



Inner Melbourne Action Plan
'Making Melbourne More Liveable'



MEDIA RELEASE: Growing Green Guide for Melbourne project launch

MELBOURNE ROOFS, WALLS AND FACADES GOING GREEN

Friday 11 May 2012

Four inner city councils and the University of Melbourne will today launch a program that has the potential to transform Melbourne's roofs, walls and facades into vegetated, leafy habitats.

The Growing Green Guide for Melbourne will be produced by the Inner Melbourne Action Plan councils (Cities of Melbourne, Yarra, Stonnington and Port Phillip) and the University of Melbourne and will be an industry 'how to guide' to encourage greater greening of buildings in Melbourne.

The project is funded through the Victorian Government's Sustainability Fund under the Victorian Local Sustainability Accord.

City of Melbourne Eco City Councillor Cathy Oke said: "Green roofs, walls and facades are an increasingly common sight on buildings in major cities around the world. They are now considered an essential part of urban design to provide more vegetation and green spaces in dense urban environments. People have been telling us that there isn't enough information on how to create them in Melbourne, so this project is designed to fill that information gap."

The Growing Green Guide for Melbourne project will create a guide for the construction of green roofs and walls. It will also develop recommendations for how to integrate rooftop and vertical greening into regulatory schemes, and identify prime sites for future development of green roofs, walls and facades in inner Melbourne.

John Rayner from the University of Melbourne, said: "Green roofs and walls contribute significant environmental and amenity benefits to cities. They can reduce urban heat loadings and stormwater run-off, increase the energy efficiency and liveability of buildings, provide a range of habitat outcomes and even produce food."

Councillor Janet Bolitho, City of Port Phillip, and chair of the Accord Committee said: "This project is a fine example of the collaboration

and regional approach supported by the Accord. It will also be available to all councils.”

The cities of Melbourne, Port Phillip, Stonnington and Yarra are also launching a series of fact sheets at this event on how to include sustainable design for all developments and extensions. The fact sheets help to deliver buildings that are resource efficient are cheaper to run and have a lower environmental impact.

Media contact:

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LAUNCH DETAILS

- **WHEN:** Friday 11 May 2012 at 11am
- **WHO:**
 - City of Melbourne Eco City Councillor Cathy Oke
 - City of Port Phillip Councillor and chair of the Accord Committee Janet Bolitho
 - University of Melbourne Senior Lecturer John Rayner
 - Mayor of Stonnington and IMAP representative John Chandler
 - Invited guests from councils and the building industry.
- **WHERE:** The rooftop of Council House 2, 240 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.
- **WHAT:** The above guest speakers will give short presentations. There will be a large visual element to the launch – green roof plants, posters and visualisation of what inner Melbourne rooftops could look like in future. Light refreshments will also be provided.

A media pack with further information and images will be available for media on the day.



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