

Merrimu Precinct Structure Plan – February 2021	
Purpose and next steps	The purpose of the technical studies will be in the first instance to inform the issues and opportunities report. This will be a key output to informing an issues and opportunities paper and the emerging options for the future urban structure. We anticipate that the issues and opportunities report for Merrimu will be out for public review in early 2021.
Stakeholder Engagement Workshop	<p>On 10 December 2020, the VPA undertook a stakeholder engagement workshop where key Government stakeholders provided input into the technical studies and planning work undertaken to date. The outcomes of this workshop will enable VPA to start testing potential outcomes with value add from key stakeholders.</p> <p>The purpose of this workshop was to review the findings of the background technical work and to begin the next phase of planning – the preparation of a Place Based Plan / Future Urban Structure.</p> <p>A summary report is in the final stages and is expected to be uploaded to the VPA website shortly.</p>

Technical Reports	Status	Project Manager	Consultant
Arboriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final Report received April 2020 and uploaded to website 	VPA	Homewood Consulting
Biodiversity & Targeted Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Biodiversity Assessment received 2018 - Assessment for Stage Significant Values received Feb 2019 - Targeted Surveys received Feb 2019 - Council and VPA comments provided Dec 2019 - Addendum & Additional Areas Study provided in April 2020 - Council and VPA met with DELWP to discuss report in July 2020. - Based on advice from DELWP, an additional study may be required for the Long Forest Estate 	Ethos	Ecology and Heritage Partners (EHP)
Bushfire Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VPA and Council comments provided Jan 2020 - Updated Bushfire Assessment sent to VPA on 11 June 2020, forwarded to Council on 29 June. - Council Comments received by VPA on 6 July 2020 - Minor changes still required, to widen findings to entire precinct 	Ethos	Bushfire Planning and Design
Buffer Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report received 1 July 2020 - VPA forwarded report to DJPR and Council on 1 July 2020 	BMD	ERM

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council provided Comments on 24 Jul 2020 - VPA awaiting DJPR comments - VPA provided comments to Ethos – 10 Sep 20 - VPA & Council meeting with DJPR on 12th October - Updated report provided in late Nov-20 - Awaiting DJPR assessment of the study, this assessment may request that a further study be undertaken. 		
Community Infrastructure Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VPA and Council currently finalising draft assessment. - Following completion, VPA and Council will engage relevant state government departments and education providers 	VPA	VPA & Council
Drainage / Hydrology / Integrated Water Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Buckleys Road Hydrology Assessment drafted Jan 2019 (Water Tech) - Melbourne Water are developing a DSS for the precinct. - BMD have engaged Rain consulting to undertake some concept design development for IWM schemes in the precinct. - Council have engaged E2 Design Labs to develop a Bacchus Marsh IWM strategy. 	Council / BMD / VPA / MW	E2 Design Labs & TBC
Economic and Retail Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Activity Centres Strategy drafted in Dec 2017 - VPA and Council provided comments Oct 2019 - Updated report provided in late Nov-20 - Minor changes still required 	BMD	Dimasi & Co.
Heritage Assessment, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (ACHIA) and Cultural Values assessment (CVA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council and VPA comments on addendum and additional areas sent to Ethos in June 2020. - Updated report provided in late Nov-20 - Minor changes still required 	Ethos	EHP
Land Capability Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land Capability Assessment drafted Dec 2017 - VPA and Council provided comments Oct 2019 - Sodic Soils proposal drafted by EHP in April 2020 - VPA and Council provided comments in Jun 2020 	BMD	Jacobs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sodic Soils Assessment currently underway - Updated report provided in late Nov-20 - Minor changes still required 		
Servicing Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report received Dec 2019 - Comments send to Ethos in July 2020 - Response provided by Ethos on 18th August 2020 - The VPA and Council are currently awaiting the updated report 	BMD	Creo
Transport Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GTA has been engaged by the VPA to undertake an Integrated Transport Assessment, which will commence in early 2021. - Timelines TBC (pending ELR alignment) 	VPA	GTA

Meeting Updates	Date	Meeting outcomes
Bacchus Marsh Eastern Link Road	Ongoing	Discussions Between VPA and DoT discuss the specific issues of the alignments in relation to the various Bacchus Marsh PSPs.
IWM PCG workshop #3	5 March 2021	VPA, Council and Melbourne water teleconference to discuss the draft results from the options analysis.