

Good afternoon Cities and Suburbs team

I write in response to the call for submissions on the draft National Urban Policy. Please redact my email signature if this email is to be published.

Context

The City of Stonnington (Stonnington) is located in Melbourne's inner south-east, alongside the Birrarung / Yarra River, covering an area of 25.63 square kilometres. Stonnington is close to the centre of Melbourne and takes in the suburbs of Armadale, Kooyong, Malvern, Malvern East, Prahran, Toorak and parts of Glen Iris, South Yarra and Windsor. Stonnington is situated on the traditional land of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong people.

The estimated resident population for 2023 was 111,335; it is anticipated that the municipality will experience population growth of over 20 per cent from 2023 to 2036. Stonnington has a culturally and economically diverse population. The housing stock ranges from some of Melbourne's finest mansions to large blocks of public housing, an indication of the community's contrasting lifestyles, needs and expectations.

Comment

The City of Stonnington welcomes an approach of collaboration across levels of government to deliver on these important outcomes. We welcome, as the level of government closest to the community, the principle that City planning and governance must be collaborative and adaptive.

We also welcome the grant opportunities outlined on page 10 – Councils across Australia currently raise approximately 3-4 per cent of the total taxation collected by all levels of Government in Australia, but are responsible for the maintenance of more than 30 per cent of all Australian public assets. The Federal Government has significantly more mechanisms to raise and distribute funding which will provide critical services to the community, via Councils.

Useful documents

The City of Stonnington is well-advanced in planning for many of the identified principles from the National Urban Policy. Rather than making a standalone submission, we rather submit the following documents for consideration.

Goals: Liveable, Equitable

Stonnington has spent 5 years developing a detailed and considered Housing Strategy to guide housing change across the municipality and respond to growth over the next 15 years. By 2036, it is estimated that an extra 25,860 people will move to Stonnington and will live in an additional 12,950

homes. This means providing a framework that facilitates diverse, sustainable and well-designed housing, ensuring we protect Stonnington's distinctive neighbourhoods and sought-after leafy streetscapes and supporting Council's vision for being a great place to live, work and play.

The Draft Strategy is currently in a second stage of community engagement and will be final soon.
Draft Housing Strategy | Connect Stonnington

Strategy available at

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iV2lVYlpY2h6DtJhUr5uVO2SZcTtk6v_/view?usp=sharing

We also have a Health and Wellbeing Plan which demonstrates how we will support the Stonnington community to lead healthy, happy and fulfilled lives, recognising that good health is far broader than being free from disease. Good health is about physical, mental, and social wellbeing. Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021–2025 City of Stonnington

Goal: Productive

After extensive community engagement, we have also developed a new Place-led Economic Development Strategy to help shape the vision for our future and make Stonnington a premier inner-city destination to live, work, study and play.

Place-Led Economic Development Strategy City of Stonnington

We also have a Smart City Strategic Framework which guides how we can use digital technology, data and innovation to better serve our residents, businesses and visitors Smart City Strategic Framework City of Stonnington.

Goals: Sustainable and Resilient

We have a Sustainable Environment Strategy Sustainable Environment Strategy 2018-2023 City of Stonnington and a Circular Waste strategy

https://connectstonnington.vic.gov.au/download_file/view/1013/912 guiding our approach to responding to the climate crisis and making our community and built environment safer.

There are a significant number of plans and strategic frameworks addressing other areas of the National Urban Policy available here Strategies and plans City of Stonnington.