

17 April 2025

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Via email: [justin.omeara@vpa.vic.gov.au](mailto:justin.omeara@vpa.vic.gov.au)

Dear Justin

**Melton Planning Scheme Amendment C244melt | Public Consultation  
Melton East Precinct Structure Plan**

We refer to the public exhibition of Melton Planning Scheme draft Amendment C244melt (**Amendment**), relating to the *Melton East Precinct Structure Plan (Melton East PSP)* and *Melton East Infrastructure Contributions Plan*.

Detailed Submission

Melbourne Water lodged a submission with the VPA on 31 March 2025, which broadly set out its key issues in relation to the draft Amendment. To accompany that submission, Melbourne Water has prepared the **attached** tables which should be read alongside, and in addition to, its initial submission. The tables identify specific drafting changes to the exhibited Amendment material, including requested refinements to the relevant plans and text of the Melton East PSP and UGZ13 as they concern Melbourne Water's interests. The tables comprise two parts, which set out the following matters:

- Melbourne Water's response to the draft Amendment having regard to its earlier feedback to the VPA during the agency validation process; and
- other matters which have been identified by Melbourne Water during its assessment of the draft Amendment, which were not raised during the agency validation process.

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Two plans / images are also referenced in line items in the tables, and have been provided as appendices for consideration by the VPA.

As before, Melbourne Water reinforces its support for the Melton East PSP and the key issues which fall within its remit as identified during this process.

#### Retention of Urban Floodway Zone

The VPA has also sought clarification from Melbourne Water in relation to Melbourne Water's submission that the existing Urban Floodway Zone (**UFZ**), which applies to areas adjacent to Kororoit Creek, should be retained as part of the draft Amendment.

Melbourne Water does not support the wholesale removal of the UFZ as it presently applies to the Melton East precinct.

It is important at the outset to recognise Melbourne Water's role and responsibilities in relation to regional drainage, floodplain and waterway management. One of its priorities in relation to the draft Amendment is ensuring that existing flood risk is appropriately planned for and managed, particularly by maintaining the free passage and temporary storage of floodwater and minimising flood damage.

As part of its role and responsibilities, the VPA is aware that Melbourne Water is in the process of developing its draft concept drainage strategy (**Drainage Strategy**) to inform future Development Services Schemes (**DSSs**). The DSSs in this precinct will not completely manage and mitigate flood risk within areas adjoining Kororoit Creek which are prone to considerable flood risk. This is due to the Kororoit Creek flooding being linked to a larger regional catchment, which falls outside the scope of the DSS to control development flows from the local catchment. It is therefore essential that the draft Amendment operates to effectively manage flood risk in addition to, and notwithstanding, the implementation of any future DSSs.

Accordingly, areas adjoining Kororoit Creek must be appropriately zoned to reflect their corresponding flood risk. The UFZ is a comprehensive zone which is applied to land where its primary function is to convey active flood flows. It enables development and subdivision provided that it maintains the free passage and temporary storage of floodwater, minimise flood damage and is compatible with flood hazard, local drainage conditions and minimises soil erosion, sedimentation and silting.

Applying the UGZ13 to these areas would be inconsistent with their susceptibility to flooding. While the UGZ13 and PSP will contain requirements, guidelines and conditions to manage flood risk and waterway impacts, the UFZ comprises a more appropriate and effective means of managing flood risk in these high-risk areas.

### Climate change

Melbourne Water confirms that there have been recent updates in relation to its approach to the assessment of climate change scenarios in its preparation of the Drainage Strategy.

Melbourne Water is in the process of re-modelling its climate change risk scenario, and sensitivity testing is being undertaken in respect of the Drainage Strategy, which is expected to be finalised shortly. This includes application of the recently released *Australian Rainfall and Runoff Guidelines (Version 4.2)*, which will further inform this work.

Melbourne Water will endeavour to provide the VPA with a package outlining the results of the sensitivity testing against the Drainage Strategy as soon as possible, however, expects that this will be available in mid June 2025.

### Conclusion

Melbourne Water reiterates its support for the Melton East PSP and the Amendment.

Should you have any questions in respect of this matter, please contact [REDACTED] Principal Strategic Planner on [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,



[REDACTED]  
**Manager Strategic Planning**