

City of Melton

One of Australia's fastest growing municipalities, the City of Melton is located in Victoria, 35km west of Melbourne's CBD and boasts a range of lifestyle options for families and investors, alike.



A Message from our Mayor

THE City of Melton is a burgeoning community, transforming before our very eyes.

Understandably, we all tend to focus on the physical changes we see every day: the new estates, open space, homes and businesses springing up in every corner of our municipality—seemingly overnight. But our community is changing in a far more existential way, and our development is so much more than just bricks and mortar.

We embrace the beauty and strength in diversity, and believe that our differences make our community vibrant and strong. We are evolving at our very core; forming an identity that is unique to us: welcoming, progressive, a community that's full of opportunity and untapped potential. It's a truly exciting time to call the City of Melton home.

There's a real sense of pride in our community, and real satisfaction knowing that we are some of the most innovative, and creative people in Melbourne.

I for one am proud to call the City of Melton my home.

Cr Sophie Ramsey
Mayor, City of Melton



A Message from our CEO

THE City of Melton is a unique and dynamic community that is experiencing all the benefits, and subsequent challenges, associated with years of sustained residential growth.

Organisationally, Melton City Council fosters a culture that promotes innovation, values efficiency in its service delivery, and employs strategic approaches to understanding the ever-changing needs of our diverse community.

Growth remains our major challenge. We develop creative solutions to the issues that high levels of growth present, including ground breaking joint venture partnerships; and by working collaboratively across all levels of government to ensure the timely and cost effective delivery of infrastructure for our community.

We've also been working closely with the Victorian Planning Authority to develop a number of Precinct Structure Plans (PSPs) across the identified Urban Growth Zone. We currently have nine approved PSPs, with three under development—no small feat by anyone's standards.

This commitment to strategic forward planning exemplifies Council's innovative spirit, and situates us in an enviable position where we can influence the development of communities that are not only sustainable, but are also places people aspire to live, raise a family or establish a business.

Kelvin Tori
CEO, Melton City Council



144,457
current population



528km²
of land



45 babies
born a week



38 families
move in a week



347,700
projected 2041 population

Festivals and Events

MELTON City Council plans and executes dozens of community events each year, catering for people of all ages, while promoting community and inclusion. Council's two major events – Summersault and Djerriwarrh Festival – each attract about 35,000 people. As well as the usual family carnival atmosphere with games, and entertainment, the festivals have attracted big-name headline acts including Sneaky Sound System, Justice Crew and Jessica Mauboy. Council promotes diversity through events like Harmony Day, CARE Expo, careers expo, and encourages learning through library events including Book Week and author talks.



Welcoming New Suburbs

IN the wake of rapid population growth, Melton City Council last month introduced an unprecedented 11 new suburbs, all at once, after four years of planning and preparation. It's an exciting time for our municipality, with the new suburbs giving Council the opportunity to create great community hubs and foster a real sense of belonging in our City.

The new suburbs were established in the growth corridor between Melton township and Caroline Springs, mostly in areas yet to be developed, but also taking in long-established localities, effectively changing the address of more than 5,000 homes and businesses.

Melton City Council saw the step as necessary to ensuring existing suburbs did not become overpopulated, and lose their distinguishable traits. The new suburbs will help to create distinct communities, landmarks, and character-filled neighbourhoods which will remain as diverse as the people who live within them.

In practice, smaller boundaries will keep population numbers more consistent from suburb to suburb. It will make navigating around the municipality much easier for visitors to the City of Melton, as well as those who reside here. For more information visit melton.vic.gov.au/newsburbs

Atherstone: A Joint Venture with Lendlease

Melton City Council has partnered with developer, Lendlease, to implement an innovative joint venture that ensures the early delivery of infrastructure in our booming City. The partnership has seen the development of Atherstone, a 4,300-lot masterplanned community in Cobblebank and Strathulloh, 35km west of Melbourne's CBD.



THIS innovative partnership is the first of its kind in Australia, making the move by Melton City Council to initiate and establish a joint venture both ground-breaking, and highly beneficial for our fast-growing community. The partnership allows Council to keep up with the surging demand for housing in the municipality, while maintaining a level of control over the scheduling of the infrastructure being delivered. Victorian rate-capping laws have forced councils to tighten their belts across the board, but the joint venture with Lendlease has meant an ease on Council's financial commitment to the timely delivery of infrastructure and affordable housing, without compromising on quality or value for money.

The Atherstone development includes the delivery of much-needed transport infrastructure, including roads and bridges, as well as an abundance of educational, recreational and retail offerings. The estate is also home to the Western Business Accelerator and Centre of Excellence (BACE)—a state of the art business development facility—and major regional community activity centres including the Bridge Road Community Hub (incorporating a hockey and athletics facility, regional play space, sports pavilion and children's and community centre).

A Sustainable City

Over the past decade, the City of Melton has been recognised in countless sustainability awards for its environmentally friendly and innovative buildings and community projects, including being named Keep Australia Beautiful's Sustainable City of the Year in both 2007 and 2010.

AMONGST our award winning projects is the Bridge Road Children's and Community Centre, which took out the 2016 Keep Victoria Beautiful Sustainable Cities Environmental Sustainability Award, and the Western BACE, a 6 Star Green Star facility which won the same honour in 2015.

Our other award winning projects include:

- National Keep Australia Beautiful Energy Efficiency Award (with Western Water and Melton Sustainable Living Group) (2010)
- Morton Homestead: Cultural Heritage Award (2012)
- Melton Library and Learning Hub: Environmental Sustainability Award (2014)
- LEADS Program: Community Government Partnerships Award (2015)

Council has eight projects shortlisted in this year's Keep Victoria Beautiful awards to be announced this month, including Melton Resale Shop (Resource Recovery and Waste Management Award), Ryans Creek Renewal project (Clean Beach/Waterways); Dry Stone Walls project (Cultural Heritage Award); Pride of Melton project (Community Government Partnership Award); and Mt Cottrell Recreation Reserve project (Protection of the Environment Award).



Open for Business

The Western Business Accelerator and Centre of Excellence (Western BACE) was built in 2015 as an incentive for residents to work and grow their businesses within the City of Melton.



COUNCIL recognised employment was not just a State or Federal Government issue, and wanted to be a source of support for its workforce, while strengthening our local economy. Western BACE was also a way to encourage employers to build their businesses within the City, and create local employment opportunities.

The Western BACE is a business centre and incubator. It provides work spaces to support fledgling businesses, provides technological and training facilities. It also houses research and development that supports employment growth in the City of Melton.

The Federal Government provided \$14.62 million in funding for the construction of the Western BACE, a Council initiative which is also supported by a handful of other organisations. With extensive growth projected in this region, the Western BACE's vision is that Melbourne's west has the support and enterprise ecosystem to rival any major Australian city.

Western BACE is already making a direct contribution to the prosperity and economic resilience of the City and the west. In its first year of operation, Western BACE supported more than 490 aspiring entrepreneurs, and business owners wanting to launch, build and scale their business. A further 70 students a fortnight attended Western BACE for accredited training and education. By the end of the 2016/17 financial year, there were 32 employees, and an additional 22 founders working in the Business Accelerator Program.



Shed Success

MELTON City Council was one of the very first local governments to fully deliver a Men's Shed as part of its council services. While the Sheds were often set up by small community groups, Council saw the opportunity to set up its own, to do its bit to help combat men's health issues. Council opened its first Men's Shed in 2009, after the community expressed its support for the program. It was so successful, a second Men's Shed was formed in 2015.

The success of the Sheds can be attributed to Council's continued support, as well as a dedicated band of Shed volunteers. Council contributes significant funding and resources to the running of these Men's Sheds, including the purchasing and repair costs of machinery and woodwork materials. Council also funds full time staff to assist in the day-to-day running of the Sheds.

A community of Sheddies has flourished since the Sheds' inception, with about 50 men attending each day. Council's investment into the project ripples out to become an investment for the greater community. The Sheds regularly partner up with other community groups using their skills, experience and knowledge to help others.

