

IMAP Progress Report November 2009

The Inner Melbourne Action Plan (IMAP) identifies 57 actions within 11 regional strategies to help build the inner Melbourne region to embody creativity, liveability, prosperity and sustainability across a range of diverse neighbourhoods.

The following Actions have been **COMPLETED**:

Action 1.1 Inner Melbourne *Statement of Significance*
 Action 2.2 Coordinated pedestrian and public transport Signage (Wayfinding) Stage 1 - *Report*
 Action 2.3 Bicycle Network Legibility – *Priority Bicycle Network Report*
 Action 2.4 Walking links and pedestrian priority areas (Greenlight) Stage 1 – *Analysis Report*
 Action 5.2 Affordable Housing - *Needs Website (May 08)*
 Action 7.4 Regional Economic Development *Statement*
 Action 9.1 Regional Sustainability Targets – *Audit of IMAP Councils*
 Action 9.3 Water Sensitive Urban Design - *Model Guidelines*
 Action 9.6 Use of Recycled Water in Open Space – *Technical Notes*
 Action 11.1 Inner Melbourne Map – inner Melbourne region *Visitor Map*
 Action 11.2 Regional Tourism Program – *Research & Itineraries*

Other Achievements

Merit Award for Regional Action in Water Sensitive Urban Design at the Stormwater Victoria Awards
 IMAP Bicycle Network - Presentation at the Bike Futures 2009 Conference
 Presentation to Planning Students at Melbourne University
 IMAP Annual Report 2008-2009

Governance

- Annual Reports 06-07 / 07-08 / 08-09
- Goods & Services Procurement Policy
- Governance & Relationships Report

Communications

- IMAP Website
- National Conference presentation (March 09)
- Club IMAP
- Council Briefings (City of Yarra and City of Stonnington)

Advocacy

- Ministerial Briefings – Ministers Wynne, Madden, Kosky
- Briefings to DIIRD & SGS consultants
- IMAP acknowledgements:
 - State Government's Cycling Strategy
 - Interdepartmental Committee (Department of Justice)
 - Melbourne Water (WSUD)

Action 2.2 - Coordinated pedestrian and public transport signage system (Wayfinding)

Stage 1 – COMPLETE

Stage 2 – COMPLETE

- This stage has included the design, manufacturing and installation of consistent signage as a demonstration project with the IMAP Visitor Map used as a base to develop a hierarchy of maps for the new signage.
- A Ministerial Launch was held 11 September 2009 attended by representatives from both Local and State Government.

Stage 3 – IN PROGRESS

- Evaluation will be undertaken during December 2009 in conjunction with the Department of Transport.

Action 2.4 – Regional Greenlight Project

Stage 1 – COMPLETE

Stage 2 – COMPLETE

- Implementation of recommended changes to 20 signal crossing sites across the IMAP region is complete.
- Details of the changes are to be provided to councils for final review before VicRoads conducts an evaluation of the project in conjunction with the Department of Transport.
- These changes will provide model treatments for future works at key crossing points to provide safer more comfortable journeys for foot traffic. With increased interest in the role walking for transport will play in the climate change challenge, this project continues to deliver important practical outcomes for IMAP.

Stage 3 – IN PROGRESS

- Evaluation is due to be completed by March 2010.

Action 2.5 Bicycle Network

Implementation of Priority Routes - IN PROGRESS

- Action 2.3 delivered the Priority Bicycle Network for IMAP (January 2008) with recommendations from this report forming the basis for the implementation of Action 2.5.
- Focus is on the high bicycle usage routes or those routes which have the potential to carry significantly increased bicycle volumes and therefore require the most work to bring them up to a standard that could safely accommodate increasing bicycle volumes.
- These routes also provide the opportunity to implement some of the separation and delineation treatments being designed and installed in various municipalities. The development of this hierarchy of treatments is considered 'best practice' and the opportunity to promote and share this knowledge more broadly is being considered by the working group.

Action 3.3 Regional Approach to Parking Management

Stage 1 – COMPLETE

- An audit has been undertaken to identify current parking status and gaps. This information has assisted in the development of 6 'guiding principles' for the management of existing parking supply in Activity Centres.
- Given the broad scope of Action 3.3, the working group determined to limit itself to three essential areas of activity, these being:
 - Parking measures to mitigate car travel
 - Provision of parking in new developments
 - Management of existing parking supply
- Integrated Travel Plans and Green Travel Plans have been researched and direction will now be sought from the Department of Transport.

Stage 2 – IN PROGRESS

- Proposed further research to identify the *Value of Parking to Activity Centres*.

Action 5.2 Affordable Housing

IN PROGRESS

- Briefing session to Ministers Wynne and Madden 11 September 2008 to offer a proposal for inclusionary zoning with response letter forwarded November 2008 to address issues raised by the Ministers and a response received from the Minister's Office January 09.
- IMAP met with Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) and Department of Human Services (DHS) August 2009 to request clarification of the Government's response to IMAP's proposal on inclusionary zoning and identify issues of concern that Government have with the IMAP proposal. IMAP was advised that several options are being considered as the Housing Strategy is being developed (scheduled for completion end of 2009).
- Letters forwarded to the Premier, Minister for Housing and DPCD to advocate for Planning Mechanisms for Affordable Housing.

Action 6.3 Managing Conflict in Activity Centres

Stage 1 – COMPLETE

- Key 'tools' have been developed to aid in the assessment of Cumulative Impact:
 - A Precinct Approach to include baseline data (key indicators) to assist the applicant in preparing the application.
 - A Pre-Application Approach that includes a checklist for applicants outlining the information to be provided.
 - A Cumulative Impact Assessment form that provides a tool to assist council's planners and decision makers to reflect on the proposal against issues, constraints and opportunities.
- In addition to the work undertaken by the IMAP working group, the State Government has established an Interdepartmental Committee (IDC) to consider Cumulative Impact and Outlet Density. Representatives from DPCD will report to the IMAP Implementation Committee on the IDC in November 2009.
- A review of definitions has identified inconsistency with definitions in the Planning Scheme and those used in the Liquor Licensing system. A Discussion Paper has influenced further

communication within councils and State Government and it is now considered that current definitions have been superseded by the IDC and Liquor Licensing Victoria (LLV) approaches.

Stage 2 – IN PROGRESS

- The Cumulative Impact 'tools' are being tested and reviewed by individual councils and will be refined.

Action 7.7 Universities and Regional Development

IN PROGRESS

- Initiated by IMAP's Regional Economic Development Statement (May 2008), the Office of Knowledge Capital & IMAP have partnered to progress the Councils for Hosting Universities (CHUM) program. A workshop held December 08 increased awareness & information sharing across Universities and Councils within the inner Melbourne region and identified 2 Initiatives.
- One of these initiatives, *Integrated Workplace Learning Program* is now being scoped to identify the potential of this program for all stakeholders. A workshop is scheduled for late January with participation required from Human Resources and other areas of IMAP councils that would potentially host interns / graduates.
- A thorough audit of IMAP's existing intern/graduate programs will be undertaken to assist in a more effective outcome of the workshop.

Action 9.3 Water Sensitive Urban Design

Stage 1 – COMPLETE

- *Model WSUD Guidelines* completed and endorsed.

Stage 2 – IN PROGRESS

- *Draft Stormwater Management local planning policy* has been refined following feedback from DPCD and is consistent with the recently gazetted City of Bayside Clause 44 WSUD amendment.
- Feedback received from Melbourne Water and the Department of Sustainability Office of Water has been positive and supportive of the policy.
- A request for authorisation for 4 separate planning scheme amendments has been made to DPCD. Once authorization has been received, it is expected that the 4 amendments will be exhibited concurrently. If submissions are received, IMAP will be requesting the Minister to consider the 4 amendments at a single panel hearing.

Action 10.1 Regional Open Space and Trail Network

IN PROGRESS

Action 10.1 working group has formed and presented a draft Project Plan to the IMAP Committee 28 August 2009 for endorsement. Implementation will include:

- Discussion and agreement on the;
 - detailed role and function of open space in the network
 - balance between local and regional use,
 - balance between managing spaces for recreational and ecological values.
- Audit identifying;
 - ownership identification
 - management responsibility
 - risk management issues and overview
 - collation of existing information and identification of gaps

- agreed function and gaps in open space and trails
- development of information to fill gaps
- development of case studies
- Development of an Implementation Plan detailing priorities, location, cost, funding sources and timeframe of works is now underway.

Strategy 11 – Regional Tourism

Stage 1 - Visitors Map - **COMPLETE**

Stage 2 - Regional Tourism Program & Experiential Packages – **COMPLETE**

Stage 3 - Visitor Profile and Satisfaction Study – **COMPLETE**

- This research profiles visitors to the inner Melbourne region including demographics, motivations for visitors and visitor's satisfaction with information, products and services. This information will assist the IMAP councils to more effectively respond to visitor's needs and guide future tourism planning.

Stage 4 – **IN PROGRESS**

- Strategic planning for Regional Tourism has been initiated by a recent facilitated workshop. An Action Plan will now be developed to guide regional tourism collaboration and ongoing research is planned for 2011 to develop measurable indicators.

A number of actions commenced in the 2008-2009 year have recently been completed or are nearing **completion**. Following the review of the Inner Melbourne Action Plan, a 3 year Implementation Plan will be developed to prioritise actions that will continue to **add value, deliver stronger relationships, practical solutions and strategic directions and influence the liveability and sustainability of the inner Melbourne region.**