



City of Port Phillip

State Election Advocacy

Building stronger, safer and more connected communities in Port Phillip

Introduction

This document outlines the City of Port Phillip's priority advocacy projects for the upcoming State Election. These initiatives have been grouped into two categories:

1. Major projects that deliver benefits across the whole municipality – strengthening safety, transport, coastal resilience, recreation, local economies and cultural life. These include Council led projects and investment requests for State owned assets and services.
2. Electorate based local projects – smaller scale but high impact initiatives that respond directly to local community needs.

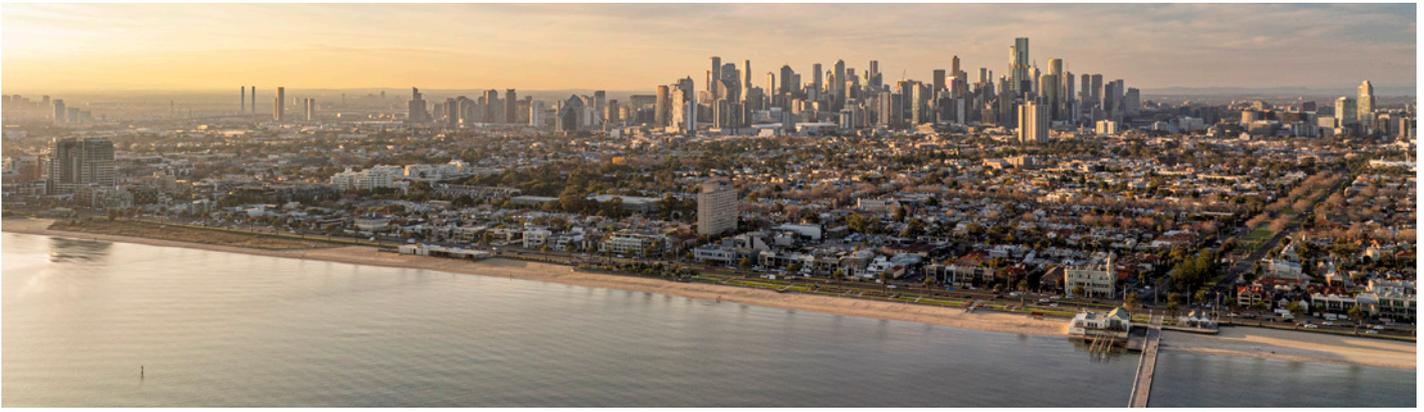
Every project in this booklet reflects a clear goal: to improve the daily lives of residents, support local traders, and enhance experiences for visitors across Port Phillip.

About the City of Port Phillip

Port Phillip is a high density, fast growing inner city municipality shaped by its 11 km of foreshore and strong cultural identity. One of metropolitan Melbourne's most visited areas, the City attracts almost three million visitors each year, drawn to major destinations such as St Kilda, South Melbourne Market, the Palais Theatre and the Victorian Pride Centre. Our city sits on the traditional lands of the Bunurong, Boonwurrung and Wurundjeri peoples of the Kulin Nation, whose connection to this coastline stretches back more than 40,000 years.

Home to 112,669 residents, Port Phillip has a diverse and highly mobile community: 33 per cent of residents were born overseas, 48 per cent are aged 18–49, and 41 per cent live alone. Nearly half of households rent, reflecting the municipality's dense housing mix and growing population. While our community is generally well educated and active, pockets of disadvantage persist, with some residents experiencing mental health challenges, substance dependence and insecure housing.

Port Phillip is also a significant employment hub, with 21,508 businesses employing more than 93,000 workers across sectors including professional services, construction, healthcare, retail and hospitality. As a city with high visitor numbers, dense neighbourhoods and growing demand for services and infrastructure, Port Phillip requires strong partnership with the Victorian Government to ensure it remains a safe, inclusive and thriving place for residents, workers and visitors.



Major Projects and services

Council's major projects reflect the highest priority advocacy asks for the City of Port Phillip. These initiatives respond to strong community feedback, emerging population pressures, ageing infrastructure and the impacts of climate change. They represent the areas where State Government partnership will deliver the most significant uplift in safety, liveability, environmental resilience and economic participation across our municipality.

To align with Council's endorsed highest tier advocacy priorities, major projects are grouped into five themes:

1. Community safety and social cohesion

Projects that strengthen the safety and wellbeing of our community, respond to rising crime and social vulnerability, and improve access to prevention, outreach and policing initiatives.

2. Transport infrastructure supporting liveability and growth

Critical transport investments across the municipality that enable growth, improve public and active transport connections, reduce congestion, and ensure residents can access jobs, services and education efficiently.

3. Coastal health and water management

Initiatives that protect Port Phillip's coastline from erosion, storm events and sea level rise, while improving water quality, drainage resilience and long term climate adaptation across the foreshore.

4. Sporting precincts and open spaces

Upgrades that modernise ageing facilities, expand access to recreation, and deliver greener, more resilient public spaces to support community health, inclusion and increasing participation—particularly among women and girls, Aboriginal Victorians, multicultural communities, people with a disability and low-income households.

5. Creative and vibrant initiatives

Investments that strengthen the city's cultural life and visitor economy, support major events such as St Kilda Festival and St Kilda Film Festival, and enhance the creative infrastructure that underpins a thriving, active and connected community.

1. Community safety and social cohesion

Community safety remains a major concern for Port Phillip residents, with 21 per cent of the community identifying safety, policing or crime as a top issue, alongside rising concerns about night time safety and visible policing. Crime data shows increases across key categories, including a 23.1 per cent rise in criminal incidents, underscoring the need for continued partnership between Council and the Victorian Government.

1.1 First Peoples' gathering place – whole of municipality

Funding request: \$140,000

For more than 30 years, First Peoples community members have called for a dedicated Gathering Place in Port Phillip – a safe, culturally significant space for connection, healing, learning and celebration.

Funding would allow the next stage of feasibility and site selection to proceed, building on the jointly funded Gathering Place Report (2021). This project holds deep community significance and would strengthen cultural belonging for First Peoples and the wider community.

1.2 Additional Police Resourcing – whole of municipality

Funding request: Victoria Police in Port Phillip – Port Phillip PSA

Increased foot patrols, local engagement officers and targeted resourcing for identified hotspots will improve safety in town centres and along the coastline. Funding for an Aboriginal Liaison Officer will also support culturally safe and responsive policing.

1.3 Social Housing Supports – St Kilda

Funding request: \$650,000 for St Kilda Community Housing

Upgrades to two existing rooming houses will improve living conditions and expand wraparound supports for vulnerable residents. This is a critical step in preventing homelessness and improving safety.

1.4 Mental Health Supports – whole of municipality

Funding request: For DFFH and local mental health service providers

Strengthened mental health services for residents with complex needs – particularly those transitioning from hospitals, justice or rehabilitation settings – will reduce crises, improve safety and support long term recovery.

1.5 Graffiti mitigation and removal program – whole of municipality

Funding request: \$200,000

Graffiti, particularly antisemitic graffiti, continues to be a challenge across high-traffic and high-visibility areas in the municipality, impacting public amenity, perceptions of safety, and maintenance costs. Funding will expand proactive cleaning and rapid response graffiti removal in high visibility areas. This investment will improve amenity, support local traders and create cleaner, more welcoming public spaces.

1.6 Acoustic camera trial – whole of municipality

Funding request: \$150,000 to the EPA

Acoustic cameras detect and report excessively noisy vehicles, supporting targeted enforcement against hooning. Council supports Victoria Police's request for a review of the enabling legislation to facilitate lawful deployment of this technology with appropriate privacy and evidentiary safeguards. An EPA-led trial would reduce noise pollution and improve safety.



2. Public and active transport improvements

Our community is growing, and our streets, places and transport network must grow with it. We are committed to safe, connected and convenient active transport so more people can walk, ride and roll with confidence – and we need the state government to partner with Council to achieve this. We also want to embrace new mobility options and technology that expand choice, reduce congestion and improve access. Together, these priorities will deliver a transport system that supports liveability, health, inclusion and economic opportunity for all.

2.1 Fishermans Bend Tram – Fishermans Bend

Funding request: A staged State funding commitment to planning, design and delivery of tram extensions into Fishermans Bend (Horizon Two), aligned to the Integrated Transport Plan

The Victorian Government’s Connecting Fishermans Bend: Integrated Transport Plan (2025) identifies tram extensions through Southbank into the heart of Fishermans Bend as the next major uplift in public transport access. Council is seeking a State commitment to confirm sequencing and triggers, fund concept design and business case work (building on the Australian Government’s \$3 million feasibility study), and progress early enabling works.

2.2 Fishermans Bend Train

In line with the Connecting Fishermans Bend: Integrated Transport Plan (2025), the State should Identify alignment, station locations, and necessary land required for future delivery of Melbourne Metro 2 in its entirety.

2.3 Bus frequency upgrades for Route 606 – whole of municipality

Funding to Public Transport Victoria

Route 606, the only east–west cross–route in Port Phillip, runs every 30 minutes on weekdays and hourly on weekends, ending around 9 pm. It connects key activity centres and supports local mobility. More frequent and extended services will improve east west mobility across Port Phillip, giving residents better access to employment, education and services while reducing car reliance.

2.3 Park Street Tram Link

Completing the missing 300 metre tram link between Heather Street and Kings Way will restore a long promised connection committed in 2018 by Rail Projects Victoria. This short extension will dramatically improve access to ANZAC Station and reduce unnecessary travel through the CBD for local commuters.

2.5 ANZAC Station Bus Link

Council is seeking a clear and funded timeline for the delivery of a new high frequency bus service connecting Fishermans Bend with ANZAC Station, noting the ongoing delay in delivery of the Park Street Tram Link.

2.6: Tram frequency and infrastructure improvements

- i. Council requests an increase in the frequency and capacity of the 96 and 109 tram services to meet current and future demand.
- ii. Council seeks a commitment to delivery of the Route 109 terminus track duplication upgrade – an international gateway for Melbourne at Station Pier.
- iii. We seek the State extend the 78 / 79 tram to provide a north/south route between City of Yarra, City of Stonnington and City of Port Phillip.
- iv. We also ask the State to provide clarity and timing on the pipeline of level access tram stop improvements as required by Horizon 1 ('now' actions) of the Tram Plan.
- v. Retention of regular tram stopping patterns during the F1 Grand Prix period, rather than express trams.

2.7: Cycling safety improvements

A clear and funded timeline for the delivery of state-significant cycling corridors, including:

- i. St Kilda Road to Carlisle Street.
- ii. Kerferd Road, from Canterbury Road to Beaconsfield Parade and Albert Road, from Canterbury Road to ANZAC Station.
- iii. creating a safe crossing for cyclists across St Kilda Road to Albert Road.

2.8 Pedestrian safety improvements

A clear and funded timeline for the delivery of the pedestrian crossings, including:

- i. Active pedestrian crossing on Glen Huntly Road at Elwood Canal near Elwood College.
- ii. Active pedestrian crossing at Hotham Street at Lydon Street and Ripon Grove.
- iii. Active pedestrian crossings on Williamstown Road at Prohasky Street, Salmon Street, Beacon Road, Bridge Street, and Boundary Street.
- iv. Signalised crossing at Plummer Street and Graham Street, Port Melbourne near Port Melbourne Secondary College.
- v. A funded feasibility study into the delivery of a permanent pedestrian overpass to the Kings Way / Albert Road intersection to improve safety and connectivity to ANZAC Station.
- vi. Immediate implementation of the 40km / hour speed limit through the Glen Eira Road shopping area.
- vii. A crossing on Hotham Street, between Glen Huntly Road and Glen Eira Road to improve connectivity to Elsternwick and Rippon Lea Estate would be loose enough.

3. Coastal erosion and water management

Port Phillip’s coastline is one of Victoria’s most visited public assets, yet it is increasingly vulnerable to sea level rise, storm events and coastal erosion, alongside pressures on ageing foreshore infrastructure. Strategic State partnership is required to protect beaches, promenades and coastal communities.

3.1 Statewide beach renourishment program

We’re calling for the Victorian Government to establish a statewide, multi-year beach renourishment program. A programmatic approach with clear triggers and funding pathways will protect public assets and promenades, keep beaches safe and accessible, reduce storm damage and repair costs, and safeguard tourism and coastal ecosystems. Multi-year investment gives councils certainty to plan works efficiently and deliver better value for money across the Bay and beyond.

3.2 Flood mitigation – whole of municipality

Targeted State investment in strategic flood mitigation planning and infrastructure will reduce inundation risks across Port Phillip’s neighbourhoods. Access to adaptation focused funding models used elsewhere will enable works that improve safety, resilience and long term protection for homes, businesses and public assets..

3.3 Standardised infrastructure upgrades – whole of municipality

A consistent State wide approach to approving coastal and drainage infrastructure upgrades is needed to avoid maladaptation. Standardised guidance will ensure that pier, seawall and drainage upgrades do not inadvertently create new risks for adjoining public assets, shared spaces or crown land managers.

3.4 State-led adaptation planning and works – whole of municipality

Council is calling for a comprehensive, fully funded State strategy to address long term coastal hazards and vulnerabilities. This includes clear and consistent policy on development in flood prone areas under future climate scenarios, and integration of all flood related planning controls with broader planning requirements to ensure a coordinated approach across government.

3.5 Foreshore Ramp Upgrades – South Melbourne and Port Melbourne

Funding request: \$950k

Upgrading access ramps, showers and dog wash facilities will significantly improve accessibility to the foreshore for all users. These works will ensure compliance with modern accessibility standards, enhance user safety and comfort, and create a more inclusive coastal environment for residents and visitors alike.

4. Open space and sporting precincts

Port Phillip's 110 recreation and sporting spaces are essential to community health, wellbeing and social connection. With a growing population and increasing participation – particularly among women and girls, Aboriginal Victorians, multicultural communities, people with a disability and low-income households – demand is now outpacing the capacity of ageing facilities.

4.1 Sandridge Recreation Precinct – Fishermans Bend

Funding request: \$1.8m for Masterplan and Detailed Design

The Sandridge Recreation Precinct represents a major opportunity to deliver a new, well-designed recreation hub for the rapidly growing Fishermans Bend community. A \$1.8 million investment will fund the Masterplan and Detailed Design, ensuring the precinct can provide high-quality open space, sporting facilities and community gathering areas that meet future demand. This early planning work is essential to creating a resilient, accessible and well-connected precinct as the area develops.

4.2 Provision of Paid Lifeguards at St Kilda Beach – St Kilda

Funding request: \$100,000 for Life Saving Victoria

Across Victoria's 2024/25 summer patrol season, volunteer lifesavers and paid lifeguards undertook 1,011 rescues, delivered 1,593 first aid interventions, and completed 355,994 preventative actions – demonstrating that water safety services prevent emergencies before they escalate. Expanding paid weekday coverage at one of Victoria's busiest bay beaches is a cost effective way to reduce risk and improve public confidence in safe beach access.

4.3 Albert Park Lake Pedestrian Bridge Feasibility Study – Albert Park

Funding request: \$250k

A feasibility study for reinstating the temporary pedestrian bridge over Queens Road (at Roy Street) would improve safe pedestrian access for the rapidly growing Lakeside and St Kilda Road residential community. Completing this study – including usage monitoring – will help determine the viability of a permanent connection, supporting safer movement between the lake, local health facilities and surrounding neighbourhoods. This uplift will strengthen walkability and provide a more accessible open-space network for residents and visitors.

4.4 Elwood Foreshore Masterplan – Elwood

Funding request: \$10m

The Elwood Foreshore Masterplan provides a long-term blueprint for renewing one of Port Phillip's most popular coastal destinations, addressing ageing infrastructure, accessibility issues and climate-related risks. State investment in early design and staged implementation will enable upgrades to sporting facilities, open spaces, paths and public amenities, ensuring the foreshore remains safe, inclusive and environmentally resilient. This uplift will enhance community recreation, support local clubs and protect a key coastal asset for future generations. The Masterplan would have profound impact on existing tenants, including the Life Saving Club, 12 local sporting clubs and associations, a kindergarten, and the wellness and hospitality businesses.

5. Creative and vibrant initiatives

Port Phillip's creative sector is a major contributor to the local economy, with events such as St Kilda Festival attracting hundreds of thousands of visitors each year, supporting local businesses and strengthening the city's identity as a cultural destination.

5.1 St Kilda Festival – St Kilda \$300,000 ongoing annual funding

The St Kilda Festival, Australia's largest free music festival, plays a major role in energising the Port Phillip foreshore and supporting Victoria's live music ecosystem. Council is seeking funding to expand programming, deepen First Peoples representation and strengthen audience attraction through targeted interstate and regional marketing.

5.2 St Kilda film Festival – St Kilda and surrounding suburbs \$80,000 ongoing annual funding

The St Kilda Film Festival, Australia's longest running and largest short film festival, is another cornerstone of Port Phillip's cultural identity. With State contribution, Council can expand the Festival's role as a national platform for screen talent, increase the number of free professional development sessions for emerging filmmakers and improve accessibility across its program. Continued investment will strengthen local creative careers, maintain the Festival's prestigious Academy Awards® qualifying status, and support cultural tourism by drawing visitors into cinemas, venues and local businesses.

5.3 Futureproofing South Melbourne Market – South Melbourne Overall project – \$6m State contribution toward \$65m renewal

Built in 1867, the South Melbourne Market is one of Victoria's most iconic community assets, but it now faces long term challenges including ageing infrastructure, compliance pressures and growing congestion. State co investment - including \$6 million for public realm works within the broader \$65 million renewal - will enable Council to upgrade key pedestrian areas, starting with the York Street precinct. These improvements will create safer, more accessible connections, ease traffic pressures, expand flexible gathering spaces and support the Market's capacity to host events and increased trading.

5.4 Funding for arts organisations – funding for Creative Victoria

State should expand access to multi-year funding for local arts organisations, and increase the levels of funding. Stable, predictable investment lets small and medium groups plan ahead, retain talent, and deepen engagement with under-served communities while reducing grant churn and unlocking co-investment.

5.5 Station Pier Revitalisation

Station Pier is more than a gateway for cruise passengers, its a vital part of the City's economy and identity. Council is advocating for State support to revitalise Station Pier, pushing for better transport links, precinct activations, and stronger integration with surrounding neighbourhoods.

Electorate Specific asks

These electorate-specific projects set out targeted opportunities for State Government partnership across the electorates of Albert Park, Caulfield, Brighton and Prahran. Each initiative responds directly to local needs identified through Council strategies, infrastructure assessments and community feedback, and aims to improve safety, accessibility, open space, transport connections and essential community facilities. Together, these projects deliver tangible benefits for residents.

Albert Park		
<p>WSUD treatment for Dorcas Street and Little Page Street Middle Park</p>	<p>This project will deliver Water Sensitive Urban Design treatments to significantly improve stormwater quality before it flows into Port Phillip Bay. A \$250,000 investment would fund new permeable surfaces, rain gardens and native vegetation, enhancing local streetscapes while supporting urban cooling, biodiversity and climate resilience.</p>	<p>\$250,000</p>
<p>Pier Road and Bay Trail Safety Upgrade St Kilda</p>	<p>Upgrading Pier Road will address long standing safety issues between cyclists, pedestrians and vehicles while improving a key section of the Bay Trail. The \$6 million investment will create safer connections, enhance public space and improve the experience for thousands of daily foreshore users.</p>	<p>\$6m</p>
<p>St Kilda Botanical Garden Play Space Upgrade St Kilda</p>	<p>This upgrade will renew the ageing play space in line with the Play Space Strategy, Safety Audit and heritage values of the gardens. A \$2 million investment will deliver a more accessible, contemporary play environment that supports families and encourages year round community use.</p>	<p>\$2m</p>
<p>Beacon Cove Pier upgrade Port Melbourne</p>	<p>Beacon Cove's timber pier and jetty are at the end of their service life, with repeated closures impacting safety, ferry operations and emergency access. A \$1.5 million partnership investment will replace the failing structure with a modern floating pontoon, ensuring safe, reliable and long-term public use.</p>	<p>\$1.5m</p>
<p>Station Pier Linear Park Upgrade Port Melbourne</p>	<p>A modest State contribution will help upgrade Station Pier Linear Park to improve the arrival experience for cruise passengers and local visitors. Landscaping, shade planting and amenity upgrades will create a more welcoming, comfortable and functional public space.</p>	<p>\$75,000</p>

Albert Park

<p>Park Street Tram Link South Melbourne</p>	<p>Completing the missing 300 metre tram link between Heather Street and Kings Way will restore a long promised connection committed in 2018 by Rail Projects Victoria. This short extension will dramatically improve access to ANZAC Station and reduce unnecessary travel through the CBD for local commuters.</p>	<p>\$TBC</p>
<p>Cobden Place Pocket Park South Melbourne</p>	<p>Creating a new pocket park at Cobden Place will deliver much needed open space and greening consistent with the Domain Precinct Plan and Public Space Strategy. This project will transform a currently underutilised area into a welcoming, shaded community space.</p>	<p>\$TBC</p>
<p>Woodruff Oval Renewal Port Melbourne</p>	<p>Renewing Woodruff Oval will upgrade a heavily used but ageing sports field to meet contemporary standards for local clubs. A \$1.6 million investment will improve turf quality, drainage and lighting, supporting year round participation across multiple sports.</p>	<p>\$1.6m</p>
<p>Albert Park Lake Pedestrian Bridge Feasibility Study Albert Park</p>	<p>A feasibility study for reinstating the temporary pedestrian bridge over Queens Road (at Roy Street) would improve safe pedestrian access for the rapidly growing Lakeside and St Kilda Road residential community.</p>	<p>\$250k</p>
<p>Implementation of Integrated Transport Strategy for Fishermans Bend Fishermans Bend</p>	<p>We call on the Victorian Government to immediately implement the Integrated Transport Plan recommendations for Fishermans Bend backed by clear timelines, funding, and cross-agency delivery to unlock housing and jobs, improve safety, and cut congestion.</p>	<p>\$TBC</p>
<p>Renourishment at St Kilda Beach St Kilda</p>	<p>Renourishment at St Kilda beach is urgently needed to protect State owned coastal assets, stabilise accelerating erosion and maintain safe, accessible foreshore areas. St Kilda's erosion now exposes seawall foundations and threatens the Seabaths and Promenade. State investment will restore these beaches, safeguard public infrastructure and protect community use, environmental values and local tourism.</p>	<p>\$6m</p>
<p>Sandridge Boat Ramp Port Melbourne</p>	<p>Replace and upgrade the existing Life Saving Club beach access ramp to meet <i>Disability Discrimination Act</i> (DDA) standards. This will deliver safe, durable, all abilities access to the beach for club members, visitors and people with disability.</p>	<p>Funding TBC, awaiting advice from Officers.</p>

Caulfield

<p>Ripponlea Public Realm works</p> <p>Ripponlea</p>	<p>This project will improve the public realm surrounding the Adass Israel Synagogue through enhanced security and streetscape upgrades. A \$1.5 million investment will create a safer, more welcoming environment that balances community needs with integrated security design.</p>	<p>\$1.5m</p>
<p>Burnett Gray Gardens play space</p> <p>Ripponlea</p>	<p>Upgrading Ripponlea’s only play space is a critical early step in delivering the broader precinct masterplan. A \$1 million investment will revitalise this well used asset for local families and build momentum for transformation of the area.</p>	<p>\$1m</p>
<p>Alexandra Street Green Corridor</p> <p>East St Kilda</p>	<p>This project will create a connected green corridor along Alexandra Street through expanded verge plantings, tree planting and improved open space adjacent to the cemetery. A \$1.9 million investment will cool the neighbourhood, increase biodiversity and improve the pedestrian environment.</p>	<p>\$1.9m</p>
<p>Sandringham Train Line improvements</p>	<p>Improve frequencies on Sandringham Line, particularly on Sunday mornings.</p>	<p>\$TBC</p>

Brighton

<p>Elwood Foreshore Redevelopment Elwood</p>	<p>The Elwood Foreshore Redevelopment will upgrade facilities across this highly valued coastal precinct used by 12 clubs and thousands of visitors annually. A \$10 million partnership will deliver staged improvements to buildings, open spaces and access, supporting recreation, community use and climate resilience.</p>	<p>\$10m over four years</p>
<p>Broadway Bridge renewal Elwood</p>	<p>Broadway Bridge, built in 1905, requires renewal to ensure safety, functionality and protection of its heritage values. A State co contribution will support its modernisation while preserving its important local character.</p>	<p>Co-contribution for the total project cost of approx. \$4m</p>
<p>Clarke Reserve Play Space Upgrade Elwood</p>	<p>Upgrading Clarke Reserve’s play space, lighting and access will create a safer, more inclusive destination for families. The \$1.5 million investment will strengthen the reserve’s role as a key neighbourhood open space.</p>	<p>\$1.5m</p>
<p>Beach renourishment at Elwood Beach Elwood</p>	<p>Renourishment at Elwood beach is urgently needed to protect State owned coastal assets, stabilise accelerating erosion and maintain safe, accessible foreshore areas. Elwood’s collapsing sea walls risk hazardous material becoming exposed and poses pedestrian risks as the boardwalk becomes eroded. State investment will restore these beaches, safeguard public infrastructure and protect community use, environmental values and local tourism.</p>	<p>\$6m</p>

Prahan

St Kilda Primary School Hall St Kilda	A new multi purpose indoor hall will provide critical space for assemblies, performing arts, sport and community programs. A \$12.5 million investment will support student learning while opening valuable new facilities to the broader community.	\$12.5m to St Kilda Primary School
St Kilda Library Renewal St Kilda	St Kilda Library, the busiest in the municipality, requires redevelopment to meet contemporary demands for flexible, creative and accessible public spaces. A \$1.5 million contribution will support planning, design and community engagement for its long overdue renewal.	\$1.5m
Pakington Street Reserve – New Park St Kilda	Transforming three residential lots into a new neighbourhood park will deliver urgently needed open space, greening and nature-play opportunities in East St Kilda. A \$1.4 million investment will create a welcoming community asset with space for gardening, play and social connection.	\$1.4m
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