

VICTORIAN BUDGET 2022-23

WYNDHAM

CITY

PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION

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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.



INTRODUCTION

Wyndham City welcomes the opportunity to present to the Victorian Government our priorities for consideration in the 2022-23 Victorian Budget.

As a growing outer suburban city, Wyndham is well positioned to be a liveable and sustainable post-COVID city with thriving local jobs, businesses and recreational spaces. Wyndham's increasing population and available land for infrastructure presents key opportunities for Victorian Government investment.

However, existing infrastructure and services are not keeping up with our rapid population growth. Major infrastructure projects and service improvements from the Victorian Government will address our mounting congestion and transport challenges, and will ensure that much-needed services are accessible as the community grows.

Support from the Victorian Government in response to COVID-19 has assisted Wyndham to adapt and respond through the pandemic. As we move to the recovery stage of the pandemic, targeted investment in Wyndham will ensure that the city grows and prospers in the future.

The Wyndham City 2022-2023 Victorian Pre-Budget Submission focuses on opportunities for the State Government and Wyndham City to deliver shared priorities that will:

- support local education, equitable access to jobs and create economic opportunities
- build better transport connections to make it easier to move around Wyndham
- build better communities through sport and community infrastructure



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

ABOUT WYNDHAM

Wyndham is one of the largest and fastest growing municipalities in Australia, located in Melbourne's outer western suburbs. The Wyndham economy recorded 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 mainly predominantly within the retail trade, transport, postal, warehousing and manufacturing industries.

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



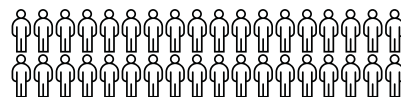
In 2021, the Wyndham population (302,650) can fill...

3.0 MCGs

and around...

5.1 MCGs by 2041

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



BUDGET

SUBMISSION SUMMARY

Well positioned as a link between regional Victoria and Melbourne, Wyndham City is a strategic location for Victorian Government investment. The Wyndham City 2022-2023 Victorian Pre-Budget Submission outlines opportunities for the Victorian Government to invest in shared priorities to grow the state economy and support the Wyndham community. Further details on each project are provided throughout this submission.

OPPORTUNITY / PRIORITY	FUNDING REQUESTED	REQUEST	OUTCOMES
ACTIVATE EAST WERRIBEE	Investment to activate East Werribee and create 60,000 jobs	Formally identify East Werribee as a new 'Priority Precinct,' which is supported by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new East Werribee Precinct Board that provides for a partnership approach between the State Government, Wyndham City, and other key stakeholders to guide and coordinate East Werribee reactivation efforts. Funding to immediately commence a new East Werribee Precinct Master Plan process to identify and fast track shovel ready job projects, and to guide medium to longer term investment and employment opportunities. Investment to kick start the design, development and construction of an iconic, high job generating, and ability to attract further investment of all scale, catalyst project for East Werribee. 	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.
WESTERN INTERMODAL FREIGHT TERMINAL	Ongoing support	The Western Intermodal Freight Terminal to be developed as the location for the new Melbourne Intermodal Freight Terminal for the national Inland Rail project.	Establishing this interstate rail freight terminal and warehousing precinct will create 39,000 jobs and boost commercial productivity in Wyndham and the outer west.
SCHOOL PROVISION	Additional funding for government schools and upgrades to existing schools	Wyndham needs the Victorian Government to build an additional two new secondary schools and two new primary schools by 2024. Land acquisition is also needed to deliver a further 6 schools needed by 2026, and upgrades are needed to existing government schools under increasing demand.	Additional government schools will enable Wyndham to keep up with growing demand for school places and take pressure off the current schools in Wyndham which already experience high enrolment numbers. While the new schools are being built, upgrades to existing schools are needed to provide a quality education experience to increasing numbers of students.
WYNDHAM WESTLINK	\$120M	Wyndham City is seeking Victorian Government commitments to continue developing the Wyndham Westlink by funding the construction of the Ison Road rail overpass bridge and the Princes Freeway Interchange.	Investment in the Wyndham Westlink will relieve high levels of congestion from traffic currently funnelled towards the Werribee City Centre, improving productivity and supporting an existing development corridor.
INTEGRATING GEELONG FAST RAIL AND OTHER MAJOR RAIL PROJECTS	Include improved rail connections between Geelong and Wyndham, including a stop in Wyndham, as part of the existing \$2 billion investment in Geelong Fast Rail	Ensure that the existing Victorian Government investment of \$2 billion in the Geelong Fast Rail includes the capacity for these trains to stop in Wyndham and for the Geelong Fast Rail services to be integrated with the Western Rail Plan and Melbourne Airport Rail Link.	Create more economic, education and employment opportunities by improving rail connections between key western suburban and regional centres.
WESTERN RAIL PLAN	Additional funding for increased rail capacity on Wyndham Vale line	Increased train services on the Wyndham Vale line to meet current and predicted demand, including creating a Metro service through electrification of the rail line, delivering additional train stations to meet commuter demand in growth areas, and creating a connection between Wyndham Vale and the Werribee Line to deliver the western end of the Suburban Rail Loop.	Better rail connectivity between within Wyndham and with the wider Melbourne metro area will improve access to employment, economic and educational opportunities.

OPPORTUNITY / PRIORITY	FUNDING REQUESTED	REQUEST	OUTCOMES
BETTER BUSES	\$1M over 3 years	Investment in a bus network in Wyndham that better meets the public transport needs of our fast growing communities, including new routes and utilising innovative new technology to create demand responsive services.	Better bus services across Wyndham will improve access to services, education and employment opportunities, and reduce traffic congestion.
BETTER CONNECTED NEIGHBOURHOODS	\$12M	\$12 million for improved cycling and walking paths.	Better active transport routes enable people to be more active locally and support the local economy during the economic recovery.
COMMUNITY AND SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE	\$35M	\$25 million towards a sports and aquatic centre, and \$10 million for a new library in Wyndham.	Meet growing needs for local community and sports infrastructure to increase community wellbeing and strengthen community connections
FINANCE FOR GROWTH AREAS	Increase funding for growth areas	Implement Infrastructure Victoria's recommendation to fund a third of the cost of the construction of library and aquatic centres in growth areas, increased commitments to the Growing Suburbs Fund and reform to Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution (GAIC) funds in line with the recommendations of the Victorian Auditor General.	Enable Growth Area Councils to plan and deliver a pipeline of critical social infrastructure projects their community needs, when they need it.





INVEST IN

WYNDHAM



OPPORTUNITY: ACTIVATE EAST WERRIBEE

REQUEST: Formally identify East Werribee as a new ‘Priority Precinct,’ which is supported by:

- A new East Werribee Precinct Board that provides for a partnership approach between the State Government, Wyndham City, and other key stakeholders to guide and coordinate East Werribee reactivation efforts.
- Funding to immediately commence a new East Werribee Precinct Master Plan process to identify and fast track shovel ready job projects, and to guide medium to longer term investment and employment opportunities.
- Investment to kick start the design, development and construction of an iconic, high job generating, and ability to attract further investment of all scale, catalyst project for East Werribee.

EXPECTED 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 asking the Victorian Government to commit to activating East Werribee, in partnership with the Federal Government, creating 60,000 new, high quality and secure jobs.

The Victorian Government has the opportunity to activate East Werribee through an integrated approach to developing the Werribee City Centre and deliver the ‘Capital of Melbourne’s New West’. This investment will support existing community needs, absorb future population growth, and build a more prosperous, productive and sustainable Wyndham.

Creating 60,000 jobs, this precinct 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 easily accessible jobs.

Activating East Werribee will help ease 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 National Employment and Innovation Clusters of Sunshine and Werribee will also capture the collective benefits of the Geelong Fast Rail, Western Rail Plan and Melbourne Airport Rail Link.

Wyndham City is proposing the new East Werribee Precinct Board is created to guide the Master Plan process and provide for a partnership approach between the Victorian Government, Wyndham City, and other key stakeholders.



OPPORTUNITY:
**WESTERN INTERMODAL
FREIGHT TERMINAL**



REQUEST: Ongoing support from the Victorian Government to enable the Western Intermodal Freight Terminal to be developed at Truganina.

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

In partnership with Melton City Council, Wyndham City has welcomed the Victorian Governments support for the Western Intermodal Freight Terminal and seeks ongoing support to enable the Truganina site to be developed as the location for the new Melbourne Intermodal Freight Terminal for the national Inland Rail project.

The Western Intermodal Freight Terminal (WIFT) 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 project 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: SCHOOL PROVISION

REQUEST: Wyndham needs the Victorian Government to build an additional two new secondary schools and two new primary schools by 2024. Land acquisition is also needed to deliver a further six schools needed by 2026, and upgrades are needed to existing government schools under increasing demand.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Additional government schools will enable Wyndham to keep up with growing demand for school places and take pressure off the current schools in Wyndham which already experience high enrolment numbers. While the new schools are being built, upgrades to existing schools are needed to provide a quality education experience to increasing numbers of students.

Wyndham City has welcomed the Victorian Government's investment in schools for Wyndham, and hope to see this continue. We are asking the Victorian Government to fund the new schools and school upgrades we need to keep up with a growing population of young families in our City, now and into the future.

More than half of Wyndham households are families with children. With over 100 babies born each week in Wyndham we need 75 new classrooms each year just to keep up with growing demand for school places.

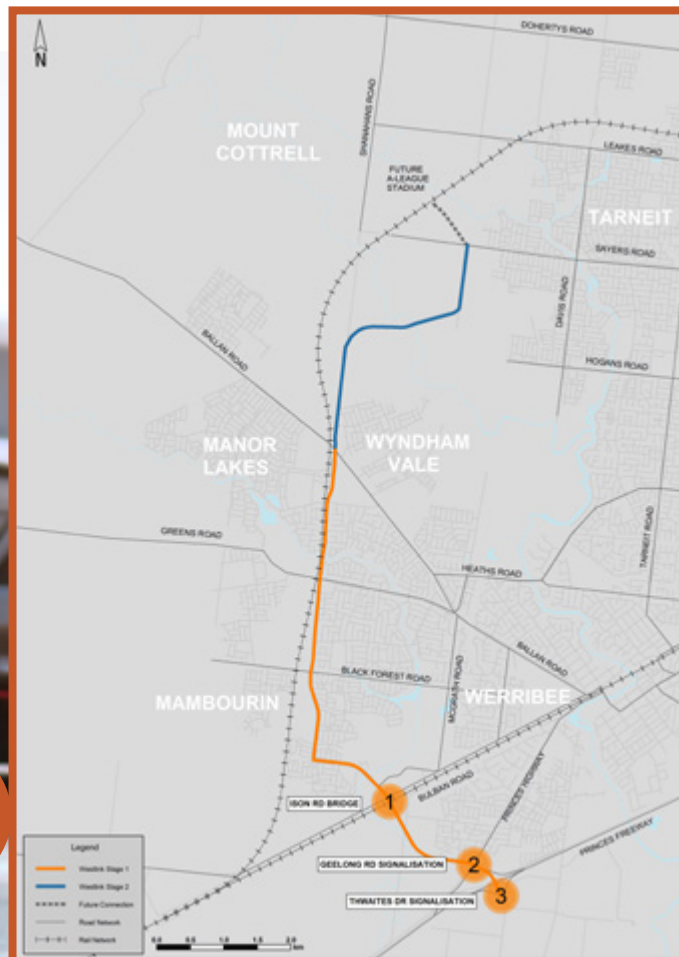
Even with more schools being built in recent years there is still an urgent shortage of schools in Wyndham's growth areas. On average, children in Wyndham's growth areas still have around half the number of primary and secondary schools compared to Greater Melbourne (based on 2021 enrolments).

The following schools are required to ensure that enough new schools are built to keep up with growing demand and take pressure off existing schools in Wyndham.

- Construct an additional two new secondary schools and two new primary schools by 2024:
 - Lollypop Creek Secondary College, Werribee

- Black Forest East Primary, Mambourin
- Riverdale Secondary, Tarneit
- Tarneit North Primary, Tarneit
- Land acquisition to deliver a further six schools needed by 2026, including a site for a primary school in Williams Landing and at least one new site for a P-9 in the south of Point Cook.
- Ongoing upgrades to existing government schools that are under increasing enrolment pressure.

This will meet immediate needs, but we need a long term solution. Wyndham City is also asking the Victorian Government to develop a comprehensive Wyndham School Provision Plan covering the future needs of all Wyndham suburbs.



OPPORTUNITY: WYNDHAM WESTLINK



REQUEST: Wyndham City is seeking Victorian Government commitments to continue developing the Wyndham Westlink by funding the construction of the Ison Road rail overpass bridge and the Princes Freeway Interchange.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Investment in the Wyndham Westlink will relieve high levels of congestion from traffic currently funnelled towards the Werribee City Centre, improving productivity and supporting an existing development corridor.

Wyndham City is seeking further Victorian Government investment in the Wyndham Westlink project which will 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. This will relieve high levels of congestion in Wyndham's north and west, and enable 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 already provided initial Westlink funding in the Victorian Budget 2021-22 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. The proposed items above would build on this and Wyndham City has already committed to building the section of road leading to the bridge.

BETTER

RAIL LINKS

FOR GROWTH AND JOBS



OPPORTUNITY:
**INTEGRATING GEELONG FAST RAIL
AND OTHER MAJOR RAIL PROJECTS**

REQUEST: Ensure that the existing Victorian Government investment of \$2 billion in the Geelong Fast Rail includes the capacity for these trains to stop in Wyndham and for the Geelong fast Rail services to be integrated with 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 asking the Victorian Government to commit to maximising the benefits of significant state investments in major rail projects. This will create 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 connect the National Employment and Innovation Clusters of Sunshine and Werribee with the regional cities of Geelong and Ballarat. This would capture the collective benefits of the Geelong Fast Rail, Western Rail Plan and the Melbourne Airport Rail Link, as well as increase access to central Melbourne.

Rail projects that will connect Werribee and the growing western suburbs to Geelong and other

regional cities provide better connectivity between all these cities enabling greater shared employment, economic and educational opportunities.

Wyndham City is seeking Victorian Government funding to make this vision a reality. Enhancements of the existing Geelong Fast Rail project will improve rail connections between Geelong and Wyndham, including a stop in Wyndham that will maximise the benefits of better connections.

BETTER

RAIL LINKS

FOR GROWTH AND JOBS



**OPPORTUNITY:
WESTERN RAIL PLAN**

REQUEST: Increased train services on the Wyndham Vale line to meet current and predicted demand, including creating a Metro service through electrification of the rail line, delivering additional train stations to meet commuter demand in growth areas, and creating a connection between Wyndham Vale and the Werribee Line to deliver the western end of the Suburban Rail Loop.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Better rail connectivity between within Wyndham and with the wider Melbourne metro area will improve access to employment, economic and educational opportunities.

Wyndham City is calling on the Victorian Governments to deliver on their plans to upgrade the rail capacity and services in the western suburbs under the Western Rail Plan.

The Western Rail Plan announced in 2018 envisaged a revitalisation of rail infrastructure in the western suburbs. To fulfill this plan, Wyndham's fast growing outer suburban areas need:

- Increased train services to meet current and predicted demand by providing Metro train services on the Wyndham Vale line (not a V/Line service), electrifying the line to make it fully integrated with the metropolitan train network.
- Additional train stations to meet growing commuter numbers, to be constructed at:
 - Sayers Road Station, Tarneit West
 - Davis Road Station, Tarneit West
 - Black Forest Road Station, Wyndham Vale
 - Truganina Station, Truganina.
- As a priority, a connection from the Werribee Line to the Wyndham Vale Line to create the western end of the Suburban Rail Loop and better connect residential areas with services, education and employment opportunities.



OPPORTUNITY: BETTER BUSES

REQUEST: Investment in a bus network in Wyndham that better meets the public transport needs of our fast growing communities, including new routes and utilising innovative new technology to create demand responsive services.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Better bus services across Wyndham will improve access to services, education and employment opportunities, and reduce traffic congestion.

Wyndham City joins other councils and community organisations asking the Victorian Government to invest in better bus services to improve transport connections in the west and make smarter use of resources.

Wyndham's fast growing suburbs need new and more frequent bus services as more residents move in. We also need better connections between trains and buses to improve access to public transport and create an alternative to more cars on our roads.

Providing new bus routes can be a challenge in new housing areas, but fortunately there are innovative new solutions available. We welcome the announcement of FlexiRide on-demand services for North Tarneit and ask the Victorian Government to work with Wyndham City and bus companies to continue to support new and emerging technologies

to deliver the transport innovations that are needed across Wyndham. We also support Victorian Government investment in more electric buses which will help make our City cleaner and greener.

If buses services are frequent and accessible, people will use them. Wyndham is home to nine of the top 20 most used bus services across the whole of metropolitan Melbourne. Better buses will increase access to community services, improve education and employment opportunities, and reduce traffic congestion.



OPPORTUNITY:
**BETTER CONNECTED
NEIGHBOURHOODS**

REQUEST: \$12 million for improved cycling and walking paths.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Better active transport routes enable people to be more active locally and support the local economy during the economic recovery.

Wyndham City is asking the Victorian Government to support better shared user pathway connections to improved local connections and increase access to key destinations.

The pandemic has changed the way people travel for work, school and leisure. Neighbourhoods with housing in close proximity to jobs and services encourage a vibrant and healthy local economy that can meet the majority of peoples' daily needs.

Wyndham's terrain is flat and perfect for cycling and walking. Wyndham City is seeking support for better connections which will help more people shift to cycling and walking for local trips, including:

- Constructing the K Road Cliffs Trail in Werribee's tourism precinct
- Connecting the Bay Trail at Point Cook and Sanctuary Lakes
- Greening the Pipeline at Hoppers Crossing and Laverton North
- Fixing the missing link in the Lollypop Creek trail in Wyndham Vale.



OPPORTUNITY: COMMUNITY AND SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE

REQUEST: \$25 million towards a sports and aquatic centre, and \$10 million for a new library in Wyndham.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES: Meet growing needs for local community and sports infrastructure to increase community wellbeing and strengthen community connections.

Wyndham City is asking the Victorian Government to assist with funding the increasing number of aquatic centres and libraries needed to provide services to growing populations in our City.

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.

Likewise, libraries provide opportunities for lifelong learning, spaces to connect with community, build culture and creativity, provide access to services and act as a refuges for people in need.

However, the development of housing growth in Wyndham City has outpaced the development of community and sports infrastructure in recent years.

To meet this growing demand, Wyndham is requesting a Victorian Government contribution to enable the delivery of a major new indoor sports and aquatic facility, and an additional library in our fast growing suburbs.



OPPORTUNITY: FINANCE FOR GROWTH AREAS

REQUEST: Implement Infrastructure Victoria’s recommendation to fund a third of the cost of the construction of library and aquatic centres in growth areas, increased commitments to the Growing Suburbs Fund and reform to Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution (GAIC) funds in line with the recommendations of the Victorian Auditor General.

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

Wyndham City is asking the Victorian Government to ensure that state funds for growth areas are sufficient to match the growing need for infrastructure and services in the outer suburbs.

INFRASTRUCTURE VICTORIA’S 30 YEAR STRATEGY

Infrastructure Victoria’s 30 Year Strategy recommends that Victorian Government should, “in the next five years, increase funding to support local government to plan and deliver libraries and aquatic recreation centres in Melbourne’s seven growth area municipalities.”

Infrastructure Victoria’s report found that growth areas have fewer libraries and aquatic centres than the rest of Melbourne and this will likely worsen over time as populations increase. Among the growth areas, Wyndham was rated in the bottom four for both libraries per person and aquatic centres per person.

Providing the infrastructure and services our community needs means people have greater opportunities to reach their full potential.

GROWING SUBURBS FUND

Since 2015, Wyndham City has received funding through the Growing Suburbs Fund towards the construction of various local infrastructure projects including upgrades to community spaces, and improvements to local sport and recreation facilities.

However, since 2020 the Growing Suburbs Fund has increased in eligibility from 10 councils to 16 councils. Wyndham City calls on the Victorian Government to

provide ongoing commitment to the Growing Suburbs Fund, and increase this program’s funding to an amount that reflects the increase in eligible councils and the unique challenges faced by communities in outer suburbs.

GROWTH AREAS INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTION

The Victorian Government should also reform the growth area funding set aside from a levy on developments under the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution (GAIC) funds.

In March 2020, the Victorian Auditor General Office tabled a report ‘Managing Development Contributions’. The report recommended that the Victorian Government reform developer contribution funds. This included developing a plan for monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the outcomes achieved by development contributions, and seeking greater council input to selecting Growth Area Infrastructure Contribution-funded projects.

With greater Victorian Government investment in funding for growth areas and better accountability for the use of development contribution funds, we will improve living standards in outer suburbs and build a stronger local economy in the 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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Wyndham City



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