

INVEST IN OPPORTUNITY

WYNDHAM

CITY

FEDERAL ELECTION PRIORITIES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

Wyndham City Council recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Custodians of the lands on which Australia was founded.

Council acknowledges the Wathaurung, Woiwurrung and Boonwurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the lands on which Wyndham City is being built.

Council pays respect to the wisdom and diversity of past and present Elders. We share commitment to nurturing future generations of Elders in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.



FROM THE MAYOR OF WYNDHAM CITY

I am pleased to present Wyndham City's priority projects for the Federal Election.

As Victoria's fastest growing local government, we have over 100 babies born a week and more than half of Wyndham households are families with young children. By 2030, our population will reach over 400,000.

As Australia continues to rebuild its economy from the COVID-19 pandemic, Wyndham has identified key projects and initiatives that will

- support local jobs and create economic opportunities
- build better transport connections to make it easier to move around Wyndham
- build better communities through equi-table funding for growth areas, planning and partnerships

Through partnerships, we can make these critical projects a reality and deliver social, environmental, and economic benefits for our local community and Melbourne's West. We look forward to your ongoing support.

ABOUT WYNDHAM



34% of the Wyndham population come from non-English speaking countries, primarily from India, the Philippines, China, Pakistan and Malaysia



41% of the Wyndham population was born overseas with residents coming from more than 162 different countries and speaking more than 170 different languages

Wyndham is one of the largest and fastest growing municipalities in Australia, located in Melbourne's outer western suburbs.

The Wyndham economy is growing with a Gross Regional Product (GRP) of \$12.05 billion in June 2020, the second highest among all growth areas in Greater Melbourne. There are over 12,000 businesses located within Wyndham, with jobs predominantly within the retail trade, transport, postal, warehousing and manufacturing industries.

Wyndham's population is diverse with almost half of our 302,000 Wyndham residents born overseas, from 162 different countries. The community is dominated by younger generations with 58% of residents under 35 years. The population is forecast to grow to 500,000 people by 2040.



In 2021, the Wyndham population (302,650) can fill...



and around...



By 2041, the population is expected to grow to **512,591 people**





INTRODUCTION

Investing in Wyndham represents a unique opportunity to support the recovery of the Australian economy. Strategically located and a centre of growth and activity even during the pandemic, Wyndham is a vital western hub in a renewed vision of Greater Melbourne that connects suburban centres and surrounding regions.

With transport links to the Melbourne CBD and Geelong, Sunshine and Footscray as key business and transport centres, Wyndham is a strategic location to invest in economic development.

Activity related to Wyndham's ongoing population growth and available land in key locations can drive strong economic growth if supported by Federal investment in key infrastructure and services.

Wyndham has strong potential to create a liveable and sustainable post-COVID city which provides local employment opportunities and lifestyle advantages being delivered by improved local neighbourhood connections.

With Federal support and investment, Wyndham will seize the opportunity to deliver a more self-sustaining and resilient western hub as part of Greater Melbourne's re-imagined future.

The transformation projects listed in this document will deliver the best outcomes for the people of Wyndham.

MINISTER FOR GROWTH AREAS

Wyndham City supports the call from growth area councils nationally for the creation of a Growth Areas Ministerial portfolio, to drive a national policy approach to the significant opportunities and challenges that exist in growth areas across Australia.

An urgent national response to growth area inequities and COVID recovery needs to be led by a Minister for Growth Areas.

A new Growth Areas portfolio would be a recognition of the 5.2 million Australians who live in outer urban growth areas, and the millions more who depend on growth area workers and industries.

Growth areas are still growing, despite the wider national population downturn, due to intra-state migration and continuing higher than average birth rates.

Meanwhile, HomeBuilder has created the highest ever recorded levels of building approvals, setting up a population boom in the next 2-5 years and a looming infrastructure deficit in growth areas.

National and State infrastructure advisory bodies have called for special attention to growth areas. National coordination and leadership is needed.

With a focus on growth area jobs and local economies, with incentives for new industries to establish in growth areas to benefit from the competitive advantage and potential of a vast local workforce and ample land, growth areas can play a key role as a driver of economic recovery.

WYNDHAM

PROJECTS



Activate East Werribee and unlock the National Economic and Innovation Cluster
Create a strong commercial hub in the heart of Wyndham



Wyndham Westlink
Relieve high levels of congestion in Wyndham's west and boost productivity



North and West Melbourne City Deal
A 20-year proposal of projects and investment for the region to respond to the pandemic and reform our economy for the future



Sports Infrastructure
Critical sports and active leisure facilities supporting Wyndham residents to be more active, more often



Western Intermodal Freight Terminal
A new rail freight terminal for the Federal Inland Rail project, proposed for a Truganina location to create jobs and investment in the outer west



Opportunity Wyndham
Support successful employment programs providing equitable access to local jobs for local people



Outer Metropolitan Ring Transport Corridor
A new 100-kilometre-long high-speed transport corridor, including a freeway and rail lines, to move people and freight between Melbourne's north and west



Connecting regional growth and jobs
Capture the collective economic benefits of the Geelong Fast Rail, the Western Rail Plan and the Melbourne Airport Rail



Finance for Growth Areas
Providing a strong, reliable and equitable flow of federal funding into local infrastructure and services



OPPORTUNITY: ACTIVATE EAST WERRIBEE AND UNLOCK THE WERRIBEE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT AND INNOVATION CLUSTER

REQUEST: Commit to a 60,000 new jobs target for East Werribee supported by a \$50m investment to kick start the design and development of an iconic, high job generating catalyst project and further support by Development of an Integrated Transport Strategy for the East Werribee Precinct and the broader region and the North and West Melbourne City Deal.

OUTCOMES: Activating the East Werribee Precinct will create 60,000 jobs, support existing community needs, absorb future population growth, and build a more prosperous, productive and sustainable Wyndham.

Wyndham City is calling on all Federal political parties to commit to activating East Werribee and unlocking the Werribee National Employment and Innovation Cluster (NEIC), in partnership with the Victorian Government, to create 60,000 new high quality secure jobs.

Activate East Werribee through an integrated approach with the development of the Werribee City Centre and deliver the 'Capital of Melbourne's New West' to support existing community needs, absorb future population growth, and build a more prosperous, productive and sustainable Wyndham.

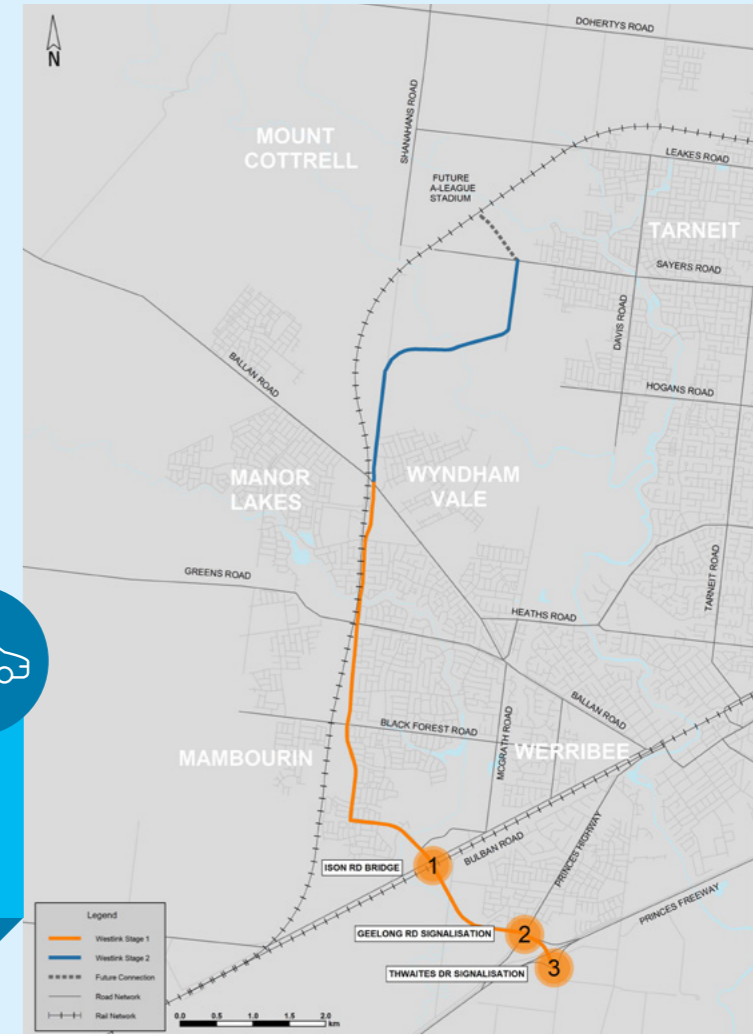
Creating 60,000 jobs, it provides the opportunity to build a different sort of hub, one with forward looking transport systems, green construction practices, appropriate housing and a wide range of jobs which are easily accessible.

Activating East Werribee, as part of Werribee NEIC, will help ease the congestion challenges for Melbourne, boost employment options closer to where people live, generate new industries and learning opportunities, and deliver more health and community services for the western region.

An integrated transport strategy that connects the NEIC of Sunshine and Werribee will also capture the collective benefits of the Geelong Fast Rail, Western Rail Plan and Melbourne Airport Rail Link.



OPPORTUNITY: WYNDHAM WESTLINK



REQUEST: \$120 Million for construction of the rail overpass bridge.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Relieve high levels of congestion from traffic currently funnelled towards the Werribee City Centre, improve productivity and support an existing development corridor

Wyndham City is calling on all Federal political parties to commit to federal investment in the Westlink road project to address congestion and boost productivity in Wyndham's western suburbs.

A continuous link connecting rapidly developing residential areas in the west of Wyndham to the Princes Freeway, Westlink will provide an alternative for traffic currently funnelled towards the Werribee City Centre, relieving high levels of congestion in Wyndham's north and west, and enabling direct travel between developing residential areas and employment and education precincts.

The Westlink project includes:

- Construction of a four-lane Ison Road bridge over the Melbourne-Geelong railway line and additional works required at the Princes Freeway interchange
- Signalisation of the Geelong Road roundabout
- Signalisation of the Princes Freeway off-ramp intersection with William Thwaites Drive

The Ison Road Bridge rail overpass is a key feature of Westlink. The rail overpass will connect two sections of Ison Road across the Melbourne-Geelong railway line, enabling freeway access from Wyndham Vale, Manor Lakes and Tarneit.

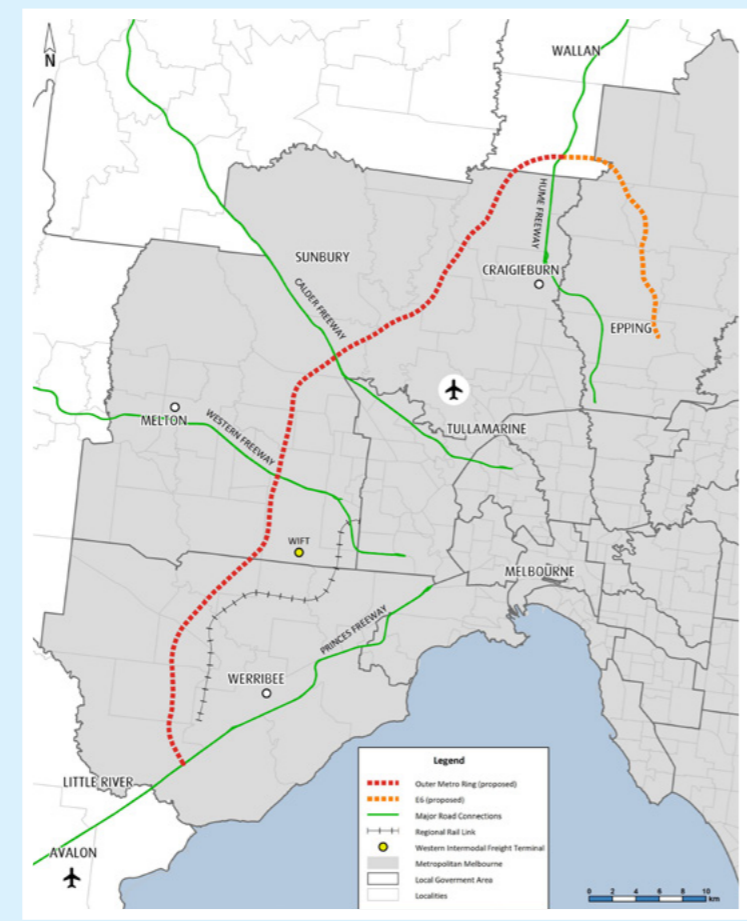
The Victorian Government has provided funding for early works for the construction of the Ison Road Bridge over the railway line and to develop a business case for upgrades to the Princes Freeway interchange. Wyndham City is seeking additional commitments to further progress this project.



FUNDED



**OPPORTUNITY:
OUTER METROPOLITAN
RING TRANSPORT
CORRIDOR**



REQUEST: Commitment to develop the Outer Metropolitan Ring Transport Corridor, including as a first step releasing the federal budget commitment of **\$62 million** for design work on the Western Intermodal Freight Terminal and the Outer Metro Ring rail connection.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Lifting productivity and growth through improved transport connectivity in the north and west of Melbourne between key employment and residential growth areas and linking key transport hubs.

Wyndham City, along with other councils in the north and west of Melbourne, is calling on all Federal political parties to commit to fully fund the development of the Outer Metropolitan Ring / E6 project, building on an initial commitment of \$10 million in the 2021-22 Federal Budget.

The Outer Metropolitan Ring Transport Corridor is a proposed 100-kilometre-long high-speed transport link for people and freight in Melbourne's north and west. The connection from west of Werribee to the Hume Freeway at Kalkallo would include a freeway together with railway tracks in the median for interstate freight and high-speed passenger trains.

The Outer Metropolitan Ring will transform Melbourne and the surrounding regional areas, creating better connections to key transport hubs such as Melbourne Airport, Avalon Airport, the Port of Geelong, and the proposed Western Intermodal Freight Terminal.



FUNDED



**OPPORTUNITY:
WESTERN INTERMODAL
FREIGHT TERMINAL**

REQUEST: Commit to construction of a new rail freight terminal at Truganina, in line with the business case for the Melbourne Intermodal Terminal. As a first step release the federal budget commitment of **\$62 million** for design work on the terminal and the Outer Metro Ring rail connection.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Economic and employment opportunities for residents across Wyndham and the region— up to 39,000 new jobs.

Wyndham City, along with the Melton City Council, western regional organisations and industry partners, is calling on all Federal political parties to commit to the proposed Western Intermodal Freight Terminal in Truganina as the location for the new Melbourne Intermodal Rail Freight Terminal to drive Melbourne's economic and employment growth.

The Western Intermodal Freight Terminal is a project of national significance which will capitalise on the benefits to be delivered by the Federal Government's Inland Rail project, currently under construction.

The Federal Government has committed \$2 billion to fund a new rail freight terminal in Melbourne and a business case prepared with the Victorian Government has found that Truganina is the best site, being located close to around 50 per cent of existing interstate freight rail customers.

The precinct would include a rail terminal for transfers between trains and trucks, and connected related freight and logistics activities. Establishing this interstate rail freight terminal and warehousing precinct will create 39,000 jobs and boost commercial productivity in Wyndham and the outer west.



OPPORTUNITY: NORTH AND WEST MELBOURNE CITY DEAL

REQUEST: Complete the Federal initiative for a City Deal covering investment in a range of transformative and enabling projects for the development of Western and Northern regions of Melbourne.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: A blueprint for the region to respond to the impacts of the pandemic in the immediate and medium-term, and to reform our economy for the future

Wyndham City is calling on all federal political parties to commit to working with state and local governments to agree and deliver a North West Melbourne City Deal.

Councils across the western and northern regions of Melbourne have worked together to develop the North and West Melbourne City Deal Plan, a 20-year proposal of projects and investment for the region.

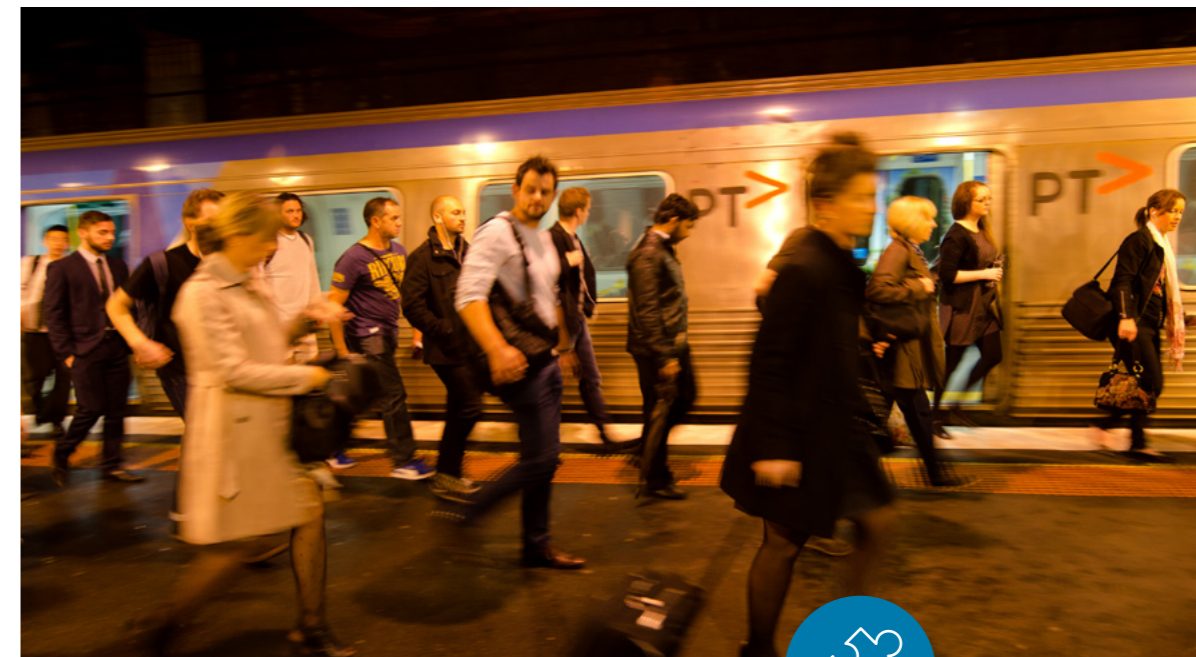
The proposed plan includes transformational regional projects such as

- Western Intermodal Freight Terminal
- Outer Metropolitan Ring
- Wyndham's Westlink
- Victoria University's Melbourne Centre for Civil Construction and the Sustainability Futures Centre

City Deals allow Federal, State and local governments to work together to drive national priorities tailored to local needs, develop plans for growth and commit to shared actions. In 2019 the Federal Government proposed to develop a City Deal for North and West Melbourne.

The North and West Melbourne City Deal Plan is a blueprint for the region to respond to the impacts of the pandemic in the immediate and medium-term, and to reform our economy for the future.

The proposal will help create 300,000 new jobs, reboot business, boost social and economic inclusion, and leverage the region's existing strengths in health, food production, manufacturing and logistics. It will unlock employment and economic development opportunities centred on the eight key precincts, including Werribee.



OPPORTUNITY: GROWTH AND JOBS - GEELONG FAST RAIL AND OTHER MAJOR RAIL PROJECTS

REQUEST: The Federal investment of \$2 billion in the Geelong Fast Rail should include capacity for these trains to stop in Wyndham and for these services to be integrated with plans for the Western Rail Plan and Melbourne Airport Rail Link.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Create more economic, education and employment opportunities by improving rail connections between key western suburban and regional centres.

Wyndham City is calling on all federal political parties to commit to maximising the benefits of significant national investments in rail in Victoria, creating better rail connections and more economic opportunities between key western suburban and regional centres.

Commitment to an integrated approach to major rail projects in the west would capture the collective benefits of the Geelong Fast Rail, Western Rail Plan and the Melbourne Airport Rail Link, connecting the National Employment and Innovation Clusters of Sunshine and Werribee with the regional cities of Geelong and Ballarat, as well as increasing access to central Melbourne.

Rail projects that will connect Geelong to Werribee, wider western Melbourne, and other regional cities provide better connectivity between all these cities enabling greater shared employment, economic and educational opportunities.

Wyndham City is seeking Federal funding to make this vision a reality with enhancements of the Geelong Fast Rail project to improve rail connections between Geelong and Wyndham, including a stop in Wyndham to maximise the benefits of better connections.



OPPORTUNITY:
OPPORTUNITY WYNDHAM
 - LOCAL JOBS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

REQUEST: Match Victorian Government funding with **\$1 million** over 3 years
EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Assist people experiencing barriers to employment to find work while supporting local business to secure local talent and sustainably employ local people

Wyndham City is calling on all Federal political parties to commit to investment in the council-led Opportunity Wyndham employment program for local people experiencing barriers to employment.

Population growth, new infrastructure and inbound investment make Wyndham an exciting place to be with a wealth of opportunities for employment creation. However, more can be done to ensure that the benefits of economic recovery and growth are felt positively across the community.

Wyndham City is working together with local businesses to create local jobs for local people. The Opportunity Wyndham initiative brings together Wyndham City, local employment partners and businesses to build local pathways to employment.

Local partnership networks like Opportunity Wyndham have been shown to be successful in assisting people experiencing barriers to employment to find work and to support local business to thrive and succeed.

Wyndham City will continue to work in partnership across all levels of government and with industry to support successful local employment programs.



OPPORTUNITY:
SPORTS
INFRASTRUCTURE

REQUEST: **\$25 million** Federal contribution to a major new indoor sports and aquatic facility, costed at \$75 million
EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Meet growing local demand for team sports, provide physical and mental benefits through greater community participation in sport and recreation activities.

Wyndham City is calling on all Federal political parties to commit to investment in sports facilities to provide Wyndham residents with more opportunities to keep more active, more often.

Australians love being active, and sport and active recreation opportunities are vital to improving individual and community health and wellbeing. Such activities are important settings for developing social connection with others and the community in which they live, especially at this crucial time.

However, the development of housing growth in Wyndham has outpaced the development of critical sports and active leisure facilities in recent years.

Wyndham's ongoing population growth has seen demand for team sports expand exponentially. Between 2013 and 2019 cricket grew from 91 to 216 teams, soccer went from 63 to 141 teams, and netball grew from 157 to 266 teams.

To meet this growing demand, Wyndham needs investments in:

- A major new indoor sports and aquatic facility



OPPORTUNITY: FINANCE FOR GROWTH AREAS



REQUEST: \$13.6 million in additional Financial Assistance Grants for Wyndham City, \$1.8 billion nationally

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Enable Councils to plan and deliver a pipeline of critical social infrastructure projects their community needs, when they need it.

Wyndham City joins with other councils nationally in calling for Financial Assistance Grants to return to the rate of one per cent of Federal taxation revenue in order to support local governments and our communities.

Providing the infrastructure and services our community needs means people have greater opportunities to reach their full potential. With greater Federal investment, we'll improve living standards and build a strong, nationally-significant local economy.

More than 20 years ago, local government received one per cent of total Commonwealth revenue through Financial Assistance Grants. Despite the pressing need for a strong, reliable flow of federal funding into local infrastructure, Financial Assistance Grants are now just 0.6 per cent – a 40 per cent reduction.

Additional Federal financial assistance is required to support local government in the economic recovery, especially in growth area communities which have been among the areas hardest hit by the economic impacts of the pandemic.



FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information or to receive a copy of this document in an alternate format, please contact:

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