

# Maroondah Heritage Action Plan 2021

October 2021



## Background

The *Maroondah Heritage Action Plan 2021* guides Council's role and contribution to the identification, conservation and celebration of cultural heritage over the next four years.

Maroondah's cultural heritage is derived from geology and landscape, from Aboriginal occupation, spiritual attachment and custodianship of the land for over 60,000 years and the dynamic and changing history of post-Contact settlement from the 1830s to the present day. Cultural heritage reflects Maroondah's history and social identity, contributing to a rich and distinctive sense of place.

The purpose of this Heritage Action Plan is to:

- Define cultural heritage and provide a snapshot of the current scope and state of heritage across Maroondah (including the various roles and activities of stakeholders),
- Explain the role cultural heritage plays in liveability and community wellbeing, and define its relationship to regional and local planning frameworks,
- Identify and prioritise work to meet regulatory requirements and address community needs and expectations.

## What is cultural heritage and why is it important?

The term 'cultural heritage' or 'heritage' refers to places and other heritage assets that reflect or embody valued aspects of our history and cultural identity that we wish to retain for the benefit of current and future generations.

Those aspects that hold special meaning, that is, have 'heritage significance', warrant special attention and management through legislative management frameworks to ensure their 'heritage values' are sufficiently identified, documented, and protected.

Cultural significance may change over time and with use, or as new information becomes available.<sup>1</sup> Cities are constantly evolving places and desired uses and future needs of heritage places may require buildings and their surroundings to respond and adapt to changing circumstances. Heritage values are best conserved through continued use, appreciation and enjoyment of heritage places.

In their own way, each generation contributes to the constantly evolving physical and social fabric of our community and places.

The financial and human resources put into the identification and conservation of heritage provide multiple public values and benefits, such as:

- A visible and tangible representation of history, and respect and honour for past generations and eras of development.
- A way to maintain places to which the community has deeply sentimental attachment.
- A distinctive sense of identity and cultural diversity, contribution to social inclusion and community cohesion.
- A 'marketable' liveability through diversity in urban form and a unique quality of streetscapes.

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<sup>1</sup>. Australia ICOMOS. *The Australian ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013*. Available from <https://australia.icomos.org/publications/charters/>

Front cover image: Courtesy State Library Victoria: Bill Patterson Motors, Maroondah Highway, Ringwood ; Wolfgang Sievers 1913-2007 photographer 1959

## What is Maroondah's heritage?

As set out in the Municipal Strategic Statement, Maroondah was first occupied by Aboriginal people. This was followed by European colonisation from the 1830s, though sparse suburban development only began with the coming of the railway line in the 1880s, and it was amplified by the electrification of the line in the 1920s.

The majority of suburban development, however, took place after World War II, and it is the post-war period that most strongly characterises Maroondah's residential areas and activity centres. Maroondah is characterised by the diversity of its post-World War 2 buildings, ranging from modest weatherboard homes to large integrated housing estates of brick veneer construction as well as many examples of innovative architecturally designed homes and other buildings.

Heritage encompasses both the best of every era, as well as places of historical significance that have shaped our city. It extends to all parts of the built environment, from the houses we live in, the places where we go to school, work and shop, to those where we come together for commemoration, worship and leisure. In some cases, the uses of these places have changed and the buildings adaptively reused, such as former churches and factories.

Going beyond the built environment, heritage includes natural assets like landscapes, home and market gardens and trees, and intangible heritage such as the memories of long-established families, devotion to local sporting teams, and the traditions and ceremonies that bring us together.

The community's understanding of what constitutes heritage continues to evolve and expand over time. When heritage organisations, such as the National Trust, were first formed in the 1950s they focused on protecting grand Victorian mansions.

Today, most people would agree that Edwardian and interwar-era places are also an important part of our heritage, and many appreciate post-war architecture and design as well. An example of this is the popularity of so-called Mid-Century Modern, with television shows, real estate pages, and blogs for homebuyers focused on finding and preserving the work of designers and architects from the decades just after World War II.

The importance of this post-war period of architecture for Maroondah has been recognised by the commissioning of a post-war thematic environmental history, as part of the current 'City of Maroondah Heritage Study Review'.

This document provides an understanding of the historical themes that have been most important in shaping Maroondah's physical environment since 1945. While it is a stand-alone document, it has been written to flow naturally from the previous thematic environmental history, prepared in 2003, to complete a picture of the development of the city's physical environment.

The post-war thematic environmental history has found that *while some parts of the City of Maroondah provide physical evidence dating back as far as the 1870s (eg Jenkin's Cottage in Croydon), most of the study area is strongly characterised by twentieth century development and, in the cases of areas such as Heathmont, Bayswater North, Warranwood and Croydon Hills, by post-WW2 development.*

## Maroondah's Strategic Framework



The Maroondah 2040 Community Vision forms the driving force behind all Council activities and delivery of services. Council's role in working towards the Maroondah 2040 community vision is articulated in the four year Council Plan. This Heritage Action Plan falls within Council's integrated planning framework.

### The role of Local Government in heritage conservation

In Victoria, all three levels of government - Federal, State and Local - have different roles in identifying, managing and protecting heritage places. Key Federal legislation is the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. For the State, there is the *Heritage Act 2017* (for built heritage places of State-level heritage significance), and the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (for Aboriginal material and intangible heritage).

The recognition and protection of heritage of local significance is the responsibility of municipal councils under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. This Act establishes the legal framework for Victoria's planning system, including the objectives of planning that the system must meet. Under the Act, local councils, as planning authorities, have a statutory obligation to ensure that the planning schemes 'conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value'.<sup>2</sup> They do so by undertaking heritage studies with assessments of places thought to be of heritage value. Councils use the information in these heritage studies to decide if a place's heritage significance is enough to warrant statutory protection in the municipal Heritage Overlay.

The Heritage Overlay's (HO) role is to conserve and enhance heritage places, landscape and objects and those elements which contribute to their significance, while also ensuring that development does not adversely affect this significance. Under a HO, a planning permit is required from Council, as the responsible authority, to carry out works on a place, excluding routine maintenance, repairs and some other minor works. HO's are also applied to places of State significance on the VHR, so as to signify that they have State-level protection (note that Heritage Victoria is the responsible authority for most works).

<sup>2</sup> *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, Part 1, Section 4(1)(a).

All three levels of government are guided by the internationally recognised *Burra Charter*,<sup>3</sup> which outlines key principles and standards for heritage conservation. ‘Heritage conservation’ broadly refers to all of the ways of looking after or caring for a heritage place so its significant values are retained and not lost or compromised beyond recognition over time. Conservation includes routine maintenance, repairs, good housekeeping measures, etc. As the Burra Charter sets out, conservation is based on a respect for the existing heritage fabric, use, associations and meanings contained within the heritage place. While it recommends a cautious approach of “changing as much as necessary but as little as possible”, heritage listing does not equate to a static position of no change at all. Another general principle of heritage conservation is that a building needs an appropriate use to ensure its long-term preservation. If the original use of a building has become redundant, it is often possible to sensitively adapt it to a new use, while retaining its heritage value.

## How is Maroondah’s heritage currently protected?

The primary legal tool with which Maroondah’s places of local heritage significance are protected is the Heritage Overlay (HO), which is part of the Maroondah Planning Scheme. Places that are of local heritage significance on their own can be protected with a site-specific HO, while groups of “contributory” properties can be protected together if they form a precinct of local significance. A handful also have statutory protection by inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) due to their State-level heritage significance. As of November 2019, there were almost 300 properties protected in Maroondah, of which two are in the VHR and the rest are individual HO places or are located in one of 13 HO precincts. Since that time, two new precincts and four individual places have been granted interim HO controls, and one place has received permanent HO controls.

The large majority of the HO places and precincts were assessed and recommended for protection by the 2003 ‘Maroondah Heritage Study’. For the fifteen years or so after implementation of that study, there was a relatively low level of heritage conservation-work in Maroondah, leading to a substantial list of actions in this Heritage Action Plan needed to bring Maroondah in line with standards recognised as best practice for Victorian municipalities.

There has been recent headway, however, in the identification of gaps in Heritage Overlay coverage and seeking statutory protection for those places and precincts of local heritage significance. This includes the recently implemented heritage study for the Jubilee Park area of Ringwood; a number of site-specific HOs implemented; and the ongoing ‘City of Maroondah Heritage Study Review’.

But heritage is protected not only through regulation, it relies on a broad community understanding of and support for heritage conservation. The work of local historical societies is very important to achieve this. Each owner of a heritage place that they value can be a conscious custodian whose regular maintenance and care ensures that the place is preserved for current and future generations. Council is one of these heritage place owners, with assets including municipal arts and archival collections, community buildings, monuments and gardens, and a corresponding obligation to act as an example in its custodianship.

## Why is a Heritage Action Plan necessary?

Local councils, as planning authorities, have a statutory obligation under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to ensure that their planning schemes ‘conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value’ (P&E Act, Pt 1, Sec. 4(1)(a)).

To assist councils in ensuring that they are meeting their obligations under the Act, Heritage Victoria developed a toolkit for creating municipal heritage strategies, *Municipal Heritage Strategies: A Guide for Councils* (2012). A heritage strategy is a tool for local councils to analyse and improve not just their support for local heritage, but also its identification, protection, and promotion. It documents the present state of heritage identification, protection, support, and promotion in the municipality, and provides an action plan to improve the council’s performance, thereby helping to ensure that meets its statutory obligations.

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<sup>3</sup> The Burra Charter, p2

The Heritage Strategy/Action Plan is a clear statement of Council’s commitment on heritage protection, priorities and allocation of resources.

It is also important that Council leads by example, in ensuring that all works to Council-owned or managed heritage places are approached with the same respect and care as is required of private owners.

The four key directions set out by Heritage Victoria have been used in developing this Heritage Action Plan and are set out below in relation to broader municipal strategies and directions (refer diagram below). The associated actions related to these key directions and anticipated outcomes and benefits are also provided.



Apart from meeting statutory obligations, conserving heritage places has broad benefits for the local community and economy. Many academic studies have demonstrated that heritage conservation improves people’s wellbeing by preserving and/or enhancing an environment that can holistically support their physical, mental, emotional, social, cultural, spiritual and economic needs (ICCROM, ‘Heritage and Wellbeing’, 2018).

Commercial areas that are characterised by small-scale, older buildings have been found to perform better against those with newer, larger structures in regard to a range of economic, social and environmental outcome measures. Commercial areas with a distinct and celebrated built-form character attract more creative and hospitality businesses (National Trust of America, ‘Older, Smaller, Better’, 2016).

Heritage Overlay residential precincts are often a selling point for houses to owners who appreciate these well-preserved pockets of period dwellings.

## Council's heritage vision

This vision statement is the anchor point of the *Maroondah Heritage Action Plan*. It is a declaration of Council's overarching objectives in relation to cultural heritage.

## A vision for Maroondah's heritage

The City of Maroondah will become an example of best-practice heritage conservation. Heritage places of diverse types and eras are valued and celebrated in Maroondah. Council understands the values of the local community and the needs of heritage-place owners and supports them effectively and efficiently. Council values heritage and integrates it into all planning and decision-making, thereby harnessing its power to enhance sense of place, increasing the desirability of Maroondah's suburbs as locations to live, work and play.

Council's policies on which the Heritage Vision is based, and the challenges that remain in meeting it, are set out in the following section.

## Strategy context

### Policy basis

As discussed above, while the *Heritage Act 2017* legislates that State bodies Heritage Victoria and the Heritage Council of Victoria are responsible for recording and managing places significant to the State of Victoria, the majority of heritage places are the remit of municipal councils.

The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* sets as a statutory obligation for each municipal council: *'to conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or other of specific cultural value'*.

This statutory obligation is reflected in the City of Maroondah's planning scheme policies and strategic documents, including:

#### ***Maroondah 2040: Our future together (updated June 2020)***

*Vision: A vibrant and culturally rich community*

3.4 Celebrate, promote and recognise indigenous culture through the arts to facilitate enhanced community respect, understanding and reconciliation.

3.6 Celebrate the local history, diversity, arts and produce of our community through a range of festivals, events programs and activities.

3.7 Celebrate, value and recognise local history to facilitate enhanced community understanding and a broader appreciation of cultural heritage.

*Vision: An attractive, thriving and well-built community*

6.5 Develop and implement an urban environment that enhances the desirable attributes of Maroondah to protect and value neighbourhood character, local history and cultural heritage.

6.7 Coordinate and advocate for the increased utilisation, longevity and availability of fit for purpose community facilities and spaces that meet local needs and act as key places for neighbourhood connection.

*Vision: An inclusive and diverse community*

7.11 Support and celebrate the unique cultural diversity, heritage and languages of communities in Maroondah.

7.12 Acknowledge, recognise, value and support our indigenous heritage, culture and communities.

## **Maroondah City Council Council Plan 2017-2021 (2020/21 update)**

### *Vision: A vibrant and culturally rich community*

3.3 Work in partnership to facilitate pop up events, local art installations and public art that celebrates the unique characteristics of Maroondah to enliven thriving neighbourhoods and vibrant activity centres.

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3.7 Celebrate, value and recognise local history to facilitate enhanced community understanding and a broader appreciation of cultural heritage.

### *Vision: A thriving and well built community*

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6.7 Coordinate and advocate for the increased utilisation, longevity and availability of fit for purpose community facilities and spaces that meet local needs and act as key places for neighbourhood connection.

## **The Places We Live: Maroondah Housing Strategy 2016**

3.1 Review, evaluate, reaffirm and enhance the existing commitment to areas of special environmental quality in Maroondah.

3.1b Review Neighbourhood Character elements, including heritage, of the Jubilee Park area.

## **Maroondah Planning Scheme**

### *Clause 21.04 Heritage*

Objective 1: To identify and plan for the future protection, enhancement and appropriate use of heritage places in Maroondah.

Objective 2: To appropriately manage heritage resources, in order to preserve their historic integrity.

Objective 3: To promote heritage values throughout the municipality.

### *Clause 21.06 Built Form and Urban Design:*

While the urban character of Maroondah has historically been influenced by individual dwelling design, varied building setbacks and the extensive use of vegetation, there is a trend within the current urban environment for standardised design and the removal of individual urban character.

## **Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre Masterplan 2018**

### *Objective 2.3: To continue to protect and promote the historical features of Ringwood MAC.*

Strategy: Continue Council's Heritage Review to complement the heritage significance of sites within Ringwood MAC.

The heritage buildings and places identified in the Maroondah Planning Scheme require specific consideration in the design and development of land adjoining these places. The connection of these heritage items and their ongoing relationship in the context of new development in the MAC requires consideration through specific design provisions and built form outcomes.



## **Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020 – 2025**

The *Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025* notes the importance of place and story in ways that we believe are relevant to the Heritage Action Plan:

“Our sense of place is linked to our understanding of our environment and where we have come from. For more than 60,000 years the people of the Kulin nation have been the traditional owners of the area. Today, Maroondah is also home to Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place, which brings together community members from across the eastern region who have diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories.”

There are many other histories and stories associated with Maroondah, and cultural diversity is increasing with newly arriving communities including the largest Burmese community in Melbourne’s eastern region. Arts and culture can provide inspiring and transformative ways of raising awareness and building appreciation of all our peoples.

### *Maroondah Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020 – 2025:*

1.5 Work in partnership with Indigenous artists and communities including Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place, on Indigenous-led arts projects which engage and connect across the broader community and support First Nations artists

1.6 Deliver innovative projects and exhibitions that explore issues, interests and values of importance to the Maroondah community such as the environment and cultural heritage

2.2 Explore opportunities to ensure that the Croydon Community Precinct and adjacent areas including Tarralla Creek include facilities and a programming model which celebrates cultural heritage and supports arts and cultural activation

2.7 Develop and extend the arts trail strategy – including Maroondah Art Trail and the Ringwood Urban Art Tour, and introduce a Croydon public art and heritage trail to promote local artists and showcase the unique character of areas within Maroondah, their communities and stories

3.5 Build a greater understanding of the visitor economy in Maroondah to inform the development of potential key cultural attractions and to strengthen effective marketing for the arts in Maroondah

3.9 Develop programming and promotional links between locally based arts product and broader metropolitan festivals and arts initiatives.

## **Challenges**

In recent years, Council has been increasingly identifying and protecting heritage places acknowledging that more work is required to help realise the Heritage Vision. This includes ensuring that Council meets best practice benchmarks in its ongoing identification, protection and management of heritage places. There is also a need to improve the wider community’s understanding and appreciation of heritage and statutory controls. Accordingly, this Heritage Action Plan sets out a clear pathway to overcome the current challenges and outlines the benefits of doing so.

## Strategic Objectives and Goals

The key strategic directions and goals to meet Council's Heritage Vision are summarised in the table below.

Strategic Objective	Goals
<p>1. <b>Knowing:</b> Identify and assess a broad range of heritage place-types, from across the municipality, which best illustrate the principal periods of development and important activities that shaped the City.</p>	<p>Once the reasons for a place's significance are assessed and understood, they will be communicated to owners and the wider community, and be used to guide sympathetic change.</p> <p>Property owners and potential purchasers will know the constraints and opportunities for development of certain properties or neighbourhoods, and have confidence that future ad-hoc introduction of new Heritage Overlay controls is unlikely.</p> <p>Council will avoid the expense and stress of ad-hoc assessment of threatened heritage places and planning scheme amendment to add single places to the Heritage Overlay.</p> <p>Heritage-related issues will be solved constructively with developers at the beginning of the planning application process.</p>
<p>2. <b>Protecting:</b> Places of confirmed local heritage significance will be safeguarded through statutory controls.</p>	<p>Investment of resources into the 'City of Maroondah Heritage Study Review' will be optimised by ensuring that all disputed HO listings can be considered at a single planning panel hearing, and none are demolished before this happens. There are substantial savings in costs and Council time in comparison with applying for emergency protection (an interim HO) and requesting multiple panel hearings for individual properties.</p> <p>The Planning Policy Framework translation will not weaken protection of Maroondah's heritage places. The upcoming Planning Scheme Review will serve as an opportunity to reconsider Maroondah's heritage-related policies and look to newly established best practice so the process enhances the correctness and effectiveness of Maroondah's heritage protection.</p>
<p>3. <b>Supporting:</b> The ongoing use and conservation of heritage places will be supported by Council policies and programs.</p> <p>Conservation of heritage places is integrated into innovative and sustainable solutions to urban design that preserves and enhances a sense of place.</p>	<p>Integration of heritage issues at the start of planning major urban designs or guidelines will ensure that the final design is enriched by the presence of heritage elements, instead of undermined when heritage issues are introduced at the end.</p> <p>Conservation of heritage places will contribute to the preservation and enhancement of a sense of place and individual character in Maroondah's neighbourhoods and activity centres.</p>
<p>4. <b>Communicating, promoting and celebrating:</b> The nature and importance of Maroondah's heritage places is well understood and appreciated by property owners and the wider community.</p> <p>Council and owners of heritage places have a clear understanding of</p>	<p>Heritage place owners and the wider community will have a greater appreciation for Maroondah's heritage, including post-war heritage, and the need to protect it. Council will capitalise on the current widespread appreciation of mid-century heritage by showcasing its own examples.</p> <p>Heritage place owners will have a clear understanding of heritage controls, and also form a relationship with Council staff enhancing ongoing communication.</p>

<p>statutory controls and their responsibilities.</p>	<p>Council will have a good understanding of the needs of heritage place owners and Council will tailor educational actions to this.</p> <p>Council will understand heritage controls and the importance that Council leads by example. Heritage issues will be a key part of decision-making.</p> <p>Recognition of cultural capital, in the form of heritage places, will nurture an existing sense of place and create places that people want to live in and visit. This in turn will generate cultural and economic activity, particularly creative businesses and services that gravitate to small-scale buildings in visually interesting areas.</p> <p>As part of the promotion and celebration of heritage, Council has a role in the identification and engagement with the community on the intangible aspects of heritage (such as person histories, storytelling, cultural histories). The implementation of these initiatives are closely linked to the key Directions within the <i>Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025</i> in particular inclusion of Aboriginal/indigenous heritage and history, promoting local stories through arts, potential cultural tourism. Further initiatives include development and promotion of heritage trails; enhancement of Council's website heritage resources; investigation of ways to further promote Maroondah's cultural assets,</p>
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The key goals will be to educate about Maroondah's distinctive heritage, learn what the community values and how well they understand heritage controls, and find out those areas in which they need the most support. The engagement will target the wider community (with an emphasis on HO-property owners and heritage groups) as well as Council departments that deal with heritage places (both planning and asset management).

An approach will also be tailored for engaging with the Aboriginal community to understand the places they value and the approach they consider appropriate for those places. This will be developed in cooperation with relevant stakeholders within Council and the Victorian Government.

The outcome of this community engagement will be a better understanding and appreciation of heritage by the community and Council, as well as clarity about the greatest needs to support those who own and manage heritage places.

This will enable Council to refine and prioritise the four years of the Heritage Action Plan, with the aim of meeting or exceeding standards of best-practice and in this way enriching Maroondah's cultural and urban-form resources.

The preparation and implementation of a community engagement plan on heritage matters will further assist in establishing a dialogue with the community and building a solid foundation for implementation of the 'City of Maroondah Heritage Study Review' - Stage 2.

# Action Plan

The actions required to implement the key strategic directions and goals are set out in the table below. These are spread across the four years of the action plan. High priority actions have been shaded.

Strategic Objective	No	Actions	Responsible	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
Knowing	1	Complete the Heritage Study Review to ensure the City has an excellent knowledge of the broad range of post-contact heritage places across the municipality, and that gaps in place-types and eras have been identified and addressed.	Integrated Planning	X	X		
	2	Consult with the community and work collaboratively with local historical societies and other key community groups to identify and document ongoing gaps in heritage significance as they arise and promote Maroondah's heritage more broadly.  Further facilitate community consultation prior to initiating gap studies to identify places of importance to the community.	Integrated Planning	X	X	X	X
	3	Engage specialist heritage advice to undertake a preliminary review of the City's collection of civic objects to form an opinion regarding potential future conservation and management needs (if any). Investigate any potential sources of external funding to complete this action.	Arts & Cultural Development				
	4	Review the recommendations of the study <i>Local Government &amp; Cultural Collections in Victoria</i> (Museums Australia Victoria, 2016) to identify potential gaps in	Arts & Cultural Development				

Strategic Objective	No	Actions	Responsible	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
		identification and future actions (if any).					
Protecting	5	Once completed, implement the recommendations of the Heritage Study Review, ensuring that those places of heritage significance are appropriately protected during the consultation phase of implementation.	Integrated Planning	X	X	X	X
	6	Continue work with the heritage advisor to review and prepared updated planning scheme heritage policies. Ensure alignment with the Planning Policy Framework translation process.  As part of the Planning Scheme Review further investigate mechanisms to guide development on properties adjoining heritage places.	Integrated Planning	X	X		
	7	Work with Council's Heritage Advisor to audit the correctness and quality of existing heritage overlay citations and statements of significance. Prioritise places for updating.	Integrated Planning		X	X	
	8	Make minor corrections to the Heritage Overlay Schedule and HERMES database as issues become known.	Integrated Planning	X	X	X	X
	9	Re-organise e-clip and electronic folders and develop procedures for citation management and updating to better align with heritage program needs and comply with best practice statutory records management.	Integrated Planning		X		

Strategic Objective	No	Actions	Responsible	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
	10	Develop and formalise an internal procedure for Section 29A of <i>Building Act 1993</i> referrals. Prepare an information sheet for owners of identified potential heritage properties to provide them with an understanding and clarity of the Section 29A referral process.	Integrated Planning Stat Planning Building  Comms & Engagement	X	X		
	11	Consider the need for identifying additional exemptions for planning permits associated with heritage places.	Integrated Planning Stat. Planning	X	X		
	12	Review and update where necessary the City's Standard Planning Permit Conditions relating to heritage decisions and development control.	Integrated Planning Stat. Planning	X	X		
Supporting	13	Develop heritage design guidelines for heritage places (to be objective-driven and performance-based versus mandatory controls) for inclusion in Clause 43.01-6 of the Maroondah Planning Scheme.	Integrated Planning	X	X		
	14	Identify general heritage guidelines to assist landowners and property developers.	Integrated Planning	X	X		
	15	Support the operation of the Maroondah Heritage Reference Group.	Integrated Planning	X	X	X	X
	16	Better promote the availability of Heritage Victoria grants to qualifying heritage owners.	Integrated Planning Arts & Cultural Development	X	X	X	X
	17	Review and update (where necessary) heritage	Integrated Planning	X	X		

Strategic Objective	No	Actions	Responsible	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
		citations for Council owned/managed places. Identify priorities for the preparation of Conservation Management Plans (where required).	Assets				
	18	Develop an integrated database of Council's heritage assets noting the level of heritage protection; reasons for significance; any cultural management plans and maintenance plans. Facilitate the integration of the database as part of the Council's Assets Department's internal process.	Integrated Planning Assets	X			
	19	Commission a report for each of Council's built heritage assets that itemises the original and replacement building fabric, assesses the relative significance of spaces and parts of the building, and sets out a cyclical maintenance plan to ensure the preservation of original fabric while avoiding the need for large-scale renovation works. Implement cyclical maintenance plans for Council's heritage assets.	Integrated Planning Assets	X	X	X	X
Communicating, promoting & celebrating	20	Carry out an engagement program, directed at heritage place owners, and the wider community. The aims of the program are to gauge understanding of heritage controls, provide information on why Maroondah's heritage should be celebrated, and provide information on how heritage controls work. From data gathered, consider priority issues and	Integrated Planning Comms & Engagement Arts & Cultural Development	X	X	X	X

Strategic Objective	No	Actions	Responsible	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25
		actions to help resolve issues. The engagement program is to be integrated with sharing and celebrating the stories and themes drawn out by the post-war thematic environmental history (prepared as part of the heritage gap study).					
	21	Engage with Council Departments (Statutory Planning, Building, Engineering, Assets, Arts & Cultural Development) and local historical and heritage groups to identify the required assistance from Council's Heritage Advisor. Further ensure that appropriate heritage advice is obtained early in the planning for projects that will directly or indirectly impact on heritage places.	Integrated Planning	X	X	X	X



# Tracking our progress

Responsibility for reviewing and monitoring of the *Heritage Action Plan* will be overseen by Council's Integrated Planning Department. The implementation of actions will rest with the relevant department, set out in the Action Plan, and be subject to future operational budgets for Council's consideration.

The *Heritage Action Plan* will be monitored annually. This monitoring will consider Council's business plans and initiatives to support priority heritage projects.

A full review is intended to occur every four years in line with the review of the Council Plan.

The success of the heritage program will be measured by reviewing the following indicators:

- Implementation of the Heritage Study Review in a single amendment process
- Participation in heritage events
- Feedback on heritage programs
- Extent of places protected
- Case studies on successful restorations and conservation process
- Positive and productive partnerships with key stakeholders
- A clear inventory of heritage objects and places in use by appropriate Council departments
- Up-to-date and correct HERMES database entries for Maroondah's heritage places
- Section 29A Referral process established
- Heritage guidance available in the Maroondah Planning Scheme, and in reference documents for use by Council officers and Heritage Overlay property owners
- Investigate and liaise with other Council departments to identify further improvements on standard process on consultation with local heritage groups in order to facilitate consideration of heritage matters in an integrated decision-making process
- Measures on the levels of community satisfaction and enjoyment of heritage places.

# Glossary of Terms

**MSS:** refers to the Municipal Strategic Statement as set out in Maroondah Planning Scheme.  
<https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/schemes-and-amendments/browse-planning-scheme/planning-scheme?f.Scheme%7CplanningSchemeName=Maroondah>

(Please note that Amendment VC148 to the Victorian Planning Provisions (VPP) introduced the structure and framework of the Planning Policy Framework 'PPF' but it did not translate the local planning policy into the framework. The next step in the PPF translation will be the removal of the Local Planning Framework and integration into a combined Planning Policy Framework that includes State, regional and local policy.)

**Burra Charter:** The Burra Charter: Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013 (Burra Charter) and the associated series of Practice Notes provide a best practice standard for managing cultural heritage places in Australia.

**Hermes:** Refers to Heritage Management electronic system

Thematic Environmental History:

A Thematic Environmental History sets out the key themes that have influenced the historical development of the municipality. It is meant to explain how and why the municipality or study area looks like it does today. (*Heritage Victoria Model Consultants Brief for Heritage Studies*, January 2010 and *Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter*, 1999.)

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