



## Melbourne Water: Our Space, Your Place

Legislative Assembly Environment & Planning Committee Inquiry

12 May 2021



## Introduction

Melbourne Water welcomes the opportunity to present its submission to this **Parliamentary Inquiry into Environmental Infrastructure for Growing Populations**

Our presenters

- Gavan O'Neill, General Manager Customer & Strategy
- Greg Bain, Manager Land & Collaborative Planning

Supported by

- Robert Yurisch, Team Leader Bulk Water Allocation
- Neil Featonby, Asset Practitioner Stream Naturalisation
- Matilda Manning, Senior Projects Officer
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Presentation format today

- Contextual information
- Melbourne Water's submission
- Case studies

## Context

## Enhancing Life & Liveability



Melbourne Water makes a vital contribution to the famous Melbourne lifestyle by:  
underpinning human health | enhancing community wellbeing | supporting economic growth | balancing the natural and manufactured environment



**Healthy People**

Strengthening the wellbeing of the community.



**Healthy Places**

Co-creating the world's most desirable places to live.



**Healthy Environment**

Enhancing the natural environment.

Helping to make greater Melbourne a fantastic place to live.

## Melbourne Water's operating area



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## Challenges we face

**Melbourne Water faces a number of challenges in the continued delivery of our highly valued services**

To remain one of the world's most liveable cities we need to embrace the challenges of:

- a growing city
- increasing urbanisation
- climate change
- evolving customer expectations
- a changing economy



*Litter trap in Yarra River*



*Flinders Street – rainy day*



*High density development in Melbourne*



*Dry grass*

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## Challenges we face

**Melbourne Water has been undertaking scenario planning of the potential changes in water demand under various climate and vegetation scenarios for our region, using different water sources.**

This work suggests that due to growth and climate change Melbourne's greening demands could potentially double by 2050.



*Photo: Malcolm Creek, Central Park Estate - established wetland*

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## Melbourne Water's submission

## Melbourne Water's submission

### Melbourne Water contributes to liveability, enhancing the connection to nature and recreational opportunities

- Contribution of the water sector to the liveability of our cities and regions through the delivery of essential water and sewerage services
- Water supply impacts covering catchment management challenges and urban greening and water supply demand
- Healthy Waterways Strategy - providing cooler, greener urban places, supporting public health and wellbeing



*Maribyrnong River at Footscray Park*



*Moonee Ponds Creek revegetation*



*Dandenong Creek*

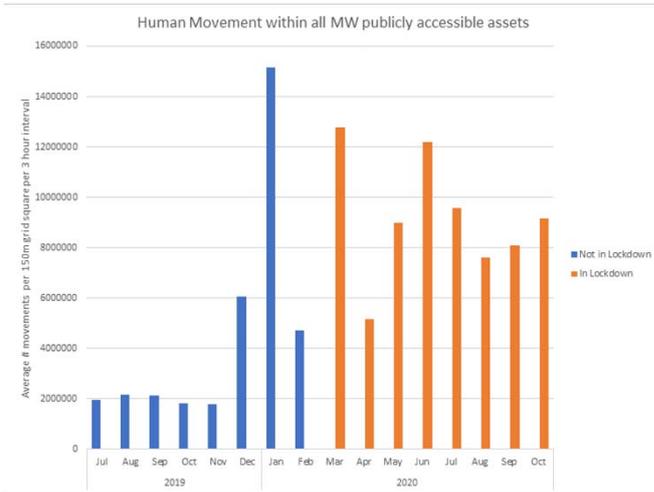


*Western Treatment Plant – bird watching*

## Melbourne Water's contribution

The following section provides examples of Melbourne Water's key programs responding to population pressure and provide environmental infrastructure.

## Community use of Melbourne Water land during lockdown



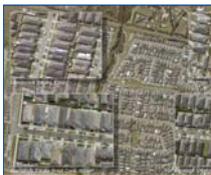
Graph One: human movements on Melbourne Water publicly accessible sites during Covid-19 lockdown



Examples of publicly accessible Melbourne Water assets during lockdown

## Focus on liveability outcomes for community

### Population growth & urban densification



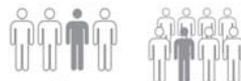
Less open space per capita

### Climate change



Heat Waves & Urban Heat Island Effect

### Health of the community



Depression



Loneliness/ Isolation



Physical Inactivity



Obesity

### Obligations



Social and recreational uses of waterways and land

### Customer priorities



Exercising, relaxing, escapism

Reliance and focus on waterway corridors & public land for public open space

## Case Studies

### Greening the Pipeline



### Reimagining Your Creek Program

Arnolds Creek



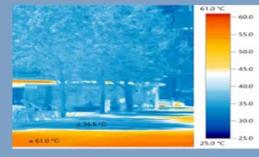
Blind Creek



Tarralla Creek



### Urban Cooling Program



## Enabling our future vision

### Integrated Water Management



Recreation and open spaces



Urban greening & cooling



Co-designing with community

## Questions