other.
- ◊ Welcome from Infrastructure Victoria, Chair Jim Miller
- ◊ Introduce the Infrastructure Victoria Team
- ◊ Sociometry and group connection
- ◊ Deepening understanding of future infrastructure needs via gamification session
- ◊ Speed dialogue with seven experts to further build knowledge of infrastructure
- ◊ Early ideation and initial drafting of big ideas
- ◊ Theming in group setting to agree on ten big ideas
- ◊ Gallery review – building on the big ideas
- ◊ Writing up the big Ideas
- ◊ Thank you from Infrastructure Victoria CEO, Jonathan Spear
- ◊ Final reflections & closing circle

**Infrastructure Victoria**

**Young People's  
Forum**

**Your big ideas**

20 May 2023

## Remit

### Remit



Victoria's 30-year infrastructure strategy advises the Victorian Government. It makes recommendations to improve the use of existing infrastructure, and delivering new infrastructure where it is needed most.

Infrastructure can help unlock many opportunities and overcome challenges. However, governments cannot do everything, and must make choices.

## What matters most to Victorians and how does infrastructure help achieve it?

# Introduction

*What matters most to Victorians and how does infrastructure help achieve it?*

Today we gathered together as 39 young Victorians from different walks of life to discuss what matters most to us and how infrastructure can help achieve it.

Over the course of the day, we participated in many activities to learn, discuss and prioritise our infrastructure needs.

Below describes our desires, opinions and ideas particularly in relation to aspects such as housing, transport, resources and sustainability!

## Idea 1 : Increasing sustainable housing through 20 minute neighbourhood.

<b>Heading.</b>	<b>Increasing sustainable housing through 20 minute neighbourhoods.</b>
<b>Description of the idea and challenge.</b>	<p><b><i>What is the main challenge this idea will address and why is it important?</i></b></p> <p>Ensuring housing meets the needs of the present and future for both public and private developments. Reducing the level of homogeneity within the housing market. Increasing availability of both long term and environmentally sustainable housing.</p>
<b>What does this idea look like?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wide range of spaces within structures.</li> <li>• Addressing limited resources in regards to new and existing areas.</li> <li>• Utilising old office buildings and transforming into social housing.</li> <li>• Allowing office spaces to expand into outer suburban areas (mixed use).</li> <li>• Implement 20 minute cities services and accessibility to everything required for human life within a 20 minute commute to essential services., requiring less travel and emissions output.</li> </ul>
<b>What is success?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alternative density measurements.</li> <li>• Analysis of essential services to population density ratio, do high density areas have access to services within a 20 minute commute to essential services?</li> <li>• Involved expert human behavior analysts (Sociologists, Occupational Therapists).</li> <li>• Census of how many structures are multifaceted.</li> </ul>

## Idea 2 : Community input for socially inclusive infrastructure in Victoria.

<p>Heading.</p>	<p><b>Community input for socially inclusive infrastructure in Victoria.</b></p>
<p>Description of the idea and challenge.</p>	<p><b><i>What is the main challenge this idea will address and why is it important?</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of social inclusive &amp; community centric approaches.</li> <li>• To improve mental health in order to lead a happy life.</li> <li>• Crime as a result of poor mental health, social isolation.</li> <li>• Poor educational and job opportunities due to a lack of multi use community resources.</li> </ul>
<p>What does this idea look like?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sports facilities included in schools for kids to be physically active.</li> <li>• Community resources around health promotion.</li> <li>• Schools to be fit for mixed uses, such as charitable events, fund raising, after school programs etc.</li> <li>• Infrastructure for schools to create more employment and expand the community.</li> <li>• Events in schools that can be multipurpose and more adaptive.</li> </ul>
<p>What is success?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and job outcomes.</li> <li>• Satisfactory jobs and employment leads to strong mental health,</li> <li>• A better generation shift due to multipurpose events conducted in schools.</li> </ul>

### Idea 3 : WATER MANAGEMENT

<p><b>Heading.</b></p>	<p><b>Water Management</b></p>
<p><b>Description of the idea and challenge.</b></p>	<p><b><i>What is the main challenge this idea will address and why is it important?</i></b></p> <p>We're constantly in a shortage of water, and water management is needed to prevent natural disasters, food production and Victorians need clean water to maintain a good quality of life.</p>
<p><b>What does this idea look like?</b></p>	<p>State-wide sustainable water management means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Less waste.</li> <li>● Reduced demand of water.</li> <li>● Reuse water.</li> <li>● Recycle water for non-drinking process.</li> <li>● Diversify supply e.g (not just rain water) (desalination).</li> <li>● Creating water sharing system.</li> <li>● Prioritising water supply to drought-affected areas.</li> <li>● Integrating systems to manage climate change problems such as hotter weather and rising sea levels.</li> </ul> <p>Improved drainage in built up areas by using Rain Gardens, Permeable surfaces, eg. roads, gardens.</p>
<p><b>What is success?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A storm water treatment facility would be built resulting in a decrease of drought.</li> <li>● Drought resilience and food security.</li> <li>● Stable water supply where everyone has water access all year round.</li> </ul>



## Idea 4 : Renewables

<p>Heading.</p>	<p><b>Renewables</b></p>
<p>Description of the idea and challenge.</p>	<p><b><i>What is the main challenge this idea will address and why is it important?</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing more renewable energy and divesting from fossil fuels.</li> <li>• Future proofing grid, installing batteries + storage facilities at weak links in the power grid - this is to target regional/rural communities that do not have much redundancy in their power supply.</li> </ul>
<p>What does this idea look like?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communities having their own destiny and reliability in terms of securing their power supply</li> <li>• Optimising electricity generation resources based on the local businesses/residents in the area.</li> <li>• Decentralising electricity/gas utility grids if it would help reliability.</li> <li>• Programs to help transfer people working in the fossil fuel sector to be able to work in the renewable sector.</li> <li>• Maximising the regional power generation capabilities, depending on the geographical context.</li> </ul>
<p>What is success?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fossil fuel divestment.</li> <li>• Improved air quality of the towns near to existing fossil fuel towns.</li> </ul>

## Idea 5 : Efficiency and Cost Effectiveness

<p><b>Heading.</b></p>	<p><b>Efficient and Cost Effective Infrastructure (and the resources required for it).</b></p>
<p><b>Description of the idea and challenge.</b></p>	<p><b><i>What is the main challenge this idea will address and why is it important?</i></b></p> <p>Finite resources, do more with less. Effective planning which prioritizes repurposing and optimizes use of finite resources and existing infrastructure. Infrastructure should have less impact on the planet and more impact on improving people's lives.</p>
<p><b>What does this idea look like?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost Effective. Consideration of multiple options through the lens of resource and cost efficiency.</li> <li>• Prioritisation of a circular economy in infrastructure planning, with industry individuals and government to principles.</li> <li>- Example: We have many incredibly large projects currently happening (e.g. SRL, MAR, NELP) - did we consider what alternative projects could be done, which might cost less but have a similar or larger proportional benefit, and can be delivered faster (more immediate benefit)? This will mean there's less tradeoff between various projects (not a case of one or the other, and more people across Victoria stand to benefit).</li> </ul>
<p><b>What is success?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planners would consider all alternatives before deciding on a set construction schedule and ensure economic viability is attained through a circular economy.</li> <li>• Revitalisation of existing infrastructure in a sustainable manner and a focus for human focused spaces.</li> </ul>

## Idea 6 : Regional Business Districts

Heading.	Regional Business Districts
Description of the idea and challenge.	<p><b><i>What is the main challenge this idea will address and why is it important?</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We want to make workspaces more accessible. Workhubs will enable people to have reasonably priced housing close to their workspace.</li> <li>• It will reduce congestion because less people are on the road and less emissions.</li> <li>• Reduced commute time and impact on mental health.</li> <li>• Greater resource availability in regional centres.</li> </ul>
What does this idea look like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase connecting infrastructure (transport) to regional business districts, funneling people into the area.</li> <li>• Workhubs attached to things like shopping centres as an incentive.</li> <li>• Community - social and collaborative aspects, and a space for small businesses to thrive, third spaces (parks, libraries - a space outside of work and home).</li> <li>• More work opportunities for neurodivergent and disabled people because of greater accessibility.</li> </ul>
What is success?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in congestion and pollution in Melbourne CBD.</li> <li>• Less congestion on major highways in Melbourne.</li> <li>• Socioeconomic status of regional areas improving.</li> <li>• New businesses starting up and moving to regional areas.</li> <li>• Increase in participation of neurodivergent and disabled people in workforce.</li> </ul>

## Idea 7 : Improve efficiency and public safety in existing public transport.

<p>Heading.</p>	<p><b>Improve efficiency and public safety in existing public transport.</b></p>
<p>Description of the idea and challenge.</p>	<p><b><i>What is the main challenge this idea will address and why is it important?</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing transport infrastructure can be seen as unsafe and unreliable.</li> <li>How can we use existing structure to do more with less?</li> </ul>
<p>What does this idea look like?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sensory spaces (quiet area, reduced sensory stimulants which can be very high at transport stations) for neurodiverse PT users.</li> <li>Improve visual cues for safety ie lights, open spaces for good visibility, acts as deterrent for crime.</li> <li>multi modal connections at all stations (bike parking, bus tram, train).</li> </ul>
<p>What is success?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased user base in public transport.</li> <li>Greater demographic of PT Users (elderly, neurodiverse, vulnerable people).</li> <li>Increased feeling of safety from PT users.</li> </ul>

## Idea 8 : Climate smart practices and community connection to land.


<p>Heading.</p>	<p><b>Climate smart practices and community connection to land.</b></p>
<p>Description of the idea and challenge.</p>	<p><b><i>What is the main challenge this idea will address and why is it important?</i></b></p> <p>Our challenge concerns addressing the current climate emergency and creating thorough preventative measures. We're experiencing a very significant point in history and effective and immediate change needs to be made to ensure a safe world for our generation and beyond.</p>
<p>What does this idea look like?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with the community to integrate a diverse range of plants and vegetation into green spaces in urban and suburban environments, and learning from First Nations practices to care for it.</li> <li>• Minimising the production of new materials and ensuring any new materials are manufactured sustainably, repurposing old ones, and investing into a wide range of recycling initiatives. This will prevent waste and scarcity of our natural resources.</li> </ul>
<p>What is success?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connection to land outcome goals designed with relevant professionals including % of tree canopy cover, % of land as green spaces and sufficient biodiversity, as well as evidence of positive community impact.</li> <li>• Set and achieve recycling targets for key materials creating waste and carbon emissions.</li> <li>• Changes in community and industry practice that lead to the increased use of recycled materials.</li> </ul>

## Idea 9 : Adaptability

<p><b>Heading.</b></p>	<p><b>Adaptability and future proofing our state.</b></p>
<p><b>Description of the idea and challenge.</b></p>	<p><b><i>What is the main challenge this idea will address and why is it important?</i></b></p> <p>Victoria is growing at a staggering rate and needs to be responsible to face the challenges that the future community will create. This can be achieved by implementing infrastructure that is adaptable to the needs of our diverse communities, emerging technologies and changing climate.</p>
<p><b>What does this idea look like?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes to infrastructure happen quickly (avoiding long build projects) and have positive long-term effects leading to less maintenance costs and high impact avoiding half-completed projects.</li> <li>• By enabling flexible urban planning like flexible zoning and reducing parking it will allow for longevity and fluidity as we create future proof infrastructure.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What is success?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quicker solutions would be implemented when issues arise or things change within society.</li> <li>• Less cost and effort in the long run due to the flexibility and easy modification of infrastructure.</li> <li>• Reduced amount of legacy projects will be completed regardless of who is in government due to its flexibility.</li> </ul>

## Idea 10 : Transport

<p>Heading.</p>	<p><b>Efficient Public Transport</b></p>
<p>Description of the idea and challenge.</p>	<p><b><i>What is the main challenge this idea will address and why is it important?</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lack of efficient transport in areas of Victoria (rural and regional). Often either empty buses or no buses. It is important as it enables community access., more affordable, better for the environment.</li> <li>● Lack of night routes leads to more people driving at night (under the influence) leading to unsafe roads.</li> </ul>
<p>What does this idea look like?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Gain data through household surveys and local communities (to determine current satisfaction of transport in their area) and using google information to determine 'hot zones', myki information (touch-on/off).</li> <li>● Increased frequency in underserved areas such as rural and regional.</li> <li>● More coverage and route to areas used by the community (pools, banks, shops, doctors).</li> </ul>
<p>What is success?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● More workplace opportunities (due to workplaces becoming more accessible from different areas) thus more income back into communities.</li> <li>● Reliable and accessible transport.</li> <li>● Reduce in car dependance.</li> </ul>



**PLEASE NOTE:** This report has been prepared by MosaicLab on behalf of and for the exclusive use of Infrastructure Victoria. The sole purpose is to provide a report of the process undertaken by the Young People's Forum. It has been prepared in accordance with the scope of services set out by Infrastructure Victoria. Infrastructure Victoria can choose to share and distribute this report as they see fit. MosaicLab accepts no liability or responsibility whatsoever for or in respect of any use of or reliance upon this report by any third party.

*MosaicLab is a Victorian-based consultancy that specialises in community & stakeholder engagement, facilitation, negotiation, strategic planning and coaching.*



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