

Building the Community - Connecting People

Priority 1: Make the physical environment support community

Participants at the Community Summit expressed the need to celebrate and acknowledge the neighbourhoods that make up the City and communities formed by common interests.

Participants acknowledged a shared responsibility for both Council and the community to find ways for the physical environment to foster community building and reclaim shared local spaces. Bringing people together to break down isolation through shared interests and projects was seen as critical to building community.

What would success look like?

A safe, accessible and welcoming environment.

What has Council done?

- Promoted and supported residents to hold street parties
- Completed audit regarding compliance with footpath trading local laws in Acland Street and Carlisle Street. Guidelines are to be reviewed in 2008/09.
- Pending completion of the St. Kilda foreshore project with improved access to the beach
- Improved and upgraded two adventure playgrounds
- Restored Alma Park Rotunda to protect its use for future generations
- Established new drought tolerant grass area at South Beach to improve open space and incorporate a dust-mitigation strategy
- Constructed new steps and ramps to Sandridge Beach to improve safety
- Completed landscaping around Point Ormond Beacon to provide more accessible open space
- Upgraded public toilets along foreshore (painting, repairs and installation of water saving plumbing fixtures)
- Supported and facilitated 13 Disability Discrimination Act compliant raised tram-stops

What indicators track our progress?

Indicator	Result (07/08)	Data Source	Explanation
Perceptions of safety - how safe do we feel when walking alone in our local area?	97.8% of persons felt safe or very safe during the day 66.3% felt safe or very safe at night	2007 Community Indicators Victoria Survey	This is higher than the state average during the day, but lower at night
Feeling part of the community - how satisfied are you with feeling part of the community	67.4 where 0 is completely dissatisfied and 100 is completely satisfied	2007 Community Indicators Victoria Survey	The average Community Connection score for Australians is approximately 70
Number of street parties	25	Council Data	This is a slight decrease from 29 in 2006/07
Smiles per hour*	Average of 8 across neighbourhoods and main streets.	Community Pulse	The average for neighbourhoods last year was 10, whilst the main street average was 4
Community rating of overall outdoor environment	76% rated it excellent or good 15% rated it adequate	CoPP Monthly Community Satisfaction Survey (January 2008)	A 2007 State Government survey reported that 70% of residents rated the 'appearance of public areas' as adequate or better

*Rating is calculated by taking hourly rate of positive (smile) response then dividing it by the hourly rate of eye contacts and multiplying result by ten



Community Plan 2007-2017

First Year Report Card
September 2008



Priority 2: Continue supporting the disadvantaged, disabled and low-income to remain in the city and support affordable housing

What would success look like?

Port Phillip maintains its reputation as a socially inclusive city where difference is accommodated and disabilities are addressed; and Port Phillip has a range of housing types (densities, tenures, cost and location) to accommodate the diverse needs of the community

What has Council done?

- Completed the Disability Action Plan - includes approximately 280 actions and strategies that will be implemented over the next five years
- Completed restructure of the City of Port Phillip Housing Program – set up Port Phillip Housing Trust (providing \$400K annual contribution to Port Phillip Housing Association Ltd)
- Developed the Port Phillip Housing Strategy 2007 – 2017
- Developed the Homelessness Action Strategy (recommendation of Housing Strategy), establishing a five year action plan to identify partners and projects
- Sponsored and coordinated ‘Help Yourself Free Co-op’ providing 20,342 meals in 2007/08
- Expanded Housing Information and Support service to respond to increased numbers of older people at risk of homelessness
- Revised planning framework (Municipal Strategic Statement) to promote accessible buildings
- Developed Ageing Well Strategy
- Established Linking Neighbours Program as a pilot program in Elwood
- Established Safety for Seniors Register as a pilot program in Elwood
- Implemented Health and Wellbeing Community Plan (Municipal Public Health Plan) in conjunction with community agencies and community members

Working together

- State Government commissioned a feasibility study into using part of the St Vincent’s former orphanage site for a residential high-level care facility. Outcomes of feasibility study due end of 2008.
- Commenced partnership with State Government to establish a three year social inclusion project for most disadvantaged residents in St Kilda and East St Kilda

What indicators track our progress?

Indicator	Result	Data Source	Explanation
Home ownership affordability and private rental affordability	Threshold income* to purchase a median-priced house is \$169,349, unit is \$94,484	2006 Council data	Corresponding Metro Melbourne figures are \$82,563 and \$75,750. Data available every 3 years
Proportion of low income residents living in City of Port Phillip	40.56% of an income under \$600 per week	Census 2006	Data available every five years
Proportion of social housing to total dwellings in Port Phillip	6.9% of total dwellings comprise of social housing	2006 Council Data	Social housing includes public and community housing. 2006 data. Data is available every 3 years.
Number of rooming housings in Port Phillip	63	2006 Council Data	Includes private and community rooming houses. Data available every 3 years.
Number of community housing units provided	81 new units since August 2006 (post re-structure)	Council Data	Total community housing in Port Phillip is 469

*Threshold income is the household income required to purchase a median priced dwelling at the prevailing interest rate assuming: 1) loan amount will not be more than 90% of dwelling value; 2) loan period is 25 years and 3) no more than 30% income will go towards paying the loan.

Priority 3: Help people in our community share their talents, resources and assets

What would success look like?

Strong community connections, a spirit of generosity and sharing, and active participation in community and civic life

What has Council done?

- Restructured the Volunteer Register (webpages listing current volunteer positions) to allow easier navigation and access to volunteer positions.
- Established Community Leadership program with a series of community forums on public policy issues
- Established Small Poppy Fund, a neighbourhood-based matching grants program
- Completed first phase of implementation for interactive website. New website to be launched January 2009 and interactive component scheduled for launch mid 2009.
- Presented student leadership events (Mayor's Breakfast, Little Big Cake, Student Forum Years 6-8, Student Union Years 9-12)
- Continued promotion of 'Port Phillip Gives' philanthropy website
- Hosted forum bringing together community and corporate sectors to increase volunteering and mutual community building opportunities
- Restored Port Melbourne Town Hall Council Chamber to provide additional community meeting space
- Re-opened Middle Park Community Hub after renovation.
- Commenced re-development of Betty Day Community Centre for the St Kilda/Windsor Community Hub (opening in 2009)
- Commenced re-development of South Melbourne Town Hall Community Hub (opening 2009)

Working together

- Council facilitated youth development leadership resource (Look Under a Rock) which was developed by local students for local young people

What indicators track our progress?

Indicator	Result	Data Source	Explanation
Percentage of population who feel they have opportunities to participate in affordable local community events and activities of their choosing	81% strongly agreed or agreed	CoPP Community Satisfaction Survey - December 07 and June 08	
Number of visits to Volunteer Register (web page)	June 2007: 286 visits June 2008: 396 visits	Council Data	New indicator (not outlined in Community Plan Action Plan appendices)
Percentage of people who volunteer	33.7% of Port Phillip residents reported that they helped out as a volunteer	Department of Planning and Community Development Community Strength Survey - 2006	Compares with 37.9% for the Southern Metro Region
Average number of online donations through Port Phillip Gives	55 per month	Council Data	Data collected from October 2007

