



Department of Transport and Planning

25 October 2024

Sarah Raso
Lead Chair
Activity Centres Standing Advisory Committee
Planning Panels Victoria
planning.panels@transport.vic.gov.au

Dear Sarah,

Referral No. 11: Activity Centres Program - Ringwood Activity Centre Plan Referral to the Activity Centres Standing Advisory Committee

I refer to planning matters that form part of the Activity Centres Program (ACP), an initiative from *Victoria's Housing Statement, The decade ahead, 2024-2034*.

This referral relates specifically to the Ringwood Activity Centre Plan. The Ringwood Activity Centre Plan will be implemented through a forthcoming Planning Scheme Amendment to introduce new planning controls for the activity centre.

Background

The Activity Centres program is included in the Victorian Government's Housing Statement and seeks to deliver an additional 60,000 homes around an initial 10 activity centres across Melbourne. The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) is leading the Activity Centres Program in partnership with the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA).

The Ringwood Activity Centre plan has been prepared by the VPA on behalf of DTP and will enable delivery of approximately 8,200 – 12,200 dwellings in proximity to established jobs, services and public transport.

On 22 August 2024, the Minister for Planning appointed the Activity Centres Standing Advisory Committee (the Committee) to provide consistent advice for activity centre planning and outcomes in relation to the Activity Centres Program in a transparent, timely and cost-efficient process on any matter referred to it.

Between 22 August and 29 September 2024, DTP and the VPA undertook public consultation for the Ringwood Activity Centre plan. The project has generated significant community interest and a total of 1001 submissions, including survey responses (numeric and free text), in-person feedback at consultation events, and written submissions were received for the Ringwood activity centre. Responses were received from current and potential future residents, businesses, government agencies, authorities, community groups, members of the development industry, and from the Cities of Maroondah, Manningham and Whitehorse.

A summary of the targeted engagement undertaken and analysis of the matters raised following the targeted engagement; and changes proposed to the Ringwood Activity Centre plan in response to these submissions; is included with the referral of documentation.

Referral

In accordance with Clause 14 of your Terms of Reference (August 2024), and delegation provided to me, I have determined to seek advice and recommendations from the Committee on activity centre planning matters. Only select submissions received during consultation which are relevant to the matters listed in the table below are being referred to the Committee. The Committee's advice is only sought on the matters listed in the table below.

MATTER	ADVICE TO BE PROVIDED
Catchment boundary extent	Having regard to the advice sought on the catchment boundary in the common matters (Referral 2), please advise if the recommended change to the extent of the proposed catchment boundary for Ringwood is consistent with the intended purpose.

In accordance with Clause 12 of your Terms of Reference, the Committee must conduct its work with a view to maximising efficiency and timelines. As such, I look forward to the Committee providing its report to the Minister for Planning no later than 10 business days from receipt of this referral, in accordance with Clause 18 of the Terms of Reference.

Please find enclosed the supporting documents required by Clause 15 of the terms of reference.

If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Stefan Bettiol, Planning Manager at the Department of Transport and Planning.

Yours sincerely,



Natalie Reiter
Deputy Secretary Strategy & Precincts
Department of Transport and Planning

Encl. The following referral documents have been shared with you electronically:

- Att A: Report addressing matters
- Att B: Urban Design Draft Background Summary Report
- Att C: Urban Design Draft Background Summary Report (Engagement version)
- Att D: City of Centres Report
- Att E: Ringwood Draft Activity Centre Plan
- Att F: Submissions
- Att G: Document list

cc. Stuart Moseley, CEO, Victorian Planning Authority
Emily Mottram, Executive Director - Activity Centres, Department of Transport and Planning