

**Maribyrnong** City Council  
**Heritage Review**



*the.*  
*Heritage*  
PLAN

February  
2002

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Cr Gerard White (Chair), *Maribyrnong City Council*.

Cr June Zappia (Deputy Chair),  
*Maribyrnong City Council*.

Hugh Basset, *National Trust Inner West Branch*.

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# CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	i
SUMMARY	1
INTRODUCTION	2
Our Heritage	2
Maribyrnong Heritage Review	2
MARIBYRNONG'S HERITAGE	3
Why is heritage important?	3
MARIBYRNONG'S HERITAGE PLACES	4
THE WIDER CONTEXT	6
National context	6
Victorian context	9
LOCAL CONTEXT	13
Strategic Framework	13
Creating the Heritage Plan	14
Role of local government in heritage conservation	14
ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE	16
CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE	17
Commitment	17
Community awareness	17
Support	17
Knowledge	17
Protection	18
Model citizen	18
Systems, skills and resources	18



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REVIEWING AND EVALUATING THE HERITAGE PLAN	19
THE MARIBYRNONG MUNICIPAL HERITAGE PLAN	20
Vision	20
Goal	20
Objectives	20
Guiding principles	20
Action plans	20
Year 1 priorities	22
ACTION PLAN 1. Protecting Heritage Places	25
ACTION PLAN 2. Guiding Change	29
ACTION PLAN 3. Helping the Custodians of Maribyrnong’s Heritage	33
ACTION PLAN 4. Managing Heritage Places	36
ACTION PLAN 5. Building Community Awareness and Support	41
ACTION PLAN 6. Documenting Maribyrnong’s Heritage	45
ACTION PLAN 7. Links & Partnerships	48
ACTION PLAN 8. Equipping Council	51
TOOLS TO SUPPORT ACTION	54
Study reports	54
Useful references	56
APPENDIX A. Abbreviations	57

## SUMMARY

This Plan presents a comprehensive set of recommendations for protecting important natural and cultural heritage places in the City of Maribyrnong. These places reflect the environment, history and peoples of the municipality. They include small remnants of the natural landscape, evidence of the area's long Aboriginal history, and buildings and physical remains of the various phases of European settlement.

The Maribyrnong Heritage Plan fits within the evolving national and State legislative and policy frameworks for heritage conservation. The Plan is a major product of the Maribyrnong Heritage Review, which drew together the results of past studies and commissioned some new investigations into natural and cultural heritage.

The Plan expresses a Vision:

*"The City of Maribyrnong's diverse heritage is enjoyed and celebrated by today's community, and is being effectively conserved for future generations",*

and a Goal:

*"To care for heritage places throughout the municipality ensuring their conservation, active use and appreciation".*

There are eight objectives, each with an action plan:

1. To designate the heritage places throughout the City worthy of protection, and actively seek their legal protection.
2. To protect significant heritage places from adverse impacts resulting from proposals for change.
3. To support, assist and encourage those who are responsible for the care and management of heritage places, recognising the benefits gained by the whole community through the retention of these places.

4. To demonstrate best practice in the care given to public heritage places by Council and other government bodies, and to encourage and facilitate best practice in the management of other heritage places.
5. To build community understanding of Maribyrnong's rich history and heritage; seek active community participation in its conservation and appreciation.
6. To continue the process of researching and documenting Maribyrnong's rich heritage.
7. To build links and partnerships with community and government organisations to ensure a coordinated effort in protecting heritage places.
8. To build Council's commitment to and capacity to implement the Heritage Plan.

Each action plan spells out specific actions, identifies those within Council who are responsible, other organisations to be involved, timing, and an indication of cost where possible. The actions that are essential first steps in implementation processes, or are urgently needed to protect places, have been designated as Year 1 priorities.

The Heritage Plan is to be reviewed each year, to monitor progress in implementation and to set priorities for action in the coming year. The database of places, the study reports for the Heritage Review, and reports of earlier studies provide fundamental information to support action for heritage protection.



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# INTRODUCTION

Maribyrnong City Council is committed to protecting important cultural and natural heritage places that reflect the environment, history and peoples of this municipality. This is one of the responsibilities of local government throughout Victoria.

This Plan has been written as part of the Maribyrnong Heritage Review, a project initiated by Maribyrnong City Council in May 1998. The Plan is designed to help the City implement the recommendations of the Heritage Review and to care for heritage places throughout the municipality, ensuring their conservation, active use and appreciation.

## OUR HERITAGE

The City of Maribyrnong has a diverse heritage, with ancient Aboriginal places and bushland remnants surviving in a very urban environment. This City's heritage helps tell the story of this area, of how the landscape was formed and how Aboriginal people lived here from time immemorial until the arrival of the colonisers from England. The story is about growth and development, as well as about change and decline. And it is about the many generations of people who have lived and worked within this City, leaving their mark in many forms.

## MARIBYRNONG HERITAGE REVIEW

The Maribyrnong Heritage Review takes an innovative approach, linking together natural and cultural heritage protection within the one program. The Heritage Review has drawn together the results of past studies, commissioned some new investigations to fill in the gaps in our knowledge, and made recommendations on protection.

Specifically the Heritage Review has:

- Put together in a single database all of the natural and cultural heritage places identified through past studies (see list of studies in *Tools to support action*);
- Reviewed these past studies to identify gaps and deficiencies;
- Commissioned a number of specialist studies (see list in *Tools to support action*);
- Invited local people and organisations to contribute to these projects;
- Developed this Plan.



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# MARIBYRNONG'S HERITAGE

As a community, our heritage is made up of many things. It includes:

- the way we live;
- the environment around us;
- our cultures and traditions;
- our history.

This Plan focuses on the places that express aspects of our environment, history, traditions and culture. These allow us to experience a little of what that past was like, through the natural features, sites, trees, buildings, structures and streetscapes that remain. As expressions of the past, places are more evocative than a picture. Through studying, reflecting on and valuing what we have inherited, we can set directions for the way we develop into the future.

## WHY IS HERITAGE IMPORTANT?

*“Maribyrnong means to me where Nan [Margaret Tucker] done a lot of her work in the early days, the setting up of the Aboriginal Advancement League, singing in the choir, any monies she got from her and others’ efforts, they would buy blankets and send them back to Cummeragunga and that makes me feel very proud of what my Grandmother done.”*  
Maxine Barr, quoted in Maribyrnong Aboriginal Heritage Study 1999, page 92.

*“We are caretakers of our cultural heritage. It is through knowing and valuing our heritage that we know how to progress into the future.”*  
Hugh Basset, National Trust Inner West Branch.

*“Heritage is an important connector. It allows people of all ages to have a sense of belonging to an area and a community.”*  
Russell Cocks, Footscray Historical Society.

*“Heritage in the City of Maribyrnong is something to be very proud of. We have a rich and diverse past, as one of the oldest areas of Melbourne with some great buildings and parklands, which represent different periods in our past. These are something to be preserved, celebrated and used. I am pleased that as a community in which I grew up, we have enormous pride in the preservation of our heritage.”*  
Gerard White, Mayor of Maribyrnong.





## MARIBYRNONG'S HERITAGE PLACES



*Native grassland, Braybrook Rail Reserve.  
Source: Ecology Australia 1999.*

*Worked silcrete and quartz stone flakes from the  
Maribyrnong River valley.  
Source: Bosis 1999.*



Maribyrnong's history is rich and complex. Nature shaped the landscape, natural vegetation and the animal communities over many millennia. Today, a few important remnants survive, especially along our waterways. Protecting and extending these areas of surviving vegetation and habitat is very important.

Aboriginal people have lived in the Maribyrnong River valley for at least 40,000 years, probably far longer. They witnessed vast changes to the landscape, including such monumental events as the flooding of Port Phillip Bay around 10,000 years ago at the end of the last Ice Age.

When European settlers first arrived, our City was the traditional land of the Aboriginal people of the Woiwurrung language group. Their ancestors had lived throughout the area, camping along the Maribyrnong River, hunting and food gathering, holding ceremonies, quarrying for stone and making tools, trading precious commodities. The degree of change to the landscape since Europeans arrived means that only a few places with physical evidence of this long period of Aboriginal history survive in this City. These places are therefore very precious and worthy of the greatest effort to ensure they are protected and interpreted to build our appreciation of this area's long Aboriginal history.



*Former Melbourne Meat Preserving Works, Footscray.  
Source: Heritage Victoria.*

European settlement had a massive impact on Aboriginal life and people. But Maribyrnong's Aboriginal history did not stop there. Recent studies have revealed that Aboriginal people starting moving back into Kulin territories (of which the City of Maribyrnong is a part) from the early years of the twentieth century, with many moving into our City in the 1920s and 30s. They came to work in the large industries - the munitions factories in Maribyrnong and Footscray, Kinnears Ropes, Angliss and Pridhams, the railways and at local schools. Aboriginal activism in Victoria, led by William Cooper a Footscray resident, started in the 1930s.

There are many layers to our history and our City is fortunate that so many places survive that can help us understand the past and bring it to life.

These are just some of the heritage places that help to make our City special and distinctive. The Maribyrnong Heritage Review has identified many places, and more await further research to document their importance. These places are valued and therefore warrant action by the Council to help protect them.

Identifying heritage places is an important and on-going task for the City.

*Site of the Ship Inn, Footscray.  
Source: Australian Heritage Commission.*



Today it is easy to forget that the City of Maribyrnong was one of the first areas settled by Europeans. Village reserves were set aside in Footscray and Braybrook in 1840, only 4 years after Melbourne was officially "settled". In Footscray, and along the river, buildings were constructed quite quickly. Since then, there have been many periods of rebuilding and new development, but throughout the City and especially in Footscray the archaeological evidence of very early dwellings and hotels is likely to survive.



*Newell Street, Footscray.  
Source: Australian Heritage Commission.*

## THE WIDER CONTEXT

### NATIONAL CONTEXT

#### National Strategy for Australia's Heritage Places

A National Strategy for Australia's Heritage Places is being developed by the Commonwealth government. This strategy covers natural and cultural heritage places. A discussion paper, released in April 1999 by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Robert Hill provides the most up-to-date guidance on these new directions. This work has arisen from the Review of Commonwealth/State Roles and Responsibilities for the Environment in 1996.

It is proposed that the National Heritage Places Strategy will commit governments to:

- clear roles and responsibilities with minimal duplication;
- improved identification and conservation of places through agreed national standards, and
- improved protection of all heritage places at the national, State and local level through increased compliance with relevant heritage and planning laws.

For the City of Maribyrnong, the following national principles provide sound guidance for the development of its own Heritage Plan.

#### Principle 1.

*Recognising our responsibilities to past and future generations, the Australian community will conserve its heritage through cooperation and respect between all communities and governments.*

#### Principle 2.

*All levels of government and government agencies must demonstrate leadership in protecting, conserving, promoting and managing heritage values.*

#### Principle 3.

*Recognising that Indigenous people are custodians of their heritage and have consequent obligations, the heritage of all Australians should be managed in accordance with evolving traditions, customs and laws.*

#### Principle 4.

*Communities should be actively involved in all processes of identification, protection and use of heritage places, other than where this would be inconsistent with the conservation of heritage values.*

#### Principle 5.

*There should be a comprehensive inventory of heritage places accessible to the general public, subject to confidentiality where this is required to protect for example, endangered species, fossil sites or Indigenous heritage values or customary rights.*

#### Principle 6.

*Identification and assessment should be based on the full range and diversity of heritage values.*



**Principle 7.**

*Determination of significance should be based solely on heritage values and be separate from management decisions.*

**Principle 8.**

*The fundamental aim of conservation is to sustain heritage value with the least possible intervention. Where the use of a place involves a risk of significant irreversible damage to heritage values, lack of scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for allowing that use.*

**Principle 9.**

*The uses of heritage places should, as far as practicable, be limited to those which are compatible with the heritage values of the place. Where there is a conflict between heritage and other values, prudent and feasible management options must be sought and considered.*

**Principle 10 .**

*The effective identification and conservation of heritage places is dependent upon relevant research, education and presentation which respects the heritage values of the place and the sensitivities of communities.*

**Principle 11.**

*Conservation of heritage should be adequately resourced, recognising the rights, responsibilities and capabilities of governments, owners, custodians, communities and interested parties, and respecting cultural and gender requirements.*

**Principle 12.**

*Planning processes and decisions must include conservation management planning for heritage.*

Another important component is the development of standards and codes of practice. A draft set of standards contained in the Minister's discussion paper covers requirements for legislation and government systems across all aspects of heritage protection. Of direct relevance to the City of Maribyrnong are the requirements that:

Government systems that affect heritage places will:

- be coordinated through the development of an overarching strategy to ensure legislative provisions are implemented;
- ensure that the full range and diversity of heritage values are considered in identifying and managing places of heritage significance;
- ensure that heritage issues are considered at least on equal terms with all other relevant issues;
- provide opportunities for community involvement, including setting up a heritage advisory body;
- require government departments and agencies to have a heritage strategy that covers identifying, protecting and managing the heritage places and values that they own or manage.

Government listing processes will:

- ensure legislative provisions are fulfilled;
- involve professional expertise in heritage listing decisions;
- provide for owners, custodians and the community to be involved in key stages of heritage listing process (including the ability to nominate places);
- be transparent, timely, efficient and effective and provide a statement of reasons for listing;
- maintain appropriate databases which meet common minimum data and documentation standards.





Government heritage protection systems will:

- implement legislative requirements and be integrated with other land and environmental process to ensure heritage values are considered and protected;
- ensure that consideration of planning and development proposals includes professional heritage advice, understanding of impacts on heritage values, consideration of alternatives, with the decision to be clearly communicated and explained.

Government systems for managing heritage places will:

- provide opportunities for owners to obtain advice about management of heritage places and promote the economic and social value of heritage conservation;
- encourage owners to adopt conservation management plans or guidelines;
- require government agencies to manage their heritage places in accordance with certain requirements.

Government systems will also be required to:

- maintain monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems;
- report every three years on the implementation of an overarching strategy for each jurisdiction, based on national heritage standards;
- respect and recognise the role of communities and custodians of heritage places in educating about heritage;
- be responsive to evolving community needs.

### Changes to Aboriginal Heritage Legislation

In addition to work toward a National Heritage Strategy, the Commonwealth government has introduced the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Bill* 1998 to replace the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act* 1984 and the 1987 amendment which provides the major legislative framework for the protection of Aboriginal heritage places in Victoria. It is uncertain how long it will take for this Bill to become law, although its progress through the Federal Parliament is well advanced. Once this has occurred, the Victorian Government will introduce new State legislation for the protection and management of Aboriginal heritage places. This will have implications for the City of Maribyrnong in implementing the Heritage Plan, and in managing Aboriginal heritage places within the municipality. The actions recommended in this Plan will therefore need review in light of any changes which occur.

Key elements of the proposed Commonwealth legislation are:

- recognition that Aboriginal people are the primary source of information about their heritage;
- assessment of the significance of Aboriginal places according to indigenous traditions, observances, customs and beliefs;
- recognition of the views of Aboriginal people as the primary basis of significance assessments;
- protection of culturally sensitive information from disclosure;
- an emphasis on decisions made through negotiation or mediation.



## VICTORIAN CONTEXT

There is no single policy document that provides the framework for natural and cultural heritage protection in Victoria. The responsibilities for heritage protection are scattered across many government departments.

### Aboriginal Heritage Places

As already outlined, both the Commonwealth and State government are working on the proposed legislative changes for the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage. This area of government policy is currently subject to frequent change and regular liaison with Aboriginal Affairs Victoria is recommended.

In addition to these likely changes to Aboriginal heritage protection legislation, all levels of government need to consider the possible implications of the *Native Title Act (1993)* when making planning decisions. For local councils, this generally means recognising the interests of native title claimants (whether registered or not) and regularly checking with the National Native Title Tribunal for the existence of native title claims. Depending on the specific land tenure history, native title rights generally exist in relation to areas of public land. Many of the decisions taken at the local government level can therefore impact on native title rights and interests. Many local councils are beginning to incorporate an awareness of the potential implications of native title into their strategic processes.

Within the planning system, the importance of protecting Aboriginal heritage places is recognised in the State Planning Policy Framework (section 15.11-2) which urges the protection of heritage places from inappropriate development and requires planning and responsible authorities to take account of the requirements of the relevant State and Commonwealth legislation and the views of Aboriginal communities in providing for the conservation of places of Aboriginal cultural heritage value. Aboriginal Affairs Victoria and the Department of Infrastructure are currently working further on an agreed approach to the incorporation of Aboriginal place protection into the planning scheme.

The Draft Guidelines for the Protection, Management and Use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Places (Department of Communications and the Arts, 1997) are currently being finalised, and are used by the Commonwealth government as a national standard. It identifies seven principles for Indigenous heritage place management:

1. Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander peoples have the right to be involved in decisions affecting their cultural heritage, and in the ongoing management of their cultural heritage.
2. Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people who have rights to speak for the place, and/or have interests in the place, should be identified and involved in decisions affecting that place.
3. Decisions which have an effect at the local level need to have full local level involvement.





4. The concerns of all relevant interest groups should be taken into account.
5. Cultural heritage place management must look after the cultural significance of a place.
6. Decisions about cultural heritage places should be made as a result of a conscious and logical planning process.
7. Records of places, records of decisions made about them and records of actions taken at heritage places should be made, kept, stored and accessed in a way which is appropriate to the place and meets the wishes of the community.

#### Natural Heritage Places

The State Planning Policy Framework (Victoria Planning Provisions 2000) requires planning to “assist the conservation of places that have natural, environmental, aesthetic, historic, cultural, scientific or social significance or other special value important for scientific and research purposes.....” (15.11-1) .

Apart from the State Planning Policy Framework (created under the Planning and Environment Act 1987), the protection of sites of natural heritage significance is not explicitly addressed in State policy. Relevant legislation includes:

- *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* and Regulations;
- *Environment Protection Act 1970*;
- *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*.

Relevant policies and strategies include:

- Yarra Catchment Action Plan 1999;
- Land Conservation Council recommendations;
- State Environment Protection Policies, e.g. The Waters of the Yarra River and Tributaries;
- State Plan to deal with Wildlife affected by an Oil Spill;
- Victoria’s Biodiversity Strategy.

In addition, strategic directions at a regional scale are provided in the draft *Port Phillip and Westernport Native Vegetation Plan*, prepared by the Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment and Land Protection Board (2000). *The Maribyrnong Regional Parklands Future Directions Plan*, aims to provide a range of recreation opportunities along the Maribyrnong valley, while protecting natural and cultural heritage features.

All of these regulations and policies are relevant to the City of Maribyrnong’s work.

While it may be expected that a State Government strategy on natural heritage places will need to be developed in accordance with the National Strategy, nothing has yet been prepared.



### New Strategy for Historic Places

In 2000, the State Government released the *Victorian Heritage Strategy*. This important document represents a significant step forward, and sets a framework for the protection of historic places. The largest number of heritage places in the City of Maribyrnong falls into this category.

The *Victorian Heritage Strategy* has four strategic goals.

- **Knowing** — To increase knowledge of Victoria's heritage places and objects.
- **Communicating**—To enhance community understanding and appreciation of heritage.
- **Protecting** —To provide mechanisms for the strategic and practical protection of heritage places and objects.
- **Managing**—To support proactive management and sustainable use of heritage assets.

Ultimately, this Strategy will be linked to the Commonwealth's initiatives.

Many of the key issues that have helped shape this strategy are also important in the City of Maribyrnong. These include:

- *Protection for places of local heritage significance.*  
Though there have been advances in the use of municipal heritage overlays, some places of local significance are not afforded appropriate protection. This lack of recognition can result in confusion and conflict in the community, and the loss of local heritage places.
- *Compliance with heritage regulations and controls.*  
The current program is not always effective in achieving compliance of heritage controls. Heritage values are unnecessarily lost when contravention of controls occurs.

- *Support for private owners of heritage places.*  
Despite a variety of forms of financial assistance, many owners struggle to meet their heritage obligations, including managing their properties in ways that conserve their heritage significance.
- *The management of public heritage assets.*  
There have been significant improvements in the management of public heritage properties, but maintaining and prioritising resources for conservation and finding sustainable uses for public properties remain challenges.
- *Heritage values and development projects.*  
Failure to identify heritage issues prior to the commencement of major developments can result in delays for the developer and the loss of heritage values.
- *The scope of heritage listings.*  
Despite significant improvements, there are still gaps in the range of heritage-listed places. These include places of significance to migrant communities, places associated with Victoria's more recent history and landscape areas.
- *Dissemination of information.*  
The demand for accessible and quality heritage information is growing and heritage agencies are reviewing their services in response to this demand.
- *Strategic links between heritage and tourism.*  
State and regional economies are increasingly dependent upon tourism and heritage plays a vital role in this industry. Acknowledgment of the importance of the heritage-tourism relationship is required for the benefits of both industries.



For the City of Maribyrnong, some of the new programs contained in the strategy will help support its strategic directions. These include:

- Network of public heritage places - a program to develop a diverse network of publicly accessible places, possibly based on the Open Gardens Scheme;
- Heritage and tourism - to strengthen the strategic links between heritage and tourism to help achieve the sustainable use of appropriate heritage assets;
- Protection at the local level - development of a model of agreed protocols to assist local government comply with the *Heritage Act 1995* and *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. They will also examine the impact of the non-heritage provisions of planning schemes on cultural heritage places;
- Heritage impact assessments - review of the environmental effects procedures for major projects to ensure heritage values are considered;
- Compliance - review of and recommendations to increase compliance with heritage controls and regulations;
- Financial incentive and heritage advice schemes - review of the effectiveness of these schemes;
- Management protocols - develop a model of agreed heritage management protocols in relation to public heritage assets;
- National heritage standards - participate in the program to develop national standards and liaise with others to assist in their implementation.

The strategy also confirms that a number of the current State government programs that are important to the City of Maribyrnong will continue, including:

- Funding support for municipal and thematic heritage studies;
- Public Heritage Program which provides funds for the conservation of public heritage places (including those owned and managed by local government);
- Heritage Advisor Program which provides funds to support local heritage advisors working within Councils;
- Municipal revolving funds - a program which has provided start-up funding for Councils that want to establish a low-interest loan fund for heritage places.



## LOCAL CONTEXT

### STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

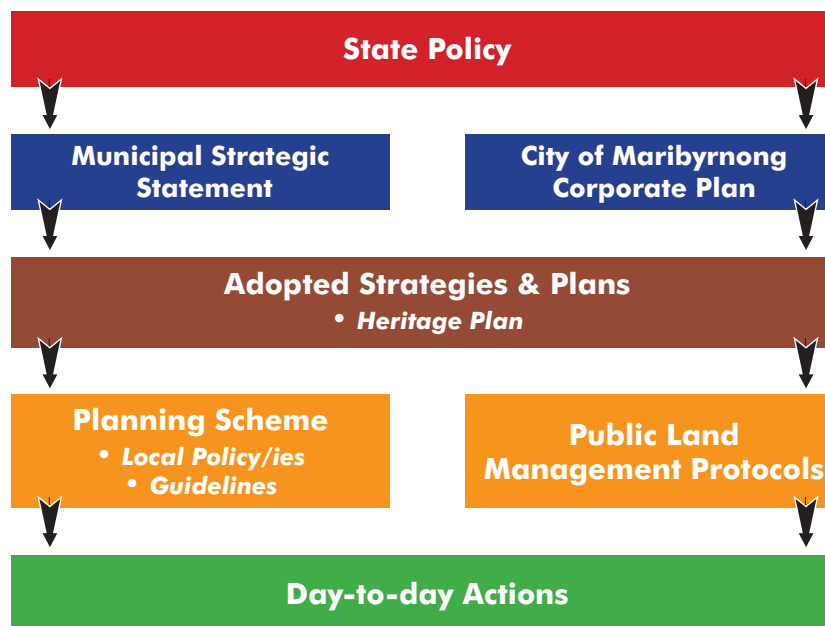
The City of Maribyrnong was formed in 1994 through the amalgamation of the City of Footscray and parts of the City of Sunshine.

The City of Maribyrnong has a Corporate Plan that is updated annually.

The Corporate Plan establishes the Council's main commitments, and the Annual Plan establishes how these commitments will be achieved. The Heritage Plan is one of a number of Council's strategic plans that define objectives and actions for responding to specific local issues.

The Municipal Strategic Statement provides the broad strategic directions for the City in relation to land use planning.

The diagram indicates the relationship between the Corporate Plan, Municipal Strategic Statement and the Heritage Plan, and the implementation processes through the Planning Scheme and day-to-day actions.



## CREATING THE HERITAGE PLAN

The Heritage Plan has been developed through consultation with the Maribyrnong Heritage Review Steering Committee, Council officers and Councillors. The Heritage Plan is to be reviewed each year to monitor progress in implementation and to set priorities for action for the coming year.

## ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN HERITAGE CONSERVATION

### Essential steps

There are four essential steps that a local government authority needs to take to ensure heritage places are adequately protected.

The steps are:

#### 1. Identifying Council's legislative and administrative responsibilities.

Maribyrnong City Council is responsible under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to make provision to protect the heritage of its municipality through the Planning Scheme.

The current planning scheme includes some cultural heritage places in the area covered by the former City of Footscray. However, there are major gaps including the lack of protection for natural and Aboriginal heritage places, industrial complexes, and historic places outside the former City of Footscray.

As a result of the studies undertaken as part of the Maribyrnong Heritage Review, it is expected that Maribyrnong City Council will consider extending

planning scheme protection to all significant places. This would involve public exhibition of and consultation on any proposed amendment.

#### 2. Identifying & assessing the importance of heritage places.

Previous studies have identified some of Maribyrnong City's heritage places. The new program of studies undertaken as part of the Maribyrnong Heritage Review has recognised the heritage significance of many additional places.

Further work is still required to complete the documentation of a small number of additional historic places within the area covered by the former City of Footscray. This will occur over the next few years, as resources become available.

In fact, recognition of heritage values and places is an ongoing process, and Maribyrnong City Council will need to address this.

#### 3. Creating a positive environment for heritage protection.

This Plan sets up a framework of goals, objectives and actions designed to protect natural and cultural heritage places. It includes strategic directions and specific actions for the Council.

The Plan will need to be implemented across all areas of Council's activities. Key strategic and policy documents will need to be amended to reflect this Plan. These include the Municipal Strategic Statement and Corporate Plan.



Creating a positive environment for heritage protection means:

- building community awareness and understanding of the City's heritage;
- recognising and realising the positive contribution that culturally significant places make to future use and development;
- helping those who own and manage heritage places to care for these places into the future;
- creating a positive economic environment to encourage continuing use or new uses for heritage places;
- using public works to set a good example.

By knowing about the significance of heritage places, and understanding how to apply the principles and processes of heritage conservation, heritage values can be recognised in decision-making processes. In many instances, this will result in a better outcome and one that enables important parts of Maribyrnong's heritage to be kept for future generations to appreciate.

#### 4. Taking action

Agreeing to and then taking action is always the most critical step. It requires community awareness combined with political commitment from the Council. Well informed Council officers are essential.

This Heritage Plan provides the framework for action. It needs to be adopted by Council and resources allocated in the budget to enable many of the actions to occur.

Setting and adjusting the priorities annually is important, to ensure that the Plan remains relevant and continues to respond to newly emerging issues.

Monitoring of the actions taken through the Plan, the successes and failures is also an essential step in refining and adapting the Plan over time. The results need to be reported to the Council, other agencies and the community.





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## ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

The City of Maribyrnong has taken a big step in initiating the Maribyrnong Heritage Review. This work has built on earlier efforts by the former City of Footscray to identify and protect historic places. It also builds on regional heritage studies commissioned by the former Western Region Commission, of which both Footscray and Sunshine Councils were a part.

Over the last 6 years since the formation of the City of Maribyrnong, the Council has taken many initiatives which have helped protect heritage places. These include:

- Appointment of a Heritage Advisor in 1996 to assist owners of historic places and help Council staff respond to development applications;
- Statement of Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous Australians in 1998;
- Towards Reconciliation Action Plan 1998-2001.
- Healing Garden Design Project initiated in 1998. Development of design concept in 1999-2000;
- Conservation assessment of outdoor collection: memorials and artworks in 1998;
- Development of a Street Tree Strategy in 1998, followed by adoption of a Street Trees Policy and Protocols in June 1998. Older street tree plantings are an important contributor to the urban quality of the municipality, and some also form part of heritage precincts;
- Retention and landscape enhancement for community use of the Yarraville Goods Yards, using Commonwealth, State and Local government funding;

- Direct action by Council to seek the retention and reuse of important local buildings including the Barkly Theatre;
- Positive action by Council to retain and care for important public heritage assets including Footscray Park, Footscray Cemetery, and the Footscray Drill Hall;
- Preparation of report on 'Directions for Future Land Use and Development' for the former Explosives Factory, Maribyrnong, in 1999;
- Conservation Management Plans for Yarraville Park, Footscray Park, Footscray Cemetery;
- Streetworks, period lighting and verandah restoration in Yarraville shopping centre;
- Reinstatement of bluestone kerb and channel in Cowper Street;
- Maribyrnong Heritage Review, which has produced this Heritage Plan.



## CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE

The City of Maribyrnong faces many challenges in its goal of conserving our heritage. The Heritage Plan seeks to respond to these challenges. It proposes a vision and a goal, along with a set of specific objectives. The objectives of the Plan relate to the key issues and the kinds of responses that the Council can initiate. Each objective is implemented by means of an Action Plan.

### COMMITMENT

In initiating the Maribyrnong Heritage Review, Council has demonstrated its commitment. This commitment will need to be strengthened as Council moves into the challenging task of implementing this Heritage Plan. In particular, undertaking an amendment to the Planning Scheme is an essential task, but one that will require a commitment of time, energy and resources.

### COMMUNITY AWARENESS

The community's awareness of and commitment to heritage is less clear. Like many inner city communities, Maribyrnong faces complex social, economic and environmental issues and the community reflects many different opinions and priorities.

Many people are passionate about the City of Maribyrnong, especially its community, environment and heritage. Their voices need to be heard in the heritage debates that will accompany implementation of the Heritage Plan. Council needs to be responsive to community heritage watchdog groups. Councillors too will need to be advocates for the City's heritage.

It is important that the community be drawn into the processes of planning for the City's heritage, and are able

to see clearly that heritage is an important environmental, social and economic asset.

### SUPPORT

Those who own and manage heritage places may feel as though they are expected to look after these places for the benefit of the community. It is important therefore that the community, through the Council, actively helps these owners and managers with this task. Of course, residential property values often increase as a result of heritage protection.

Large industrial heritage sites present more complex issues. In many instances the changing nature of the industry may require changes to buildings and plant. In some cases a new, non-industrial use may be sought. Council will need to be proactive, working with industry to meet a number of important strategic objectives to protect heritage, jobs and economic development opportunities. Council can assist in the development of strategic plans and conservation management processes.

### KNOWLEDGE

The Maribyrnong Heritage Review has substantially extended Council's knowledge of the heritage places within the City of Maribyrnong. The information has been carefully gathered through a series of specialist studies. A database now contains this information, and an important next step will be to link this information with Council's other systems.

The task of documenting all of Maribyrnong's heritage places is however, ongoing. Some further studies will need to be commissioned as soon as practicable. In addition,



Council may wish to do some community-based studies, for example a study of places associated with migration and settlement in the City over the last 50 years. This would be an excellent way of involving parts of the community that are often less involved in local planning issues.

As well as using the information from the studies in the protection of heritage places, the Council now has a great opportunity to use this wealth of information to present the City's diverse heritage to the community through walks, brochures, signs, performance, events and festivals.

## PROTECTION

While the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme protects a number of historic buildings and precincts, it does not specifically protect natural or Aboriginal heritage places. Relatively few places are also protected through other statutory mechanisms, although all Aboriginal places are automatically protected under Commonwealth and State legislation even where the location of these places is not recorded.

While a majority of historic places are privately owned, many of the known natural and Aboriginal places are on public land. Active management by Council or another government authority will be required to ensure these values are protected. These public assets are likely to face fewer development pressures, but may be subject to other impacts such as parkland development, or utility service easements.

Development pressures on private land vary throughout the municipality, with multi-unit development being common here as it is throughout the rest of Melbourne. Protection of significant places through the planning

scheme will not remove these development pressures, but at least it will set a framework within which heritage values can be recognised and protected within new developments.

## MODEL CITIZEN

Council will need to demonstrate best practice in its management of the places of heritage significance for which it is directly responsible. If Council does not set a good example, it will be very difficult to persuade private owners and developers to do so.

## SYSTEMS, SKILLS AND RESOURCES

Council will need to strengthen its systems to enable it to effectively protect heritage places. Understanding of heritage and skills in heritage planning will need to be developed throughout Council, and within the development industry active in Maribyrnong. Continuing efforts will be needed to keep informed, innovative and aware of recent developments in heritage conservation policy and practice.

The Heritage Plan will be reviewed each year to:

- Monitor progress with its implementation;
- Report on successes and failures, and consider how these might influence the following year's priorities and actions;
- Set priorities and action for the coming year;
- Report annually to the community via the annual report.



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## REVIEWING AND EVALUATING THE HERITAGE PLAN



The plan will be reviewed by the Heritage Advisory Committee, and reported to Council.

Monitoring of the success of the Heritage Plan will be determined by:

- Comparing the results achieved against the strategic objective for that Action Plan;
- Developing local heritage indicators to monitor the health of Maribyrnong's heritage.

Monitoring will need to be based on data collected throughout the year, and these data collection processes will need to be established. For example, data is likely to be needed on:

- places protected (in the planning scheme or through another register or statutory mechanism);
- places damaged, destroyed, at risk;
- positive examples of actions by owners (inc Council and other authorities);
- community activities;
- assistance provided to owners.

# THE MARIBYRNONG MUNICIPAL HERITAGE PLAN



## VISION

The City of Maribyrnong's diverse heritage is enjoyed and celebrated by today's community, and is being effectively conserved for future generations.

## GOAL

To care for heritage places throughout the municipality ensuring their conservation, active use and appreciation.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To designate the heritage places throughout the City worthy of protection, and actively seek their legal protection.
2. To protect significant heritage places from adverse impacts resulting from proposals for change.
3. To support, assist and encourage those who are responsible for the care and management of heritage places, recognising the benefits gained by the whole community through the retention of these places.
4. To demonstrate best practice in the care given to public heritage places by Council and other government bodies, and to encourage and facilitate best practice in the management of other heritage places.
5. To build community understanding of Maribyrnong's rich history and heritage; seek active community participation in its conservation and appreciation.
6. To continue the process of researching and documenting Maribyrnong's rich heritage.
7. To build links and partnerships with community and government organisations to ensure a coordinated effort in protecting heritage places.

8. To build Council's commitment to and capacity to implement the Heritage Plan.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The following principles of conservation for any heritage place are based on the Australian Natural Heritage Charter and the Burra Charter.

- The aim of conservation is to retain the significance of the place.
- Conservation is based on respecting all heritage values of the place without unwarranted emphasis on any one aspect at the expense of others.
- Conservation of a place should include provision for its security, maintenance and future.
- Conservation should involve the least possible physical intervention; do as much as necessary and as little as possible.
- Conservation of a place should make use of all disciplines and experience that can contribute to the study and safeguarding of a place.
- Conservation depends on accurate recording about decisions and changes to the place.
- Conservation of a place occurs when the significant elements have not been removed or destroyed except under exceptional circumstances.

In addition to the above principles, the *Draft Guidelines for the Protection, Management and Use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Places 1997* contain three important principles for places with indigenous heritage values. These are:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have the right to make decisions about the ongoing management of their cultural heritage.
- Consultation and agreement with relevant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is essential to making decisions about the future of a place.
- Records of places and their management are made, stored and accessed in culturally appropriate ways.

## ACTION PLANS

The following sections contain the Actions Plans. Each Action Plan contains:

### Objective:

What the Action Plan is seeking to achieve

### Rationale:

A brief explanation of the reason for the Action Plan

### Action Chart:

Each action spelt out with:

- The action;
- Responsibility—Council branch with primary responsibility for the action, with other relevant branches in parentheses;

- Partnership—external partners;
- Timing—Year 1, 2 or 3, or ongoing;

There are eight Action Plans, each designed to achieve one of the objectives.

Action Plan 1 – Protecting heritage places.

Action Plan 2 – Guiding change.

Action Plan 3 – Helping the custodians of Maribyrnong’s heritage.

Action Plan 4 – Managing heritage places.

Action Plan 5 – Building community awareness and support.

Action Plan 6 – Documenting Maribyrnong’s heritage.

Action Plan 7 – Links & partnerships.

Action Plan 8 – Equipping Council.





## YEAR 1 PRIORITIES

The actions listed in the following Action Plans with “1” in the Timing column are intended for implementation in the year 2002 (January-December). These actions have been designated as year 1 priorities either because they are essential first steps in implementation processes, or because they need to be undertaken as soon as possible in order to protect heritage places. These actions are summarised below.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
<b>ACTION PLAN 1. Protecting Heritage Places</b>	
1.1 Consult the community & owners.	Urban Planning
1.2 Review Municipal Strategic Statement.	Urban Planning
1.3 Exhibit an amendment to the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.	Urban Planning (with Community Development; Open Space)
1.4 Include requirements for protecting natural heritage places.	Urban Planning (with Open Space)
1.5 Add studies to Planning Scheme as reference documents.	Urban Planning
1.7 Advise Heritage Victoria about archaeological places identified.	Urban Planning
1.10 Interim protection for significant places.	Urban Planning
<b>ACTION PLAN 2. Guiding Change</b>	
2.1 Process for assessing large-scale developments.	Urban Planning (with Assets & Open Space)
2.2 Develop Local Planning Policies.	Urban Planning
2.3 Establish a policy on prohibited uses.	Urban Planning
2.4 Prepare a policy on planning incentives.	Urban Planning (with Organisational Support)
2.8 Develop decision-making guidelines for Council.	Urban Planning (with Assets & Open Space)



ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
<b>ACTION PLAN 3. Helping the Custodians of Maribyrnong's Heritage</b>	
3.1 Establish a local Heritage Assistance Program.	Urban Planning, Heritage Adviser
3.2 Expand the scope of the Heritage Advice Service.	Urban Planning
3.3 Heritage guidelines for owners, managers and developers.	Urban Planning, Heritage Adviser (with Open Space)
<b>ACTION PLAN 4. Managing Heritage Places</b>	
4.1 Adopt best practice & national standards.	Whole of Council
4.2 Heritage management plans and policies for Council's heritage places.	Assets & Open Space, Heritage Adviser (with Leisure & Culture, and Urban Planning)
4.3 Conserve significant species and specimens - indigenous species and their habitats.	Open Space
4.4 Protect heritage places along the Maribyrnong River and other waterways <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• implement management recommendations on Aboriginal heritage.</li> <li>• start work on establishing a continuous strip of riparian vegetation.</li> </ul>	Cultural Development, (with Open Space, Parks & Gardens)
4.5 Revegetation plan and guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidelines for revegetation works on public and private land.</li> </ul>	Open Space (with Parks & Gardens)
4.7 Start an environmental weed control program.	Open Space, Parks & Gardens, Local Laws
4.8 Protect places from the impacts of public and Council works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a policy on significant trees and service impacts.</li> </ul>	Assets & Open Space
<b>ACTION PLAN 5. Building Community Awareness and Support</b>	
5.1 Start a community information program on heritage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publish this Heritage Plan, and a summary.</li> </ul>	Urban Planning (with Advocacy)



ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
<b>ACTION PLAN 6. Documenting Maribyrnong's Heritage</b>	
6.1 Managing information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link the Heritage Database to the Maribyrnong GIS (Geographic Information System), and establish a procedure for updating the database.</li> </ul>	Urban Planning, Information Technology
6.2 Establish a system for new information on heritage places.	
6.3 Link public art to heritage information.	Leisure & Culture
6.4 Continue a program of heritage investigations (see list in Action Plan).	Urban Planning, Open Space, Parks & Gardens
<b>ACTION PLAN 7. Links &amp; Partnerships</b>	
7.1 Create a Heritage Advisory Committee.	Urban Planning
7.2 Liaison with other agencies and councils. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with Melbourne Port Corporation to transfer heritage database listings within the MPC Planning Scheme area.</li> <li>• Liaise with Heritage Victoria about the use of the Historical Archaeology Management Plan.</li> <li>• Prepare an information package for agencies and group that undertake works</li> </ul>	Urban Planning
7.3 Aboriginal community partnerships.	Cultural Development, Advocacy
<b>ACTION PLAN 8. Equipping Council</b>	
8.1 Internal information, procedures & training.	Urban Planning, (with all branches)
8.2 Staff resources.	Whole of Council
8.3 Seek external funding for studies, works and heritage advice.	Urban Planning, Open Space, Leisure and Culture
8.4 Training for staff and Councillors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training needs analysis.</li> <li>• Regular briefings for Councillors.</li> </ul>	Urban Planning (with all branches)
8.5 Systems	Urban Planning, Information Technology



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## ACTION PLAN 1 PROTECTING HERITAGE PLACES

### Objective:

To designate the heritage places throughout the City worthy of protection, and actively seek their legal protection.

### Rationale:

Maribyrnong City Council has a statutory responsibility to identify and protect cultural heritage places. It is obliged to take action to protect significant heritage places throughout the municipality under its Planning Scheme. Heritage places require active protection, combining legal protection (Action Plan 1) with guidance on meeting changing needs and circumstances (Action Plan 2) plus positive support for owners and managers (Action Plan 3).

### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

- Consult the community and owners.
- Protect significant heritage places through the Municipal Strategic Statement, and Planning Scheme.
- Nominate significant heritage places to statutory registers.
- Meet obligations under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act* and Action Statements, and the *Heritage Act*.
- Seek to provide interim protection for places considered of potential heritage significance that are awaiting full assessment of their significance.
- Review the protective actions needed in the light of anticipated legislative and other changes.



ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>1.1 Consult the community &amp; owners</b></p> <p>Provide information and consult with affected property owners and managers and with the wider community before proceeding with Planning Scheme amendments.</p>	<p>Urban Planning</p>		<p>1</p>
<p><b>1.2 Review the Municipal Strategic Statement</b></p> <p>Review the Municipal Strategic Statement in the light of the Heritage Plan, and include an acknowledgment of the Wurundjeri people as the traditional owners, and their spiritual relationship with the land.</p>	<p>Urban Planning (Community Development)</p>	<p>Wurundjeri</p>	<p>1, with Heritage Overlay</p>
<p><b>1.3 Exhibit an amendment to the Planning Scheme</b></p> <p>Exhibit an amendment to the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme to provide heritage protection for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic places via a Heritage Overlay and Local Policy;</li> <li>• Historical archaeological places via a Heritage Overlay plus an Incorporated Plan specifying the requirements for these places;</li> <li>• Aboriginal historic places via a Heritage Overlay (following further documentation and consultation);</li> <li>• Natural places via an Environmental Significance Overlay or a Vegetation Protection Overlay;</li> <li>• Aboriginal archaeological sites and Aboriginal places via a Local Policy and a Heritage Overlay.</li> </ul> <p>The places recommended for protection are listed in the study reports and database prepared for the Heritage Review.</p>	<p>Urban Planning  (Community Development)  (Open Space)  (Community Development)</p>	<p>Heritage Vic  Dept Infrastructure, Aboriginal Affairs  Dept Infrastructure, Aboriginal Affairs, Wurundjeri</p>	<p>1</p>
<p><b>1.4 Include requirements for protecting natural heritage places</b></p> <p>In schedules to the Environmental Significance Overlay and Vegetation Protection Overlays used to protect natural places, include requirements for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development to be responsive to the need to protect natural heritage values, and to be based on the best possible information about the nature, distribution and significance of these values on the land;</li> <li>• Developers to make a contribution to protecting significant natural heritage features through the implementation of permanent arrangements to protect these areas.</li> <li>• Habitat requirements of threatened species to be taken into consideration in the design and management of all new development on or near habitats supporting these species.</li> </ul>	<p>Urban Planning (with Open Space)</p>	<p>DNRE, Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria</p>	<p>1</p>

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant species indigenous to the site, and of local provenance stock, to be used wherever possible for landscaping and other plantings.</li> <li>Preparation of a conservation management plan in conjunction with development proposals. (See also Ecology Australia 1999, pp. 42-43.)</li> </ul>			
<p><b>1.5 Add studies to Planning Scheme as reference documents</b></p> <p>Include the study reports prepared as part of the Maribyrnong Heritage Review as Reference Documents in the Planning Scheme. A list of these reports can be found in the Tools to support action section, below.</p>	Urban Planning		1
<p><b>1.6 Nominate significant places to other heritage registers</b></p> <p>Nominate places to other heritage registers, as recommended by the Maribyrnong Heritage Review studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nominate natural and cultural heritage places of regional, state or national significance to the Commonwealth government's Register of the National Estate.</li> <li>Nominate historic cultural heritage places of state or national significance to the Victorian Heritage Register.</li> </ul>	Urban Planning		2
<p><b>1.7 Advise Heritage Victoria about archaeological places</b></p> <p>Advise Heritage Victoria of the historic archaeological places identified in the <i>Archaeological Management Plan (2000)</i> study. When further archaeological assessments are made to places on the database, ensure that confirmed historical archaeological sites are reported to Heritage Victoria for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Inventory.</p>	Urban Planning	Heritage Victoria	1/Ongoing
<p><b>1.8 Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act responsibilities</b></p> <p>Collect relevant documentation arising from the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i>, and ensure that Council is on the mailing list for notification of changes to listings. If any flora or fauna species that occur in Maribyrnong are in future listed under the Act, then review the obligations of Council under the Act and under any relevant Flora and Fauna Guarantee Action Statements. Prepare and implement species and/or site-specific programs as necessary<sup>1</sup>.</p>	Open Space	DNRE	Ongoing

<sup>1</sup> Note that although several species listed under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 have previously been recorded in Maribyrnong, it is considered unlikely that any of these species remain. However other species of State and National significance are either confirmed to be present or considered likely, and any such species may be listed under the Act in the future.



ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>1.9 Protect trees</b></p> <p>Investigate the introduction of a Local Law requiring a permit for the removal of any tree above a specified size. Associated protocols would establish the conditions where tree removal would be permitted, and assistance that could be provided by Council to deal with tree problems. Penalties for removing a tree without a permit should be based on a formula to estimate the tree's value.</p>	<p>Open Space, Local Laws</p>		<p>3</p>
<p><b>1.10 Interim protection of significant places</b></p> <p>Currently there is no mechanism for interim protection of historic or natural places before Planning Scheme amendments are in place. (All Aboriginal places are already protected.) As a first step, Council should establish internal processes that will alert Planning staff when there is a proposed change to a place, so discussions can be held with the proponent to seek a good solution in terms of conservation of heritage values. This may require systems changes, see Action Plan 8.</p> <p>As a second step, Council should explore with the Department of Infrastructure possible mechanisms to provide interim protection for places of potential heritage significance that are awaiting final assessment.</p>	<p>Urban Planning</p>	<p>Heritage Victoria, AAV, DNRE, AHC</p>	<p>1</p>
<p><b>1.11 Keep abreast of Aboriginal heritage law changes</b></p> <p>Review the methods of protecting Aboriginal heritage places to incorporate major legislative and policy changes implemented by the Commonwealth and State governments.</p>	<p>Community Development, Urban Planning</p>	<p>AAV</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p><b>1.12 Regularly review Aboriginal heritage zone boundaries</b></p> <p>Review the Aboriginal heritage zone boundaries every 5 years in close consultation with Aboriginal community organisations and other relevant stakeholders.</p>	<p>Community Development, Urban Planning</p>	<p>Wurundjeri &amp; Kulin Nation</p>	<p>5</p>
<p><b>1.13 Monitor the Historical Archaeological Management Plan</b></p> <p>Monitor the operation of the Historical Archaeology Management Plan and review its effectiveness in achieving its objectives.</p>	<p>Urban Planning</p>	<p>Heritage Victoria</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

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## ACTION PLAN 2

### GUIDING CHANGE

#### Objective:

To protect significant heritage places from adverse impacts resulting from proposals for change.

#### Rationale:

Effective protection of significant heritage places through the City of Maribyrnong Planning Scheme will require supporting processes and policies to be devised and put in place. Property owners and developers need guidance on how to conserve heritage significance while undertaking development to meet changing needs and circumstances.

#### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

- Develop procedures for strategic and forward planning that will ensure heritage values are protected.
- Develop specific policies to address planning and land management issues, including Local Policies that form part of the Planning Scheme, as well as Council policies on prohibited uses, planning incentives, and moving significant features.
- Prepare a heritage management plan for the Explosives Factory Maribyrnong.
- Protect and enhance water-based habitats through better urban water management systems, standards and designs.
- Develop decision-making guidelines and processes to ensure the requirements in the Planning Scheme and the Local Policies are able to be effectively implemented.



ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>2.1 Process for assessing large-scale developments</b></p> <p>Establish a process for the assessment of large-scale development applications affecting sites of heritage significance. In particular, establish specific procedures for complex issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broad-scale redevelopment and subdivision processes</li> <li>• Industrial sites (including redevelopment for industry and new uses)</li> <li>• Multi-unit developments in Urban Conservation Areas.</li> </ul> <p>Include requirements for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information to be submitted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Findings of survey/s to assess the nature, distribution and significance of heritage values;</li> <li>– Information on how significance is to be protected in the development;</li> <li>– The likely impacts on heritage values;</li> <li>– A mitigation or salvage work where disturbance is proposed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A management plan for the development/construction phase showing how heritage values will be protected during the works, as well as downslope environments such as the Maribyrnong River.</li> <li>• A conservation management plan, prepared jointly with Council, for ongoing management of any land set aside for protection (including any land to be transferred to the public domain as open space).</li> <li>• Consultation and referrals to relevant stakeholders; sources of specialist advice.</li> <li>• Typical permit conditions.</li> <li>• Monitoring and enforcement procedures during the development phase.</li> </ul>	<p>Urban Planning, (with Assets &amp; Open Space)</p>	<p>DOI, Heritage Victoria, AAV</p>	<p>1</p>
<p><b>2.2 Develop Local Planning Policies</b></p> <p>Prepare Local Planning Policies as part of the planning scheme amendment to guide implementation of the proposed overlay protection, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic places: prepare a Local Policy using a combination of theme based and area based policies as recommended by Heritage Victoria.</li> <li>• Potential historical archaeological sites: prepare a Local Policy to protect significant archaeological sites, trigger further archaeological assessments of places with potential archaeological significance, and to appropriately respond to their findings.</li> </ul>	<p>Urban Planning</p>	<p>Heritage Victoria</p> <p>Heritage Victoria</p>	<p>1</p> <p>AAV</p>

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aboriginal places: prepare a Local Policy using the proposed zones for the protection of landscapes with high archaeological sensitivity and places of Aboriginal cultural importance (including historic places and some places without remaining physical evidence of their history).</li> </ul>			
<p><b>2.3 Establish a policy on prohibited uses</b></p> <p>Establish a policy to guide decisions on prohibited uses, where these may be allowed under the Heritage Overlay.</p>	Urban Planning	DOI	1
<p><b>2.4 Prepare a policy on planning incentives</b></p> <p>Prepare a policy on planning incentives for natural and cultural heritage places protected under the planning scheme where this will result in enhanced conservation outcomes. This policy may include considerations related to facilitation of the planning application and specific planning concessions (use, parking, height, density and development yield and other matters). It may also recommend the use of Section 173 agreements to bind the parties to the agreement.</p>	Urban Planning (with Organisational Support)	DOI	1
<p><b>2.5 Prepare a policy on moving significant heritage places</b></p> <p>Prepare a policy on the moving of significant cultural and natural heritage features that clearly states that significant features should remain in situ, and should not be removed from a place unless this is the sole means of ensuring its survival, security or preservation and is consistent with the conservation policy for that place or feature.</p>	Urban Planning	Heritage Victoria, AAV, DNRE	2
<p><b>2.6 Prepare a heritage management plan for the Explosives Factory Maribyrnong</b></p> <p>Prepare a heritage management plan for Commonwealth land at the EFM and former explosives factories to ensure effective heritage protection through the transition of ownership from Commonwealth to private.</p> <p>Further detailed survey and analysis is required for all values. The land in this area should be treated as having high archaeological sensitivity. All known Aboriginal sites should be included in public open space (with a suitable buffer). Land on the river frontage should be linked to adjacent landscapes with high Aboriginal heritage values.</p>	Commonwealth Government  Cross-branch internal team - Planning, Assets & Open Space	Australian Heritage Commission, Aboriginal Affairs Victoria, Wurundjeri/Kulin, Department of Defence, Heritage Victoria, DNRE	Prior to tenure change

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>2.7 Protect and enhance water-based habitats through better urban water management systems, standards &amp; designs</b></p> <p>Protect and enhance water-based habitats by establishing hydrological and water quality performance standards for all urban areas. These should cover the design of drainage, retention and wastewater treatment systems in new urban development to ensure minimal effect on hydrology and water quality, as well as standards by which to judge whether existing urban areas require “retro-fitting” to achieve acceptable impacts. (See Ecology Australia 1999, p. 46) To be further considered in preparing a Stormwater Management Plan for Maribyrnong.</p>	<p>Infrastructure (with Open Space)</p>	<p>Melbourne Water</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>Investigate the applicability of “water sensitive urban design” to the soil and topographic conditions of potential new urban areas in Maribyrnong. This approach can be used to reduce the impacts of urban development on hydrology, water quality and habitat values of waterbodies(see Ecology Australia 1999, p. 46). To be further considered in preparing a Stormwater Management Plan for Maribyrnong.</p>	<p>Urban Planning, Urban Design, Infrastructure, Open Space</p>	<p>Melbourne Water</p>	<p>2</p>
<p><b>2.8 Develop decision-making guidelines for Council</b></p> <p>Develop decision-making guidelines and processes to assist Council officers effectively implement the requirements of the Planning Scheme and Local Policies.</p>	<p>Urban Planning (with Assets &amp; Open Space)</p>		<p>1</p>

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## ACTION PLAN 3

### HELPING THE CUSTODIANS OF MARIBYRNONG'S HERITAGE

#### Objective:

To support, assist and encourage those who are responsible for the care and management of heritage places, recognising the benefits gained by the whole community through the retention of these places.

#### Rationale:

Providing positive support for owners, managers and custodians of significant heritage places will enable more effective long-term conservation objectives to be achieved. These people need clear information about heritage values and about local and state government decision-making processes. They also need access to sound technical advice.

#### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

- Develop a comprehensive Heritage Assistance Program that includes access to advice, information, and financial assistance.
- Expand the skills available through the Heritage Advice Service.
- Prepare guidelines and information for those likely to be proposing change, including owners, developers and property managers.
- Create a library of heritage publications.
- Approach new owners of heritage places.
- Establish volunteer programs.



ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>3.1 Establish a Heritage Assistance Program</b></p> <p>Establish a local Heritage Assistance Program designed to help owners and managers of heritage places care for the heritage values of these places. Development of the HAP requires investigation and analysis of the different options for financial and other assistance, advisory services, funds available from external sources, owner contributions and protection requirements. Proactively target buildings of significance and link to other Council strategies and programs.</p>	<p>Urban Planning, Heritage Adviser</p>	<p>Heritage Victoria, AAV</p>	<p>1</p>
<p><b>3.2 Expand the scope of the Heritage Advice Service</b></p> <p>Expand the skills available to Council's Heritage Advice Service to complement existing specialist expertise in order to cover natural, Aboriginal and historic places that are not buildings, and to provide the following services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free advice to property owners and managers prior to lodging planning application for heritage places protected by the planning scheme;</li> <li>• Advice to Council's planning officers on planning permit applications;</li> <li>• Development of guidelines to assist with the conservation and management of a class of places;</li> <li>• Advice to Council's Heritage Advisory Committee.</li> </ul>	<p>Urban Planning</p>	<p>Heritage Victoria, AAV, DNRE</p>	<p>1/ongoing</p>
<p><b>3.3 Heritage guidelines for owners, managers and developers</b></p> <p>Prepare a set of simple, clear guidelines to assist property owners, managers and developers to recognise and respond to the heritage values of those places recommended for protection in the planning scheme. Ensure the guidelines are well-illustrated, non-technical and suited to those who do not have English as their first language.</p> <p>Hold information seminars from time to time, and other events to recognise and assist those responsible for heritage places, including owners, real estate agents and developers.</p>	<p>Urban Planning Heritage Adviser (with Open Space)</p> <p>Urban Planning, Heritage Adviser (with Open Space)</p>	<p>Heritage Victoria, AAV, DNRE</p>	<p>1</p> <p>2/3/ongoing</p>
<p><b>3.4 Create a useful library of heritage publications</b></p> <p>Establish a small collection of published materials on caring for heritage places. Make this material available to the community and to all Council staff.</p>	<p>Urban Planning (with Open Space)</p>	<p>Library</p>	<p>2</p>

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>3.5 Approaching new owners of heritage places</b></p> <p>Investigate how to establish a mechanism to trigger an approach to new owners of heritage-protected places, to provide information on controls and the advice and assistance available. Investigate means of alerting potential buyers to heritage controls, e.g. by placement of brochures in the offices of real estate agents.</p>	<p>Urban Planning (with Information Technology)</p>		<p>2</p>
<p><b>3.6 Establish volunteer programs</b></p> <p>Involve community groups and landholders in revegetation programs, implementation of master plans, environmental monitoring, etc. Community groups can also act as watchdogs over development activities affecting heritage places. Facilitate access to appropriate training opportunities and provide information on the range of funding sources for works (see also Action 4.9).</p>	<p>Open Space</p>	<p>Community groups, land owners</p>	<p>2/ongoing</p>



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## **ACTION PLAN 4**

### **MANAGING HERITAGE PLACES**



#### **Objectives:**

To demonstrate best practice in the care given to public heritage places by Council and other government bodies.

To encourage and facilitate best practice in the management of other heritage places.

#### **Rationale:**

Many significant heritage places are on public land - often under the direct management of the City of Maribyrnong. Managing the heritage values of these places is the responsibility of Council, and sound management will demonstrate Council's commitment and concern for heritage throughout the municipality.

#### **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

- Adopt best practice principles and accord with national standards.
- Prepare heritage management plans and policies for Council owned and managed heritage places. Encourage other public authorities to do likewise.
- Take proactive steps to care for public heritage places including places along the Maribyrnong river and other waterways.
- Take specific actions on significant species, revegetation, pest plants and animals.
- Monitor the effectiveness of management actions.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>4.1 Adopt best practice &amp; national standards</b></p> <p>Adopt the Australia ICOMOS <i>Charter for the conservation of places of cultural significance</i>, the <i>Natural Heritage Charter and the Draft Guidelines for the Protection, Management and Use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Places</i> as a basis for all conservation work on significant heritage places that are owned or managed by Council.</p> <p>Adopt the draft National Heritage Standards (Commonwealth of Australia 1999) as an interim guide to identification and conservation of places, and the final Standards once these are developed by the Commonwealth/State governments.</p>	<p>Whole of Council</p> <p>Whole of Council</p>		<p>1</p> <p>1, ongoing</p>
<p><b>4.2 Heritage management plans and policies for Council's heritage places</b></p> <p>Progressively prepare a heritage management plan for each heritage place owned or managed by Council, and manage the place in accordance with this plan. Prioritise the preparation of plans according to impending change or works proposed. Identify places that require detailed plans, and others where the plan could be quite short, and could also be generic - i.e. applicable to all places of a certain type, such as monuments.</p> <p>Prepare a conservation management plan for Council-managed land of high archaeological sensitivity for Aboriginal places (in close consultation with the Wurundjeri community and Kulin Nations Cultural Heritage Organisation).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The area identified as 'Zone A1' in the report by Biosis Research should be managed as a cultural landscape.</li> <li>Implement the specific site management recommendations for each recorded site.</li> </ul> <p>Prepare a policy on the conservation of remaining bluestone kerb and guttering which is a heritage asset in the municipality.</p> <p>Review the <i>Maribyrnong Street Tree Policy</i> and other internal tree management policies to better protect identified significant trees, and trees within heritage precincts. (see <i>Historic Places - Significant Trees in the City of Maribyrnong</i>, pp. 18-19).</p> <p>For those sites not managed by Council, encourage the relevant managers to prepare and implement plans as appropriate.</p>	<p>Assets &amp; Open Space, Heritage Adviser (with Leisure &amp; Culture, Urban Planning)</p> <p>Open Space, Cultural Development</p> <p>Urban Planning, Infrastructure</p> <p>Open Space, Parks &amp; Gardens</p> <p>Urban Planning</p>	<p>Public land managers</p> <p>Wurundjeri/Kulin Aboriginal Affairs Vic.</p>	<p>1, 2 &amp; 3, ongoing</p> <p>2/3</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>4.3 Conserve significant species and specimens</b></p> <p>Prepare and implement action plans to conserve the following significant species and their habitats (see Ecology Australia 1999, pp. 44-45):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pale Swamp Everlasting, known from the Braybrook Rail Reserve Grassland.</li> <li>• Tough Scurf-pea, at Jack's Magazine</li> <li>• White Cypress-pine, northern Maribyrnong</li> <li>• Growling Grass Frog (potentially present in waterbodies).</li> </ul> <p>Perpetuate identified significant planted trees by collection of seed or other means. (see Historic Places - Significant Trees in the City of Maribyrnong, pp. 18-19).</p>	<p>Open Space</p> <p>Open Space</p>	<p>Land managers, DNRE</p>	<p>1/ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p><b>4.4 Protect heritage places along the Maribyrnong River &amp; other waterways</b></p> <p>Implement the management recommendations for Aboriginal archaeological sites along the Maribyrnong River (zone 'A1') in close consultation with the Wurundjeri community.</p> <p>In conjunction with other public land managers, manage water bodies within Maribyrnong to ensure protection and enhancement of habitat for the State significant bird species: Great Egret, Nankeen Night-heron and Pied Cormorant, and for Regionally significant waterbirds (see Ecology Australia 1999, p. 46).</p> <p>Work with other landowners (public and private) to establish a continuous strip of riparian vegetation along Stony Creek and the Maribyrnong River. Consult with Melbourne Water in the planning and design stages. The width of the strip should maximise habitat and water quality values while considering existing land-use. Where not in conflict with cultural heritage values, indigenous species of local provenance should be used.</p> <p>Work with Melbourne Water to facilitate opportunities for the Platypus and Water Rat in the municipality by improving and enhancing riparian habitat along the upper Maribyrnong River and sections of Stony Creek. Possible measures include revegetation, weed control, protection from predators (including foxes and dogs), bank stabilisation and erosion control.</p>	<p>Cultural Development, (with Open Space)</p> <p>Parks &amp; Gardens, Infrastructure, Open Space</p> <p>Open Space, Parks &amp; Gardens</p> <p>Open Space, Parks &amp; Gardens</p>	<p>Wurundjeri/Kulin</p> <p>Public land managers, Melbourne Water, Friends groups, adjoining Councils</p> <p>Melbourne Water, land owners, Friends groups, Parks Victoria, adjoining Councils</p> <p>Melbourne Water, Australian Platypus Conservancy, Parks Victoria, adjoining Councils</p>	<p>1/ongoing</p> <p>3/ongoing</p> <p>1/ongoing</p> <p>2/ongoing</p>

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>4.5 Revegetation plan and guidelines</b></p> <p>Prepare guidelines for all revegetation works on public and private land, utilising species indigenous to the site (see Ecology Australia 1999, pp. 41, 47 &amp; Appendix 5).</p> <p>Prepare a strategic revegetation plan for Maribyrnong, concentrating on the two major waterways and potential habitat linkages (e.g. with City of Brimbank).</p>	<p>Open Space</p> <p>Open Space (with Parks &amp; Gardens)</p>	<p>City of Brimbank, City of Moonee Valley</p>	<p>1</p> <p>3</p>
<p><b>4.6 Prepare pest animal management plans for Council land</b></p> <p>Prepare pest animal management plans for Council-owned or -controlled sites of environmental significance, to include clear priorities and methods for pest animal control. In conjunction with other land owners and public land managers, prioritise sites for control of pest animals where introduced animals are a serious threat to populations of native plants and animals, and seek expert advice on the most appropriate and cost-effective control mechanism(s).</p>	<p>Open Space (with Parks &amp; Gardens and Local Laws)</p>	<p>Land owners, public land managers</p>	<p>2/ongoing</p>
<p><b>4.7 Start an environmental weed management program</b></p> <p>Initiate an environmental weed control program, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weed management plans for Council-managed sites of natural heritage significance, with clear priorities and methods for control;</li> <li>• Co-operation with adjacent councils and other relevant agencies in a co-ordinated approach to weed management;</li> <li>• Encouragement and assistance to land managers to control major environmental weed species within sites of significance where they occur within higher quality patches of vegetation or around populations of significant species (see Ecology Australia 1999, pp. 39, 42 and App. 2);</li> <li>• A prohibition on planting by Council of the few, most serious environmental weeds that are grown in gardens and parks (e.g. Desert Ash <i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i> ssp. <i>angustifolia</i>). Species such as these should be progressively removed from streets and reserves as plants decline or new development facilitates removal. Their sale in local nurseries should be strongly discouraged.</li> </ul>	<p>Open Space, Parks &amp; Gardens, Local Laws</p>	<p>Plant nurseries, landscape contractors, public land managers, adjoining Councils</p>	<p>1/ongoing</p>

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<b>4.8 Protect places from the impacts of public &amp; Council works</b>			
Establish procedures for checking the heritage database for significant values to be protected, and for any specific recommendations relating to the site, prior to the undertaking of public works by Council or other agency on or near a heritage site. Design works to avoid impacts on heritage values.	Urban Planning (with Infrastructure)	Melbourne Water, VicRoads, utility agencies	Ongoing
Prepare a policy on protecting significant trees from impacts associated with underground and above-ground services through early consultation with utility agencies and adoption of single utility easements.	Open Space, Infrastructure		1
When Council is working on strategies or improvement projects in a historic precinct, ensure that heritage conservation issues are incorporated proactively into the planning, design and works.	Urban Planning, Assets & Open Space		Ongoing
<b>4.9 Monitor the effectiveness of management actions</b>			
Establish a monitoring program that includes regular (at least annual) inspection of remnant vegetation sites, revegetation and weed control activities. Use the results to inform management decisions and where required to change the management regime.	Parks & Gardens, (with Open Space)	Friends groups	Ongoing
Continue to monitor and document the nature and location of significant environmental weed invasions in Maribyrnong.	Parks & Gardens, (with Open Space)	Tertiary institutes (eg. VU), Friends groups	Ongoing
Monitor the effectiveness of protective works at Aboriginal archaeological sites by site visits every two years.	Open Space, Cultural Development		Ongoing

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## **ACTION PLAN 5**

### **BUILDING COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND SUPPORT**

#### **Objective:**

To build community understanding of Maribyrnong's rich history and heritage; and seek active community participation in its conservation and appreciation.

#### **Rationale:**

Community awareness and enjoyment of local natural and cultural heritage adds to the quality of life for all in the City of Maribyrnong and is one of the strongest bases for the long-term conservation of significant heritage places.



#### **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

- Community information program.
- Recognise good conservation works through an awards program or other form of recognition.
- Celebrating Maribyrnong's heritage.
- Interpreting Maribyrnong's history and heritage places.
- Community education and action.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>5.1 Start a community information program on heritage</b></p> <p>Publish this Heritage Plan, and a summary.</p> <p>Publish the Heritage Database on Council's Website.</p> <p>Prepare a regular Heritage Newsletter (twice a year) for distribution to all owners of heritage properties (including precincts) and other interested individuals and organisations.</p>	<p>Urban Planning (with Advocacy)</p>		<p>1</p> <p>2</p>
<p><b>5.2 Awards and recognition</b></p> <p>Develop a program of awards to recognise individual and community efforts to conserve heritage places, including research, reports, planning, physical and conservation works, new development.</p>	<p>Community Development, Urban Planning, Advocacy (with Open Space)</p>		<p>2/3</p>
<p><b>5.3 Celebrating heritage</b></p> <p>Celebrate the Victorian Heritage Festival. Continue to support and participate in NAIDOC Week and National Reconciliation Week events.</p> <p>Sponsor and/or promote public events along the waterways to feature natural and cultural heritage values, for example as part of local festivals.</p> <p>Celebrate Maribyrnong's heritage places through a program of arts installations (temporary or permanent) commissioned by Council. Link this action to the map and to events.</p>	<p>Community Development (with Open Space)</p> <p>Community Development (with Open Space)</p> <p>Leisure &amp; Culture (with Assets &amp; Open Space)</p>		<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>2/3</p>
<p><b>5.4 Interpreting heritage</b></p> <p>Create a map of Maribyrnong's public heritage assets to promote community awareness and visits to these places. Include heritage walks, cycles, boat trips created by others. Link to the Public Heritage Program.</p> <p>Initiate and support other organisations in leading guided walks to visit one or more sites of natural and/or cultural heritage significance.</p>	<p>Community Development (with Open Space)</p> <p>Leisure &amp; Culture, Open Space</p>	<p>DNRE, Heritage Victoria</p> <p>Friends groups, Historical societies</p>	<p>3</p> <p>2/3</p>

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p>Continue to progress the development of the Healing Garden, in consultation with Aboriginal communities, as a way of recognising the living culture of Aboriginal people and to promote reconciliation. Interpretation of the Aboriginal heritage of the Maribyrnong River can be incorporated into the Healing Garden design. Consider development of an Aboriginal cultural heritage interpretation trail linking the Healing Garden with significant sites and landscapes within the municipality. This could involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• interpretation leaflets and other information/educational materials about the Aboriginal heritage of Maribyrnong;</li> <li>• interpretation signs about the Aboriginal heritage of the municipality at selected locations, including the Maribyrnong River;</li> <li>• consultation with the owners of the houses and buildings identified as significant Aboriginal historic places about the possibility of including them in interpretive materials/information.</li> </ul>	<p>Cultural Development (with Open Space)</p>	<p>Wurundjeri/Kulin Property Owners</p>	<p>3</p>
<p><b>5.5 Community education &amp; action</b></p> <p>Develop or assist the development of a school's education kit on local heritage.</p> <p>Undertake a public information program for residents near sites of zoological significance about responsible pet ownership to protect pets from pest animal control programs (and other hazards) as well as minimising the chances of their pets taking native wildlife.</p> <p>Work with the community to clear the rubbish from sites of natural heritage significance. Opportunities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• community events such as Clean Up Australia Day (especially along public walkways beside the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek) ;</li> <li>• an advertising campaign in local papers to highlight the damage littering does to local streams and rivers;</li> <li>• litter traps on stormwater drains will help reduce rubbish entering the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek (and other actions to be considered as part of a Stormwater Management Plan);</li> <li>• signs warning of fines associated with illegal rubbish dumping.</li> </ul>	<p>Urban Planning, (with Open Space)</p> <p>Local Laws</p> <p>Env. Health, Infrastructure, Waste Management</p>	<p>VU, LMW</p> <p>Land developers, DNRE</p> <p>Community groups, Melbourne Water</p>	<p>2</p> <p>2/ ongoing</p> <p>2/ongoing</p>



ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p>Continue to implement community information actions in the 'Towards Reconciliation' Action Plan, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• use of the InfoWest Website to tell the stories of Aboriginal people;</li> <li>• flying the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flag at the Council offices (especially during NAIDOC Week and National Reconciliation Week);</li> <li>• acknowledging Aboriginal people, their culture and relationship to the land at formal Council events;</li> <li>• supporting the work of the Living Museum of the West in providing a cultural reference point for Aboriginal people in the west.</li> </ul>	<p>Cultural Development</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>Explore a range of other possibilities for community education and incorporate them into Council's programs and activities when opportunities arise. These could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• celebration of historical events;</li> <li>• regular heritage column in the local paper;</li> <li>• creating postcards to promote the City of Maribyrnong using interesting historical images.</li> </ul>	<p>Advocacy</p>		<p>Ongoing</p>

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## **ACTION PLAN 6**

### **DOCUMENTING MARIBYRNONG'S HERITAGE**



#### **Objective:**

To continue the process of researching and documenting Maribyrnong's rich heritage.

#### **Rationale:**

Knowledge about Maribyrnong's heritage is incomplete. New heritage places will be identified in the future. The information collected about Maribyrnong's heritage is a valuable asset and tool for Council. Keeping the existing information current is essential to Council's role in protecting heritage.

#### **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

- Establish internal information systems to link the heritage database, the public art database and the GIS, and record new information.
- Continue a program of heritage investigations.

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>6.1 Managing information</b></p> <p>Link the Heritage Database to the Maribyrnong GIS (Geographic Information System), and establish a procedure for updating the database.</p>	<p>Urban Planning, Information Technology</p>		<p>1</p>
<p><b>6.2 Establish a system for new information on heritage places</b></p> <p>Establish a system for recording information on newly-identified or potential heritage places, assessing their significance and seeking planning scheme or other suitable protection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council should consult a person with the relevant expertise in order to document the values of the site/s and to assess the significance of the site/s.</li> <li>• The relevant information should then be added to the heritage database.</li> <li>• If appropriate, development controls should be introduced to avoid damage to significant elements at the site, and management prescriptions devised to conserve significant values (in conjunction with appropriate specialist expertise and the relevant government agencies).</li> <li>• Sites of State or National significance should be prioritised for urgent protection.</li> </ul>	<p>Urban Planning (with Information Technology)</p>		<p>1</p>
<p><b>6.3 Link public art to heritage information</b></p> <p>Link the heritage and public art databases to ensure Council has a complete knowledge of all public art and monuments. Assess the significance of the balance of the public art.</p>	<p>Leisure &amp; Culture</p>		<p>1</p>
<p><b>6.4 Continue a program of heritage investigations</b></p> <p>Seek external funding to commission consultants to undertake further research and significance assessment on individual historic places within the former Footscray City Council area (that is, the Stage 2 study). The scope of the work required is documented in the Historic Places study reports.</p> <p>Explore the possibility of undertaking a series of community based projects with local migrant communities to document the places that have special meaning for them.</p> <p>Undertake an additional brief flora survey of remnant vegetation sites in spring to detect seasonal or other indigenous species.</p> <p>Undertake a summer survey of reptiles and amphibians within sites of significance. This has the potential to identify additional significant species.</p>	<p>Urban Planning</p> <p>Community Development</p> <p>Open Space</p> <p>Open Space</p>	<p>AHC</p>	<p>1</p> <p>2/3</p> <p>1</p> <p>2</p>

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
Undertake further survey work to establish the status of significant species in the municipality: the Tough Scurf-pea (in and around Jack's Magazine), Growling Grass Frog, Pied Cormorant, Great Egret and Nankeen Night-heron and the Water Rat. Should resident populations be located, these should be protected and their habitat managed accordingly (seeking specialist expertise where required).	Open Space, (with Parks & Gardens)	DNRE	3
Undertake further consultation and assessment of the Aboriginal historic places identified to determine their suitability for inclusion in the Heritage Overlay.	Urban Planning, Cultural Development	Aboriginal community, Heritage Victoria, Aboriginal Affairs	2
Undertake additional work to extend the coverage of the Historical Archaeological Management Plan. (This Plan identifies properties with the potential to contain significant archaeological evidence of the early European settlement history of Footscray and Maribyrnong.)	Urban Planning Heritage Victoria		3
Identify and assess the trees and landscape elements within the public reserves managed by Council that were not included in the <i>Historic Places - Significant Trees</i> report.	Open Space, (with Parks & Gardens)		3
Promote ongoing research into cultural landscapes in the City (including oral history, collection photographs, research into Council's records) and provide public access to the results.	Open Space, (with Parks & Gardens)	Historical societies and tertiary students	Ongoing

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## ACTION PLAN 7

### LINKS & PARTNERSHIPS

**Objective:**

To build links and partnerships with community and government organisations to ensure a coordinated effort in protecting heritage places.

**Rationale:**

Coordinating effort across local and State government authorities, and establishing partnerships for protection will ensure that the City of Maribyrnong meets its obligations for heritage protection in the most efficient and well-targeted ways.

### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

- Create a Heritage Advisory Committee.
- Coordinating action with other agencies and Council.
- Establishing active and regular communication with Aboriginal community organisations and continuing the processes of Reconciliation already initiated by Council.



ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>7.1 Create a Heritage Advisory Committee</b></p> <p>Establish a Heritage Advisory Committee to assist with the protection and management of natural and cultural heritage in the municipality. Membership should be based on the Heritage Review Steering Committee, with the addition of representatives of natural heritage interests.</p>	<p>Urban Planning (with Open Space)</p>	<p>Community organisations, agencies</p>	<p>1, ongoing</p>
<p><b>7.2 Liaison with other agencies and councils</b></p> <p>Liaise with the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Flora and Fauna staff (Port Phillip Region) to ensure that Council's programs are consistent with existing management work on threatened flora and fauna in Maribyrnong.</p> <p>Liaise with Melbourne Port Corporation to transfer heritage database listings of all the identified places of heritage significance that are within the MPC Planning Scheme area.</p> <p>Liaise with Heritage Victoria about the use of the Historical Archaeology Management Plan to ensure consistent advice and outcomes, and to review the findings of archaeological assessments.</p> <p>Continue to liaise with other Councils in the west to coordinate and build on local reconciliation projects.</p> <p>Compile and distribute an information package for other agencies and groups that undertake works that may affect heritage places.</p>	<p>Open Space</p> <p>Urban Planning</p> <p>Urban Planning</p> <p>Cultural Development</p> <p>Urban Planning</p>	<p>DNRE, other agencies</p> <p>Melbourne Port Corporation</p> <p>Heritage Victoria</p> <p>Councils in western Melbourne</p> <p>Parks Victoria, DNRE, Melbourne Water, Powercorp, Friends groups</p>	<p>2, ongoing</p> <p>1</p> <p>1</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>1</p>



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## ACTION PLAN 8

### EQUIPPING COUNCIL

**Objective:**

To build Council's commitment and capacity to implement the Heritage Plan

**Rationale:**

Effectively implementing the Heritage Plan will be aided by training and systems within Council to support the roles of officers and Councillors.

### SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

- Create effective internal procedures for actions affecting heritage places.
- Consider staff and other resource requirements.
- Seek external funding for studies, works and heritage advice.
- Provide training for staff and Councillors.
- Care for Council's own historical records.





ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<b>8.1 Internal information, procedures &amp; training</b>			
Develop and establish internal procedures to be followed by each branch for any action affecting a heritage place. These should include: a flow chart, responsibilities, when expert advice should be sought and how it should be paid for, any external or internal approvals.	Urban Planning (all branches)		1
Compile a simple information package for each branch that suits their way of working. Include this Plan, maps showing the location of significant places (generalised for Aboriginal sites), instructions on using the database, and decision-making flowcharts.	Urban Planning		1
Hold a short information session for officers to introduce them to the Heritage Plan and to work through the procedures that would be followed via a couple of case studies.	Urban Planning		1
<b>8.2 Staff resources</b>			
Assess staff resource requirements during the initial implementation phase, including the planning scheme amendment. Allocate budget to provide the additional staffing needed.	Whole of Council		1
<b>8.3 Seek external funding for studies, works and heritage advice</b>			
Seek external funding for further heritage studies, conservation work and advisory services.	Urban Planning, Open Space, Leisure and Culture		
<b>8.4 Training for staff and Councillors</b>			
Undertake a brief training needs analysis and develop a training program for staff and Councillors on heritage conservation and managing heritage issues. Include in the program external training opportunities, internal seminars and training by Heritage Advisors.	Urban Planning (with all branches)		1
Introduce a cross-cultural awareness training program for Council officers in collaboration with the Wurundjeri Tribe Land Compensation & Cultural Heritage Council Inc. and the Kulin Nation Cultural Heritage Organisation. Ensure regular follow-up.	Community Development	Wurundjeri/Kulin	Funded for 2000-01
Provide regular briefings for Councillors on the heritage places and values of the municipality, and on progress in implementing the Heritage Plan.	Urban Planning		1/ongoing

ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY	PARTNERSHIPS	TIMING
<p><b>8.5 Systems</b></p> <p>Establish internal procedures to link the results of the Maribyrnong Heritage Review to Council's property and rate information system through the GIS (Geographic Information System). Develop this into an effective information system for Council's planning staff. Link to building permits notification system.</p>	<p>Urban Planning, Information Technology</p>		<p>1</p>
<p><b>8.6 Expertise &amp; advice</b></p> <p>Expand the range of expertise available to Council by expanding the scope of the Heritage Advice Service (see Action Plan 3 - 3.2).</p>	<p>Urban Planning</p>	<p>Heritage Victoria, AAV, DNRE</p>	<p>1</p>
<p><b>8.7 Historical Records</b></p> <p>Prepare a management plan for preservation of historic Council records (minute books, rate books, early building permit application &amp; engineering drawings) to include making copies onto an agreed medium (microfiche, computer imaging).</p>	<p>Records, Library</p>		<p>2</p>
<p>Provide the Maribyrnong library with (micro-fiche or optical disk) copies of all municipal rate books and minute books held by Council for public access.</p>	<p>Records, Library</p>		<p>3</p>

## TOOLS TO SUPPORT ACTION

### STUDY REPORTS

#### Earlier studies

- Allom Lovell & Associates (1998), *Maribyrnong Heritage and Open Space Study. An assessment of the Defence Site, Cordite Avenue Maribyrnong.*
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### Studies as part of the Maribyrnong Heritage Review

Biosis Research Pty Ltd (1999), *Maribyrnong Aboriginal Heritage Study*. Prepared by D. Rhodes, T. Debney & M. Grist.

A broad-based study into both the pre-contact and post-contact Aboriginal heritage of the City of Maribyrnong. The Maribyrnong River Valley was a particularly important resource base, and is where identified Aboriginal archaeological sites are concentrated. Six sites had been identified before this study, and six new sites (surface scatters of stone artefacts) were located as a result of an archaeological survey for this project. A detailed program of research and consultation into Aboriginal historic places has identified a number of places that are significant to Aboriginal people. Recommendations are made for the protection, interpretation and management of Aboriginal sites and places.

Francine Gilfedder & Associates (2000), *Maribyrnong Heritage Review Volume 1: Historic Places - Project Methods and Results*. With Graeme Butler, Jill Barnard, Gary Vines. Melbourne.

Francine Gilfedder & Associates (2000), *Maribyrnong Heritage Review Volume 2: Historic Places - Environmental History City of Maribyrnong*. With Graeme Butler, Jill Barnard, Gary Vines. Melbourne.

Francine Gilfedder & Associates (2000), *Maribyrnong Heritage Review Volume 3: Historic Places - Industrial Places in the City of Maribyrnong*. With Graeme Butler, Jill Barnard, Gary Vines. Melbourne.

Francine Gilfedder & Associates (2000), *Maribyrnong Heritage Review Volume 4: Historic Places - Non-industrial places in former City of Sunshine (Maribyrnong, Maidstone, Braybrook and Tottenham)*. With Graeme Butler, Jill Barnard, Gary Vines. Melbourne.

Francine Gilfedder & Associates (2000), *Maribyrnong Heritage Review Volume 5: Historic Places - Precincts*. With Graeme Butler, Jill Barnard, Gary Vines. Melbourne.

Francine Gilfedder & Associates (2000), *Maribyrnong Heritage Review Volume 6: Historic Places - Significant Trees*. With Graeme Butler, Jill Barnard, Gary Vines. Melbourne.

A study of historic places throughout the municipality, with an emphasis on reviewing the existing heritage precincts within the former City of Footscray, along with non-industrial places and precincts in the former City of Sunshine, and industrial places and trees across the whole municipality. Generally the existing heritage precincts have been confirmed or extended, and many individual historic places have been identified and documented for protection. Further work is required to assess individual places within the former City of Footscray area in a subsequent Stage 2.

Ecology Australia Pty Ltd (1999), *City of Maribyrnong Natural Heritage Study*. Prepared by A. Muir, S. Way, N. Rosengren & D. Quin, for the City of Maribyrnong.

A study of places that are significant for geodiversity, biodiversity and ecosystem processes. Only two sites of geological significance were recorded. Extensive



construction work, reclamation of wetlands, re-alignment of drainage lines and rehabilitation or filling of quarries have resulted in minimal surface area exposing natural rock formations or landforms. All vegetation types have been grossly depleted since settlement and populations of most remaining plant species are critically endangered. Small, highly degraded remnants of most vegetation types persist, generally along the River, at Braybrook Rail Reserve, or along Stony Creek. Faunal habitat is generally highly disturbed, but a number of significant species have been observed. Revegetated parklands represent the best quality habitat. Recommendations are made for the protection and management of significant species.

HLA-Envirosciences Pty Ltd (2000), *Archaeological Management Plan for early Post-contact Archaeological sites in the City of Maribyrnong*. Prepared for the City of Maribyrnong.

A basis for the early identification of areas of archaeological potential so that they can be assessed when development or land use change is proposed. The plan acts to advise Council, a developer or owner that archaeological relics might be located on their property and that an archaeological assessment needs to be undertaken. Archaeological potential has assessed through a process of historical research to understand the events and processes that might have resulted in archaeological remains being deposited, altered or removed and an evaluation of the physical evidence on the land (through a site inspection and review of geotechnical data). The focus of this project is the Footscray Township Reserve, where there was the greatest density of early settlement. Guidelines are provided on the use of the Archaeological Management Plan, including a planning process for ensuring that appropriate further assessments occur prior to proposed changes to these properties.



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## APPENDIX A

### ABBREVIATIONS



The following abbreviations are used in this plan.

AAV	Aboriginal Affairs Victoria.
AHC	Australian Heritage Commission.
DNRE	Department of Natural Resources and Environment.
DOI	Department of Infrastructure.
GIS	Geographic Information System.
Kulin	Kulin Nation Cultural Heritage Organisation.
LMW	Living Museum of the West.
MSS	Municipal Strategic Statement.
VU	Victoria University.
Wurundjeri	Wurundjeri Tribe Land Compensation and Cultural Heritage Council Inc.