

Merrimu Precinct Structure Plan – April 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 mid 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.</p> <p>The workshop was also an opportunity to present a concept urban structure, developed by consultants acting on behalf of a number of landowners within the precinct, to the project stakeholder group for their critical review and feedback.</p> <p>This allowed the VPA to consider the positions of a range of stakeholders in relation to some of the key issues and opportunities within the precinct as we set about developing the place-based plan for the precinct.</p> <p>Whilst the landowner concept plan discussed in the workshop starts to explore some of the key urban structure and land use opportunities for the precinct, it has no official status within the project. Additional landowner-developed concept urban structures may be put to the stakeholder group for review to assist the development of a draft Place Based Plan by the VPA.</p> <p>A summary report of the stakeholder engagement workshop has been uploaded to the VPA website.</p>

Technical Reports	Status	Project Manager	Consultant
Arboriculture	- 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 - VPA received revised draft of biodiversity assessment April 2021 	Ethos	Ecology and Heritage Partners (EHP)
Bushfire Assessment	- VPA and Council comments provided Jan 2020	Ethos	Bushfire Planning and Design

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 		
Buffer Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report received 1 July 2020 - VPA forwarded report to DJPR and Council on 1 July 2020 - 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 - Council and DJPR have provided comments 	BMD	ERM
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 - Sodic Soils Assessment currently underway - Updated report provided in late Nov-20 - Minor changes still required 	BMD	Jacobs
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. - Timelines TBC (pending ELR alignment). - GTA has commenced Integrated Transport Assessment. They are currently undertaking modelling work. 	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	Early May 2021	VPA, Council and Melbourne water teleconference to discuss the draft report.