

# GOAL: A CONNECTED CITY



In a connected city, all people and goods can move to, from and within the city efficiently. Catering for growth and safeguarding prosperity will require planning for an efficient and sustainable transport network. Technology and innovative forms of movement will play a significant role in changing the way people and goods move. The responsible agencies will collaborate with stakeholders to implement measures making it easier for people to make sustainable and smart travel choices to and around the city, whether by foot, bicycle, tram, bus, train or car.

Key to Melbourne's liveability and prosperity is the ability for people to move around safely and with ease, for work, socialising, or simply going about one's daily business.

Transport supports people's health and wellbeing in a number of ways. It facilitates lifestyle choices, by allowing residents to live close to their sources of employment, food and recreation. Increasingly, people are choosing to cycle, walk or use public transport to get to, from and around the city, while the number of car trips in the municipality has declined.

Currently, about 140,000 residents live in the municipality, and some 900,000 people use it each weekday for work, recreation, education, and other purposes. The residential population is expected to increase to more than 220,000 and the daily combined city population (including visitors and workers) to grow to approximately 1.2 million in the next 10 years (City of Melbourne, 2017). With this expected increase in population, issues around congestion, overcrowding, and pedestrian flow and road safety arise.

Melbourne's travel patterns are a unique reflection of its local economy and the crucial role it plays as the heart of Victoria's services and knowledge economy. The local economy, concentrated around the central city, is made up of finance, insurance, personal, property and business services. What makes this compact area of the city so productive is the efficient exchange of knowledge between people, due to the ease with which people can get around, on foot or by tram.

This is especially the case for valuable knowledge that is shared through networks of trust and often face-to-face. Sometimes referred to as the 'walking economy,' the high density of workers and businesses within walking distance in the central city is a marker of its productive capacity. With the anticipated long-term growth in local jobs and workers, the walkability that underpins the central city's high productivity will need to expand to new development areas on the city fringe to unlock their full potential. With the right transport connections, former industrial areas have the potential to become vibrant residential and employment hubs.

Another benefit of the 'walking economy,' alongside other active travel modes, is that it encourages more physical activity. By designing our city around pedestrians, cyclists and public transport, healthier and more active lifestyles can become the default choice. Good design can help reduce the impact of increasingly sedentary lifestyles that are associated with diabetes and other chronic health problems. It also has the potential to combat air pollution by reducing the number of cars on our roads.

A number of other important factors shape the way people will get around in the future. Increasing concern around climate change and the need to reduce our municipal greenhouse gas emissions suggests a continued shift away from fossil fuel based transport to a combination of train, tram, walking and cycling and low-impact freight transport. Active and sustainable modes

of travel will need to be prioritised over traditional vehicle use, not just within the municipality, but also in terms of how people get into the city.

New technology, including electric or autonomous vehicles and increased automation of transport routes, will change the way people travel. Increasingly sophisticated information platforms also make it more convenient for people to plan their travel using multiple means or to access share cars.

Meanwhile, Melbourne's transport network is currently being restructured through major Victorian Government infrastructure projects. We will play a key role in leveraging these major investments to ensure that projects such as Melbourne Metro Rail are well integrated with other development to deliver a seamless experience for city users.

Through the coordinated efforts of all levels of government, Melbourne can continue building on its existing strengths as a connected city, that:

- Supports efficient and sustainable travel to, from and within the city including through walking, cycling and public transport.
- Enables safe, seamless inner city travel experiences any time, any day, for people of all ages, needs and abilities.
- Meets current and future transport needs by adapting to new innovations and technologies.
- Supports the city’s liveability and prosperity by enabling seamless connections between people and places.
- Takes a cohesive planning approach so that infrastructure investments made today by all levels of government support the liveability and prosperity of the city in the future.

Given this, the City of Melbourne’s specific focus over the next four years can be summarised by the following outcomes and priorities.

#### THE OUTCOMES WE WILL WORK TOWARDS IN 2017-21

- People of all abilities are able to move freely, safely and sustainably around the city.\*
- People and goods are able to move sustainably in and out of the city.\*
- Melbourne’s street network is optimised for current and future travel modes.

\* Also a health and wellbeing priority.

## How we’ll measure success

Our key indicator is in bold text.

#### CITY OF MELBOURNE INDICATORS

- The kilometres of new bicycle routes in the municipality.

#### MUNICIPAL INDICATORS

- An increase in the share of all trips to, from and within the municipality made on foot.
- The percentage of trips made to the city by bicycle.
- Fewer transport related accidents, injuries and fatalities in the municipality.
- **The number of public transport trips per daily population.**
- Increased number of car share spaces installed in the municipality.

## What we'll do in 2017-21

WE WILL PROVIDE	RELATED FM 2026 PRIORITIES
High quality major streetscapes and boulevards including in urban renewal areas.	6.1 A great walking city
An expanded pedestrian network, including wider footpaths to make the city more walkable and accessible.*	6.1 A great walking city
Safer on-and-off-street routes for cyclists to support Melbourne as a cycling city.*	6.2 A cycling city
WE WILL PARTNER TO	RELATED FM 2026 PRIORITIES
Improve opportunities for more seamless travel for cyclists around the municipality and between neighbouring areas, including through the Inner Melbourne Action Plan.	6.2 A cycling city
Manage the disruption to transport networks from the Melbourne Metro Project, with the Victorian Government and the community.	6.3 Provide effective and integrated public transport
WE WILL FACILITATE	RELATED FM 2026 PRIORITIES
Planning for alternative transport modes, including electric and autonomous vehicles, share-cars and water transport.	6.5 Transition to future transport technologies
Alternative future use of car parking spaces for new transport requirements or other community needs.	6.5 Transition to future transport technologies
The flow of people and goods by enhancing the inner Melbourne transport network, including last-kilometre freight.	6.4 Implement innovative and effective urban freight solutions

\* Also a health and wellbeing priority.

**WE WILL ADVOCATE FOR**

**RELATED FM 2026 PRIORITIES**

An integrated public transport network that is carbon-neutral.\*

6.3 Provide effective and integrated public transport

An expanded public transport network that includes a focus on the next metro line and a rail link to the airport.

6.6 Connect regionally and globally

The best interests of the municipality in regards to significant transport projects.

6.3 Provide effective and integrated public transport

\* Also a health and wellbeing priority.

