

Submission form: Victoria's draft 30-year infrastructure strategy

Your details

Name:	Matthew Milbourne
Organisation (if applicable):	Moorabool Shire Council
Position (if applicable):	Coordinator Growth Area Planning
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About you

Please tell us which best describes you:

☐ Victorian resident
☐ Victorian business owner/operator
☐ Industry professional
☐ Community organisation representative
☒ Local government representative
☐ State government representative
☐ Researcher
☐ Other (please specify): Click or tap here to enter text.

Your focus areas

Select the topics or regions you are providing feedback on (select all that apply):

Topics	Regions
☒ Across sectors	☒ Regional Victoria
☐ Circular economy	☐ Urban growth areas
☐ Cities	☐ Melbourne
☐ Climate change	
☒ Community infrastructure	
☒ Education	
☐ Energy	
☐ Freight	
☐ Health	
☐ Housing	
☐ Infrastructure for Victoria’s First Peoples	
☒ Transport	
☐ Water	

Your feedback

Add as many sections as you need to provide all your feedback in this submission.

Topic/area:	Education / Regions
Recommendation name:	Plan and deliver expanded and new schools
Recommendation number:	3
1. Do you support this topic or recommendation?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ In part
2. Tell us why	Moorabool Shire is currently serviced by one government secondary school in Bacchus Marsh, which services a current population of 45,000 people. Students in Ballan Township currently travel to Daylesford, Bacchus Marsh and Ballarat for their education needs. Council has a housing target of 20,000 new dwellings to be constructed by 2051 which will increase the population of the Shire from 45,000 to approximately 100,000 people. Planning should commence to determine where future secondary schools will be constructed in our municipality. At a minimum a new secondary school should be constructed in Bacchus Marsh Township. There is potential to construct this: • On a greenfield site in the Merrimu Precinct Structure Plan area • Acquiring the former Darley Secondary School which is currently owned by Moorabool Shire Council (6.5 Ha). • On a 3.25 Ha site currently owned by the Department of Education at 62 Connor Street in Bacchus Marsh Consideration should be given to establishing alternative secondary school models in rural and regional settings. Council supports the provision of Year 7 to 9 classes in communities such as Ballan which will have an anticipated population of 10,000 people, which allows young teenagers to remain in their local community, and the expectation to commute long distances to school is established for older teenagers. Providing junior secondary school (Years 7 to 9) classes close in rural and regional areas have the following benefits: • Community development opportunity and provides an opportunity for social connection and development. • Classes and programs can be tailored to the needs of students and families living in rural and regional areas, which can be different than needs of students in more urban areas. • Students in rural and regional areas face unique challenges which can be addressed through classes and programs that are tailored for rural and regional areas. A secondary school should be established in the Ballan Township to meet the education needs of families in the western part of our

	municipality. This should be at least a Kindergarten to Year 9 school.
3. Share any supporting evidence or examples	Click or tap here to enter text.
4. Include proposed changes and improvements	Consideration should be given to establishing Year 7 to 9 classes in rural and regional areas, enabling more students to access school in their local community.

Topic/area:	Community Infrastructure / Regions
Recommendation name:	Funding for Libraries and Aquatic Centres
Recommendation number:	5
5. Do you support this topic or recommendation?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ In part
6. Tell us why	
7. Share any supporting evidence or examples	Click or tap here to enter text.
8. Include proposed changes and improvements	Recommendation 5 should be expanded to include the Shire of Moorabool which will experience significant growth over the next 30 years. Moorabool Shire has been identified to increase in population from 40,000 to approximately 100,000 people in 2051 according to the Housing Target in Plan for Victoria. This significant growth will place strains on Council's ability to deliver library and aquatic facilities to support this growth.

Topic/area:	Transport / Regions
Recommendation name:	- Run faster bus services, more often, in Victoria's largest cities - Run more bus and coach services in regional Victoria
Recommendation number:	9 and 12
9. Do you support this topic or recommendation?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ In part
10. Tell us why	Click or tap here to enter text.
11. Share any supporting evidence or examples	Click or tap here to enter text.
12. Include proposed changes and improvements	Recommendation 9 (run faster bus services, more often, in Victoria's largest cities) or recommendation 12 (run more bus and coach services in regional Victoria) should be amended to include Bacchus Marsh Township in the Shire of Moorabool. Bacchus Marsh Township will be doubling in population with growth being facilitated by the Merrimu PSP (approximately 6,500 dwellings) and the Parwan Station PSP (approximately 3,000 dwellings) and will need significant changes to its bus network to cater for this growth. The township of Ballan will grow from an estimated population of 2,800 people (2025) to 7,000 people (2046). Council has identified a series of townships with a population between 5,000 and 7,000 in Victoria that are serviced by bus routes: - Maryborough – 7,800 people – 4 bus routes - Ararat – 7,000 people – 3 bus routes - Cowes – 6,800 people – 2 bus routes - Lakes Entrance – 6,500 people – 3 bus routes - Inverloch – 6,000 people – 3 bus routes - Seymour – 6,000 people – 4 bus routes - Stawell – 5,600 people – 2 bus routes - Kyneton – 5,100 people – 4 bus routes - Churchill – 4,700 people – 4 bus routes - Woodend – 4,500 people – Flexiride Planning should commence for the delivery of bus routes that connect residents to the Ballan Railway Station and the retail centre in the township. Currently the township is serviced by one bus which connects commuters in Hepburn Springs and Daylesford with one bus service in the morning and one bus service in the evening.

Topic/area:	Transport / Regions
Recommendation name:	Extend metropolitan trains and run more services in Melbourne's west
Recommendation number:	11
13. Do you support this topic or recommendation?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ In part
14. Tell us why	Click or tap here to enter text.
15. Share any supporting evidence or examples	Click or tap here to enter text.
16. Include proposed changes and improvements	Recommendation 11 should be amended to include the construction of a new train station in the Parwan Station PSP area

Topic/area:	Across Sectors / Regions
Recommendation name:	Reform infrastructure contributions
Recommendation number:	36
17. Do you support this topic or recommendation?	☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ In part
18. Tell us why	Click or tap here to enter text.
19. Share any supporting evidence or examples	Click or tap here to enter text.
20. Include proposed changes and improvements	Recommendation 36 (reform infrastructure contributions) should be amended to provide more clarity on the preferred model of contribution in regional and peri-urban Council areas. Infrastructure contributions in regional and peri-urban councils are currently managed through Section 173 Agreements and Development Contribution Plans. Regional and peri-urban councils have small statutory planning and finance teams. The introduction of a third infrastructure funding model would create problems for regional and peri-urban councils in terms of administration, monitoring and reporting. Council supports infrastructure contribution reform and recommends that this should be achieved through the transformation of the Development Contribution Plan system rather than the creation of a new system.

More feedback (optional)

Tell us about infrastructure challenges, gaps or opportunities not covered by the draft strategy. This can include things you think we should add to an existing recommendation, or suggestions for a new recommendation.

Please provide evidence for your suggestions. This can include data, specific examples, cost benefit analyses, surveys, or program evaluations. Also, explain how your suggestions align with the objectives of our draft strategy (see page 11 of the draft strategy).

Suggestions for new recommendations should point towards infrastructure opportunities that can deliver long-term benefits for Victorians. They should also be areas where the Victorian Government has a leading role.

Council recommends a new recommendation:

The Growing Suburbs Fund should be split into two streams.

One stream would be for metropolitan growth areas, and a new stream created for regional and peri-urban growth areas. This recognises that the challenges faced by metropolitan growth areas, and regional and peri-urban growth areas are similar, however they have different capacities to forward fund infrastructure owing to the small rate bases in regional and peri-urban areas.

By splitting the fund into two streams peri-urban and regional councils do not need to compete with the large metropolitan greenfield councils for funding.