

Parliamentary Assembly Inquiry: Securing Victoria's Food Supply

Joint submission

Department of Transport and Planning

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Department
of Transport
and Planning



Energy,
Environment
and Climate Action

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Agricultural land and Victoria's planning system



Victoria Planning Provisions (extract)

14.01-1S
2019/2023
VC229

Protection of agricultural land

Objective

To protect the state's agricultural base by preserving productive farmland.

Strategies

Identify areas of productive agricultural land, including land for primary production and intensive agriculture.

Consider state, regional and local, issues and characteristics when assessing agricultural quality and productivity.

Avoid permanent removal of productive agricultural land from the state's agricultural base without consideration of the economic importance of the land for the agricultural production and processing sectors.

Protect productive farmland that is of strategic significance in the local or regional context.

Protect productive agricultural land from unplanned loss due to permanent changes in land use.

Prevent inappropriately dispersed urban activities in rural areas.

Protect strategically important agricultural and primary production land from incompatible uses.

Limit new housing development in rural areas by:

- Directing housing growth into existing settlements.
- Discouraging development of isolated small lots in the rural zones from use for dwellings or other incompatible uses.
- Encouraging consolidation of existing isolated small lots in rural zones.

Identify areas of productive agricultural land by consulting with the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action and using available information.

In considering a proposal to use, subdivide or develop agricultural land, consider the:

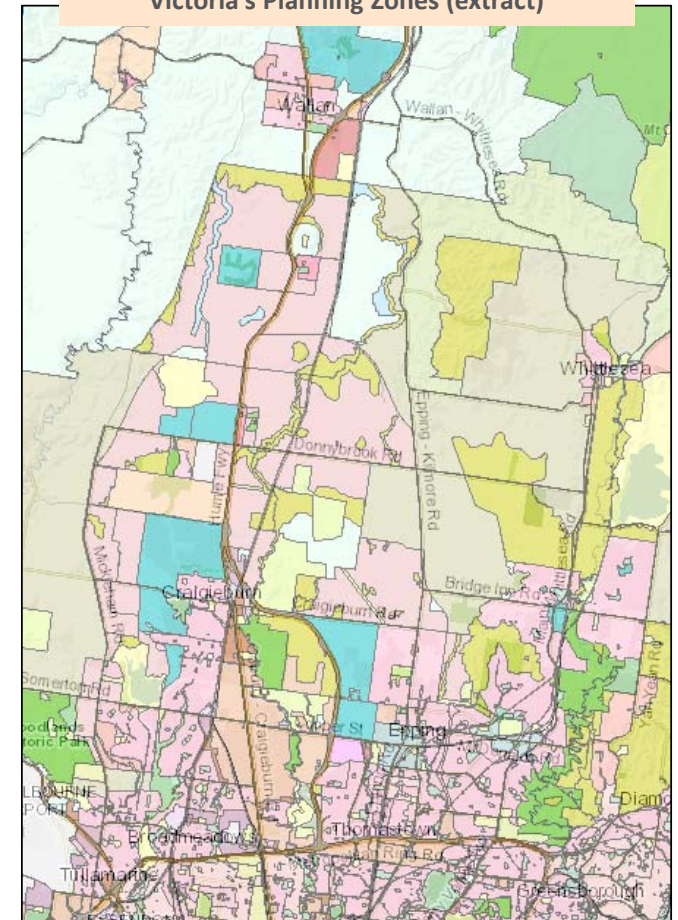
- Desirability and impacts of removing the land from primary production, given its agricultural productivity.
- Impacts on the continuation of primary production on adjacent land, with particular regard to land values and the viability of infrastructure for such production.
- Compatibility between the proposed or likely development and the existing use of the surrounding land.
- The potential impacts of land use and development on the spread of plant and animal pests from areas of known infestation into agricultural areas.
- Land capability.

Avoid the subdivision of productive agricultural land from diminishing the long-term productive capacity of the land.

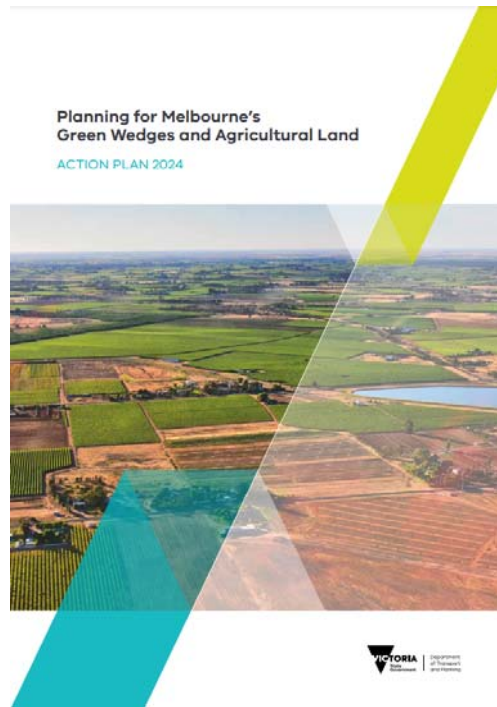
Give priority to the re-structure of inappropriate subdivisions where they exist on productive agricultural land.

Balance the potential off-site effects of a use or development proposal (such as degradation of soil or water quality and land salinisation) against the benefits of the proposal.

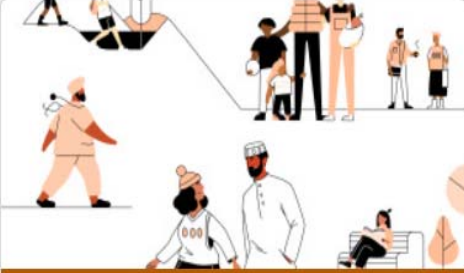
Victoria's Planning Zones (extract)



DTP's policy program



Forthcoming Plan for Victoria



Help us shape the future for Victoria

We're reimagining the future of our cities, suburbs, towns and regions

OPEN FOR FEEDBACK

CLOSES IN 2 MONTHS

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Agriculture Strategy for Victoria



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RECOVER



Recover from the impacts of drought, bushfires and the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and become an engine of growth for the rest of the economy.

GROW



Grow the value and output of agriculture through increased exports, investment, greater diversification and new products.

MODERNISE



Modernise Victorian agriculture through innovation, investment and future skills.

PROTECT



Protect and enhance the future of agriculture by ensuring it is well-placed to respond to climate change, pests, weeds, disease and increased resource scarcity.

PROMOTE



Promote and build confidence in the sector to international markets and the community.