

IMAGINE MONASH IN 2040:

our
community
vision





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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Monash Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of this land, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong People, and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waterways. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend this to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

CONTEXT

The Community Vision is drafted to reflect aspirations shared by all parts of the Monash community through the engagement processes facilitated by Council.

Where possible, the words are directly from the community participants, and where not, the content reflects their passion and input.

A *Community Vision* is a legislative document that all Victorian councils must develop in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020. It must have at least a ten year outlook.

The vision is developed through a process of community engagement. Essentially, it is the community's vision, however, it must also be used by Council in shaping its decision-making to respond to the community's long-term aspirational needs. Council's role in helping the community reach its vision over the next four years is articulated in the Council Plan 2025-2029.

The Monash Community Vision includes a vision statement, six themes, and related principles.

Community engagement overview

In 2024, the broader community and members of Council's Advisory Committees reviewed and assessed whether the existing Monash's 2040 Community Vision still reflected the aspirations and needs of its community.

There was strong support for retaining the vision statement that 'Monash is the most liveable city in Victoria'. However, more than half of the respondents wanted some changes to the details under each theme in the Community Vision. As a result, the themes have been revised to reflect changing community aspirations.

➤ Stage one - community engagement:



Advisory Committees:

- 8 Committees
- 58 members
- Meetings held between 3 June and 18 July 2024



Shape Monash survey:

- 160 respondents
- Survey open 14 May - 14 July 2024



Listening posts:

- 237 respondents
- Conducted between 1 June - 10 July 2024

INTEGRATED PLANNING

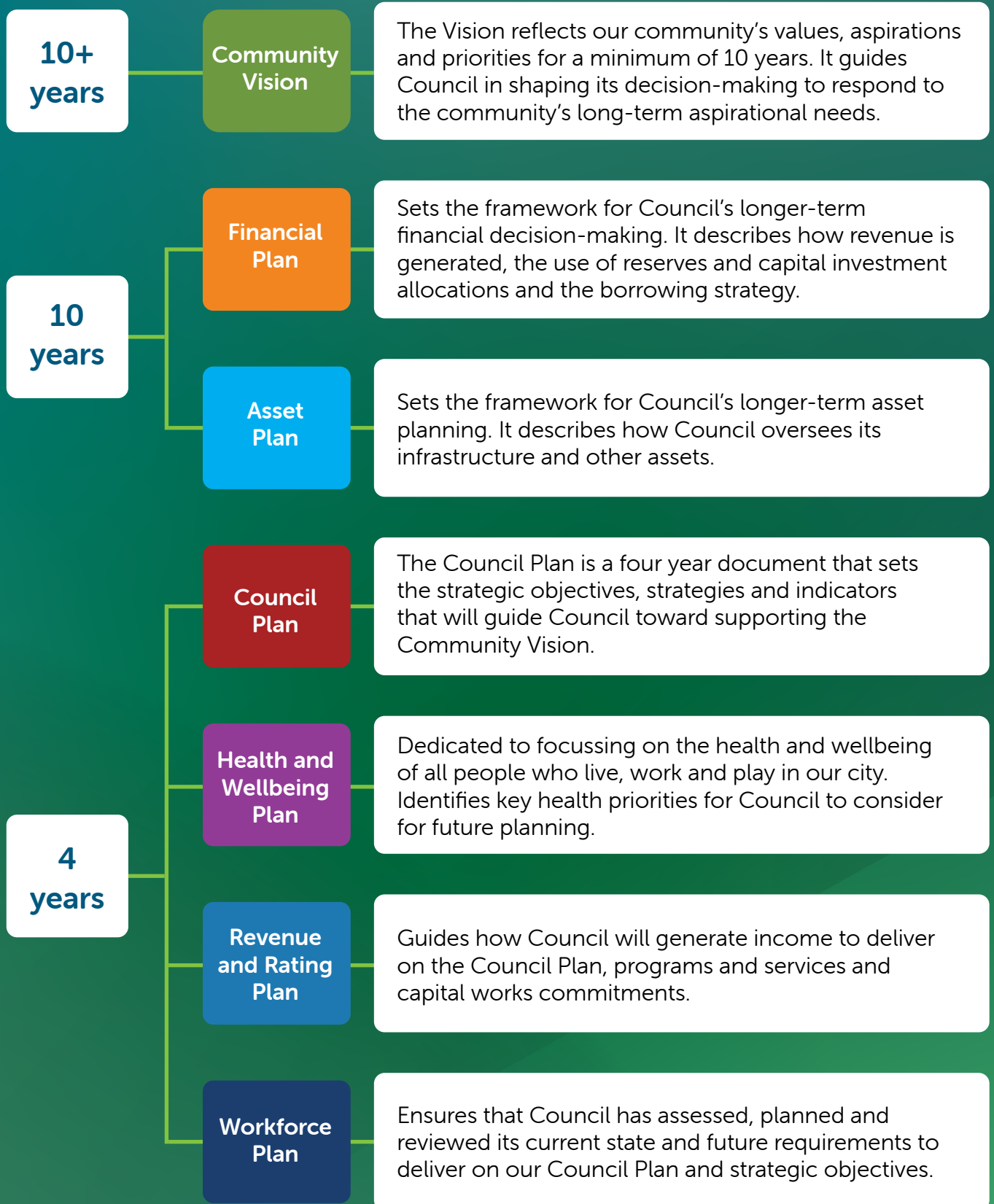
Imagine Monash in 2040: our community vision has been developed in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 which requires councils to ensure strategic planning is more integrated, transparent and focused on delivering outcomes for the community.

The 'Act' requires councils to develop strategic documents that are informed by deliberative community engagement and meet the requirements of the Community Vision.

The diagram below demonstrates how the plans work together to provide clear direction for our organisation, ensure services and projects are strategically aligned and delivering value for money, as well as helping to ensure we delivery on our commitments to the community.



Relationships between the integrated plans



OUR VISION

BY 2040, MONASH IS THE MOST LIVEABLE CITY IN VICTORIA.

➤ Monash is a city that gives more than it takes. It:

- » Shares its surplus
- » Thrives through its rich diversity
- » Empowers its citizens to live healthy, connected lives
- » Nurtures innovation and prioritises sustainability, and
- » Is a liveable place where we all belong.



SIX THEMES

are key catalysts to support achieving the vision, these are:

1

A sustainable future

2

A vibrant and leafy city

3

Easy to get around

4

Services in my neighbourhood

5

A strong sense of community

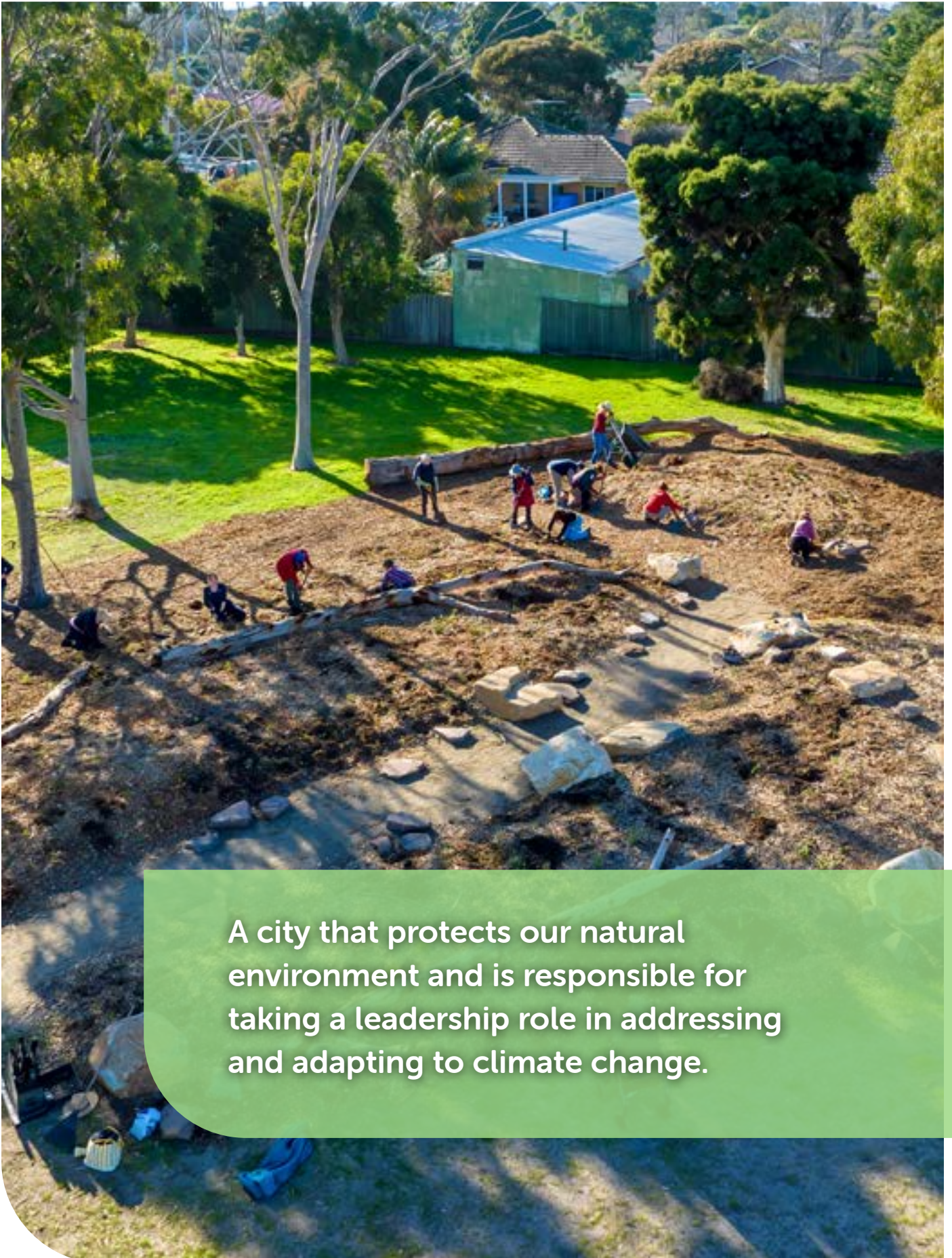
6

An engaged community



1

A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



A city that protects our natural environment and is responsible for taking a leadership role in addressing and adapting to climate change.

This includes:

- » Addressing climate change by reducing greenhouse gasses and the impact of the heat-island effects locally
- » Reducing and responsible management of our waste
- » Improving biodiversity and reducing pollution.
- » Improving building design such as houses.

Principles

- » Focus on being a thought leader in sustainability and environmental outcomes including considering technological advancement and urban planning. We support setting ambitious environmental targets and adopt best practice.
- » We support the prioritisation of environmentally responsible sustainable outcomes and projects to help respond to climate change impacts.
- » We want to address and lead in sustainable practices including addressing climate change, reducing greenhouse gases, and the heat-island effect. We value incorporating environmentally sustainable building design, improving biodiversity and reducing pollution, and reducing and recycling waste.
- » Our community connects with nature.

Our community said:

"Planning for environmentally friendly housing. More green spaces, more trees, more electric cars more solar panelling, ensuring residents maintain their properties"

"Well designed and integrated developments with strong emphasis on sustainability (less energy use, less waste generation) and biodiversity (green roofs, green walls, native planting)"

"Council should access energy from only renewable energy. Council provides initiatives and support for residential to reach be zero emissions. Council encourages residents to plants trees and encourage them take care of parks. Many Monash parks have no/limited vegetation"

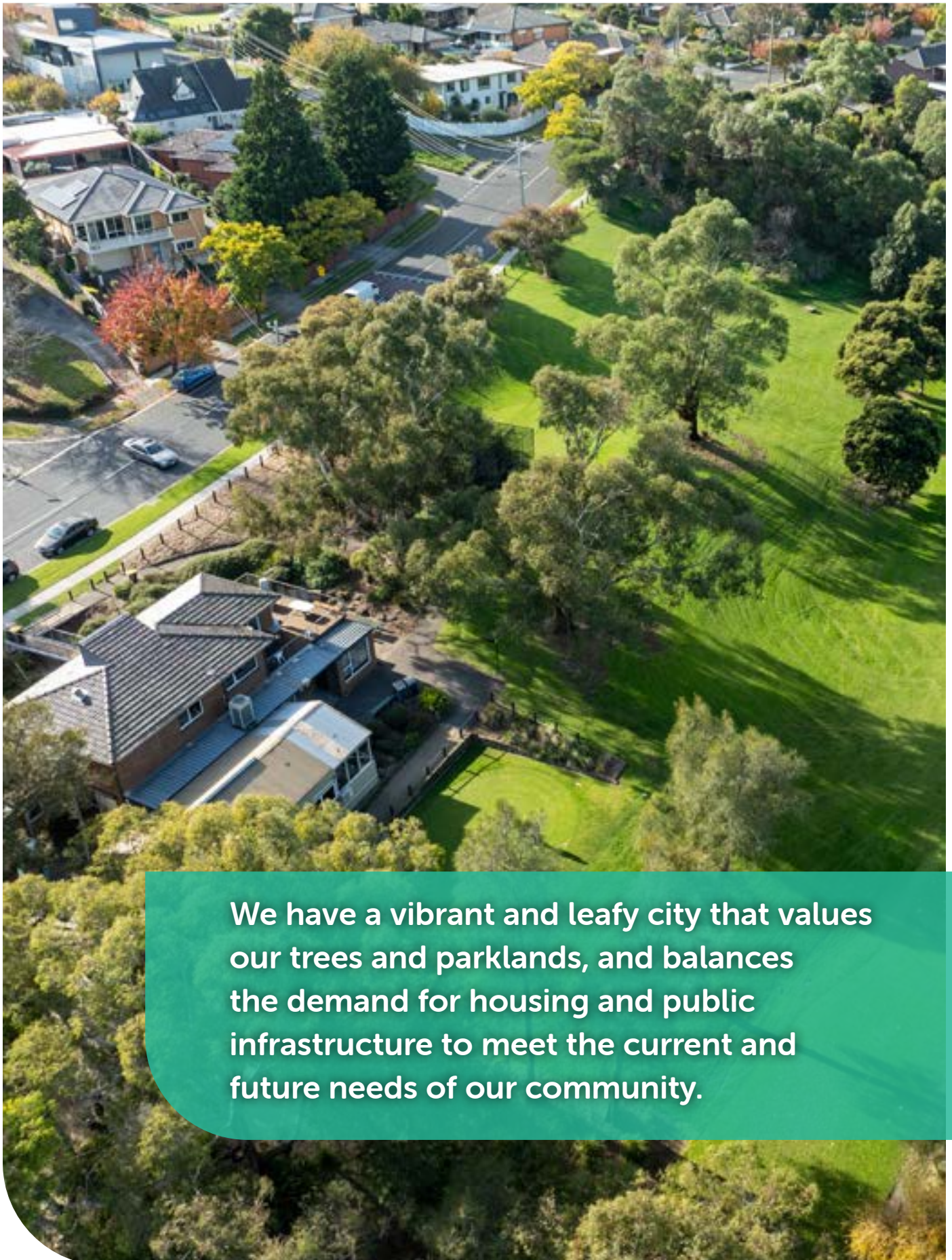
"All citizens can participate in sustainability programs that the council provides that lead to better recycling, composting, and energy usage. Community farms and gardens are easy to join. These changes happen at the business level too"

"Monash community strives to create a sustainable future"

"I think it's generally heading in the right direction infusing climate policy, liveability and the concept of the neighbourhood along with convenient commuting and sustainability although ensuring the council sticks to these goals and makes them possible is pivotal."

2

A VIBRANT AND LEAFY CITY



We have a vibrant and leafy city that values our trees and parklands, and balances the demand for housing and public infrastructure to meet the current and future needs of our community.

This includes:

- » Access to parks, green spaces and waterways
- » Developments that consider local amenity
- » Ensuring there is housing diversity to reflect our community
- » Our trees and natural environment help keep our city cool.

Principles

- » Parks, bushland, and even privately owned gardens are considered the 'heart' of Monash, and are valued for their aesthetic and wellbeing benefits, as well as places to walk and ride, or meet with friends and family.
- » When making development planning decisions, long-term social and environmental impacts of the development are considered.
- » Residents have access to affordable housing, and new housing is directed to the right locations.
- » Protect and increase our tree canopy cover across the city to assist in keeping the city cool, green and to assist in stormwater management.

Our community said:

"I value the parks and trees of Monash. As the suburbs become more dense these shared public spaces become more important for community health and wellbeing"

"Green, leafy suburb; parks and open spaces"

"Stop allowing the building of big houses with no off street parking and no vegetation"

"Avoid over development and crowding and include plenty of green areas and resources needed in the community"

"Whether for or against apartments there was a great agreement amongst those I spoke to for council responsibility to ensure the right infrastructure supports the increased population - especially transport"

"Too many trees being removed around the municipality - suggestion: planning team to clearly state trees need permission to be removed"

"Balancing the need for growth with 'overdevelopment'"

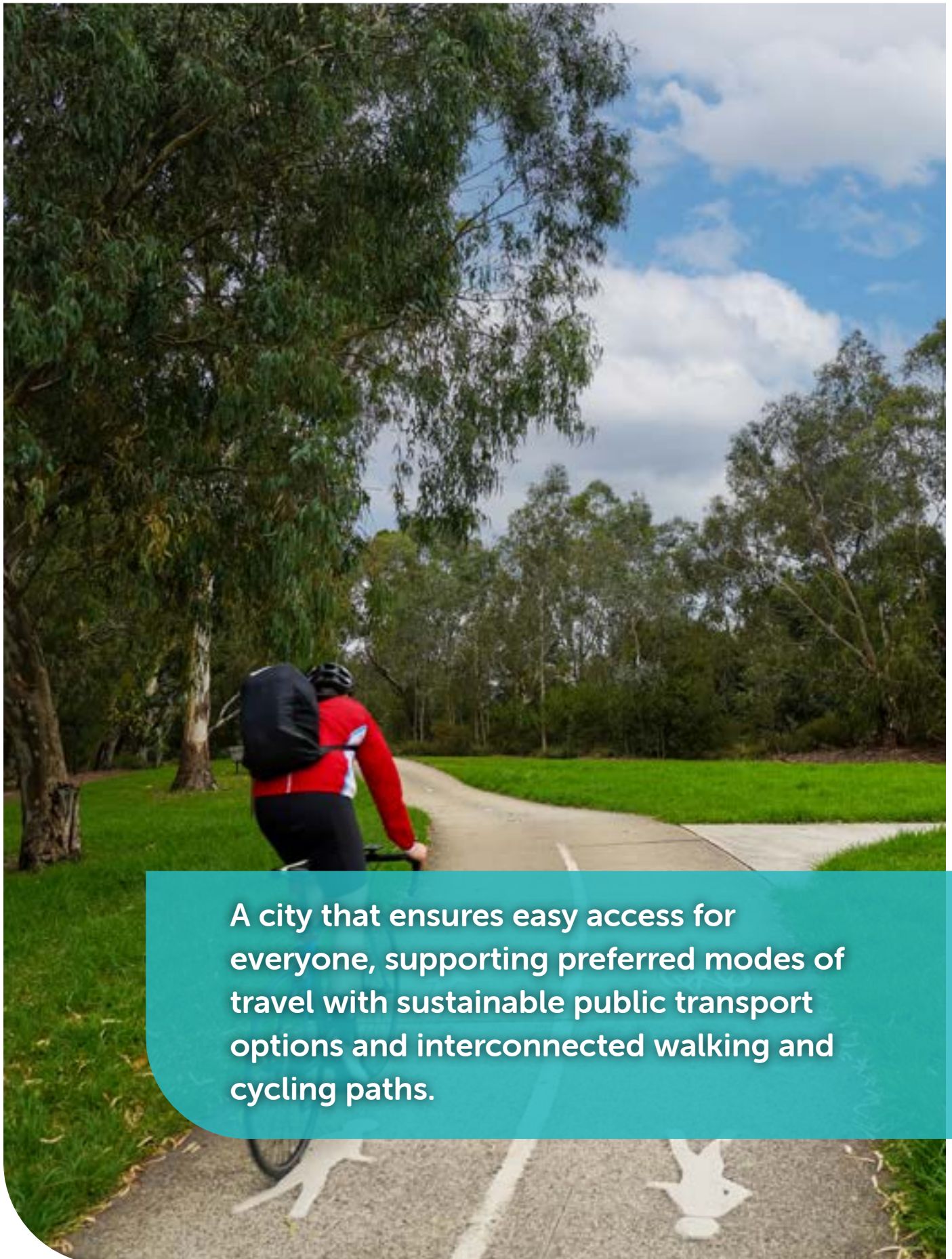
"Too much multi development, we are losing the "Green, Leafy" feel"

"Current housing crisis may counteract the vision for a "Green Leafy City"- need

to get the balance right as there is a need for more affordable housing (ie apartments)"

"A fair and inclusive community goes hand-in-hand with greater housing abundance and a reduced cost of living. Addressing these issues through an initiative to further housing supply through planning scheme reforms should be the primary priority for the Council. Residents are currently suffering from a serious housing crisis, with record high rents, rates and costs of living which have been driven by the widespread abject failure of local governments across Victoria to approve and plan for more housing."

EASY TO GET AROUND



A city that ensures easy access for everyone, supporting preferred modes of travel with sustainable public transport options and interconnected walking and cycling paths.

Principles

- » We recognise and celebrate Monash being well located, in close proximity to Melbourne's CBD, the country and sea.
- » Walking, cycling and sustainable transport is the easy way of travelling across Monash.
- » Monash is a city where sustainable transport is an easy option, this includes public transport, walking and cycling.
- » We advocate to all levels of Government to provide safe roads and transport options.



Our community said:

"Easy and quiet suburb to live in but close to services and easy access to rest of Melbourne"

"Its proximity between city and country - access to things that are not immediately found in Monash"

"The City of Monash is central to everything and just a short train ride to the city. Great Schools, University, playing fields, golf courses, tennis courts, walking tracks, arts and other cultural facilities and easy to jump on the freeway to the country or beach"

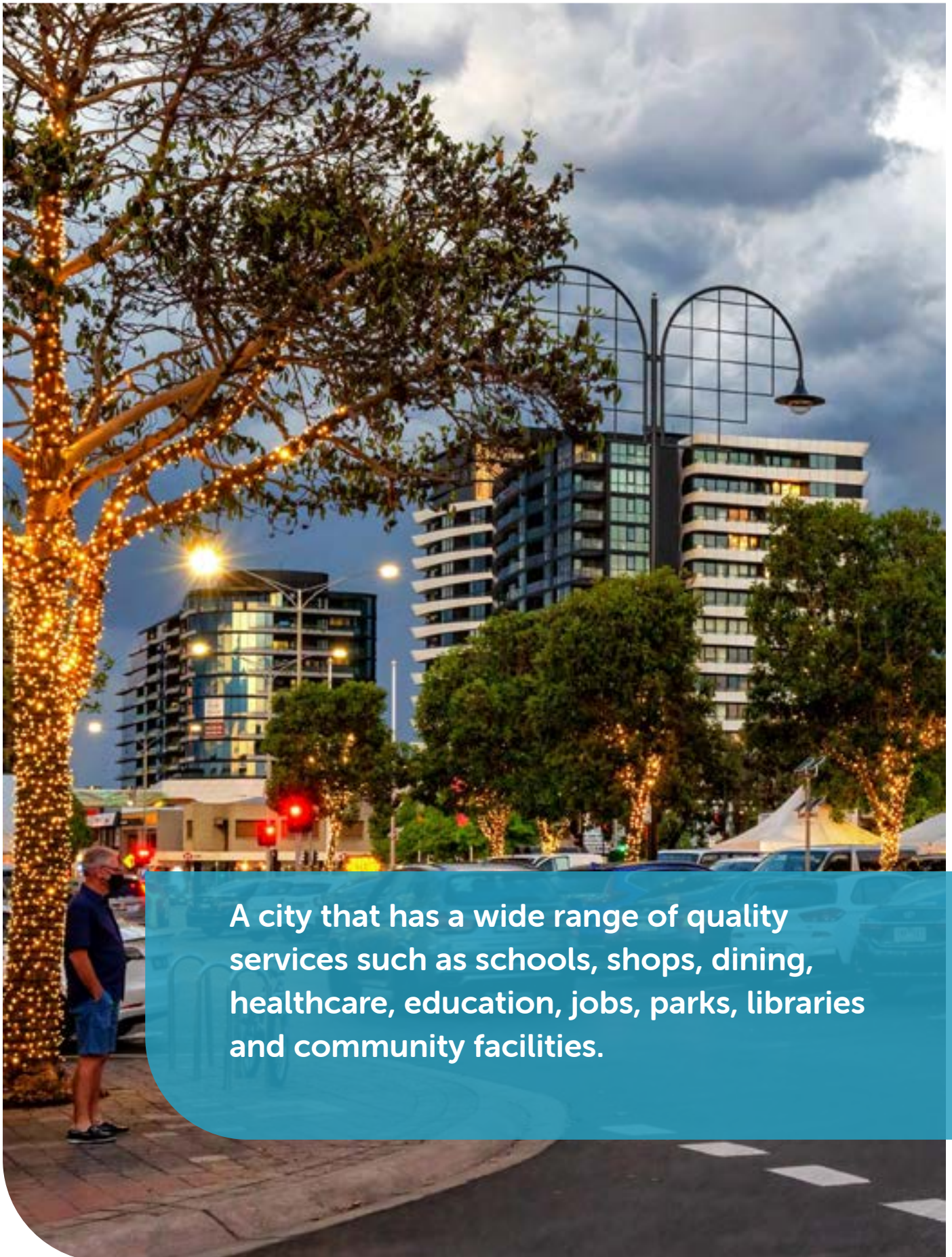
"Better, safer, and more efficient public transport network. Better, safer, and more accessible cycle path network. More renewable energy, and EV charging stations"

"Better pedestrian, cyclist and public transport facilities leading to less reliance on cars. Design orientated around people not cars"

"Improve the "urban sprawl" feel to the area."

4

SERVICES IN MY NEIGHBOURHOOD



A city that has a wide range of quality services such as schools, shops, dining, healthcare, education, jobs, parks, libraries and community facilities.

Principles

- » There are local opportunities to work, live and learn.
- » Investment in community infrastructure considers community needs, promotes regeneration, and are convenient and accessible. For example, having multi-use facilities near parks and other services.
- » Look for opportunities to collaborate with neighbouring areas and other service providers on joint initiatives. This helps build a broader sense of community, consider cost-benefits, leverage and have services together.
- » Celebrate and promote the wide range of quality services and places available locally, such as schools, shops, dining, health care, all levels of education, jobs, parks, libraries and sports facilities.



Our community said:

"The availability of services so close to one's door - trains, medical services, good schools, shopping centres"

"I love the ability to work, live and play within the same area! I love the local sporting clubs and not for profit organisations, and the partnership between many of these"

"We are diverse, and there seems to be lots of services that are also diverse"

"Many businesses, well-educated community, plenty of sporting facilities and libraries, presence of Monash University, what council is doing for outdoor dining post-covid"

"As a resident of Oakleigh I enjoy that we are a cosmopolitan community with access to excellent community services, facilities and shopping."

"I love that a range of services are all within walking distance of my home. These services are social, educational, sporting, recreational and commercial"

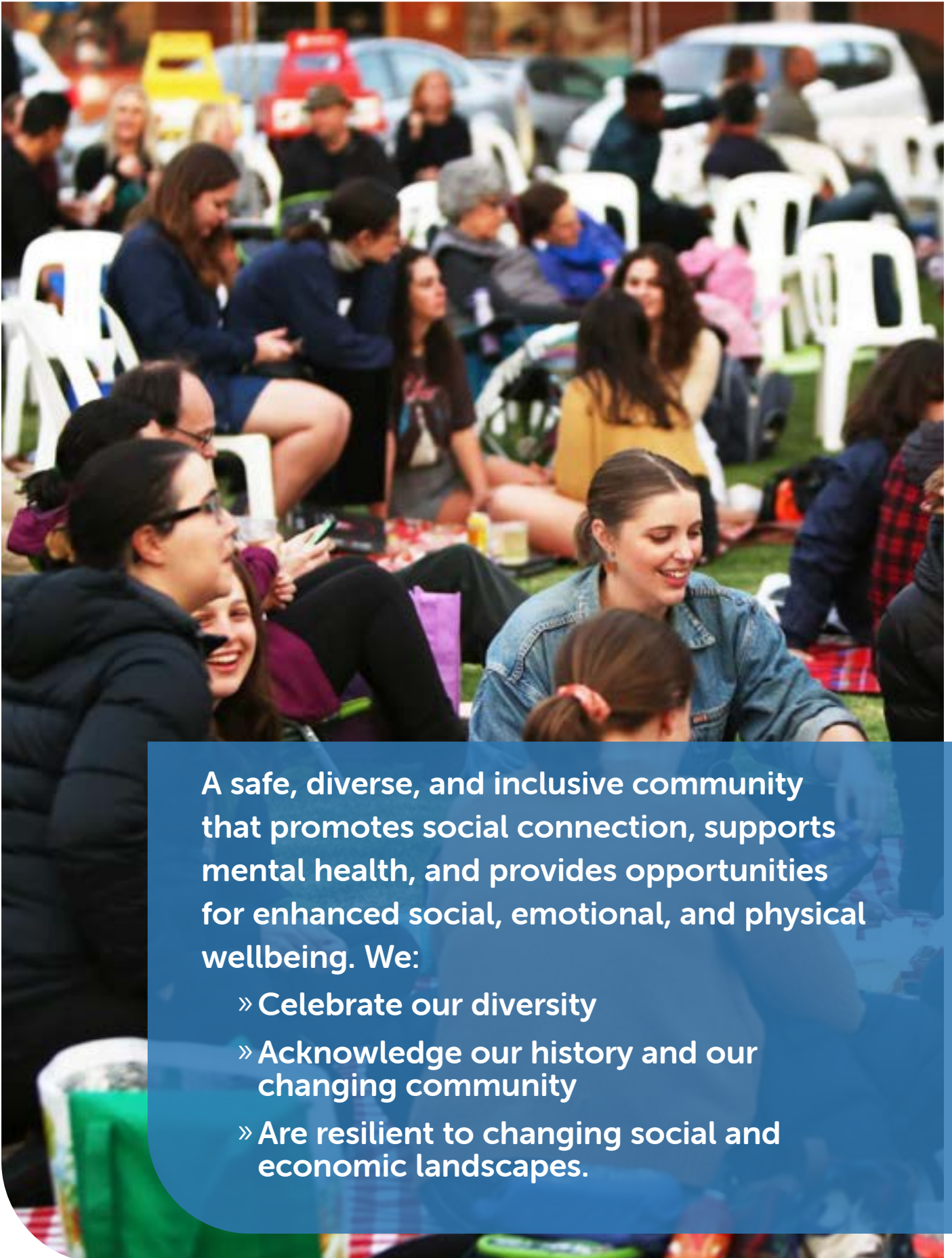
"I think Monash has great green space, education and healthcare all in one accessible area"

"There is absolutely everything you need in Monash without having to go to the city - gym, schools, shops, and modern importantly; public transport!"

"On the whole the Monash community indeed shares in a leafy environment, lots of services and good access contributes - but can always be open for improvement and/or change."

5

A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY



A safe, diverse, and inclusive community that promotes social connection, supports mental health, and provides opportunities for enhanced social, emotional, and physical wellbeing. We:

- » Celebrate our diversity
- » Acknowledge our history and our changing community
- » Are resilient to changing social and economic landscapes.

Principles

» Monash is proud of its diverse and friendly community, with people from a range of backgrounds – such as age, cultural, gender identity or abilities – living, socialising and

working in our City. For many it is important to know their neighbours, or to feel a strong connection to your local community.



Our community said:

"Multiculturalism. I am very comfortable because everyone in Monash city is very kind and respect for the individual."

"Sense of community. I know my neighbours, I can shop at local stores"

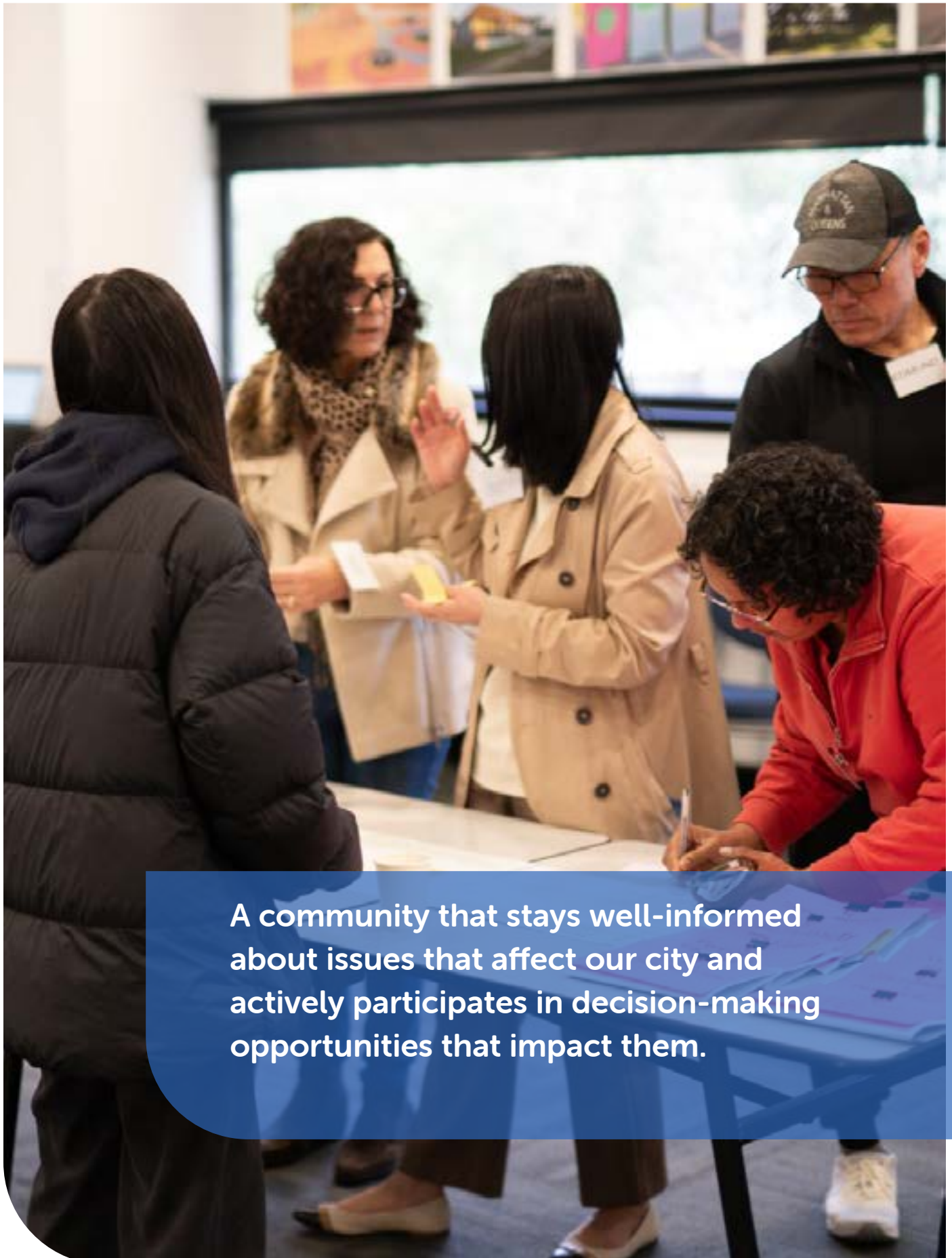
"Community feel and connectedness"

"A safe, healthy and connected community which values the environment, diversity, equality, education and local businesses. A place for children to grow up and thrive where as a community we are working to ensure a sustainable future."

"I believe a sense of safety & security should also be part of the vision wherein everyone in Monash City feels safe & secure, day or night or any day of the year."

"Monash community is now very diverse and this adds a richness in many ways to life here."

AN ENGAGED COMMUNITY



A community that stays well-informed about issues that affect our city and actively participates in decision-making opportunities that impact them.

Principles

- » Community decisions balance the current and future community's needs, principles of equity, and ensure long-term financial sustainability when making financial and development decisions.
- » The community expects that community involvement and communication on major projects is transparent, active, innovative, accessible for all people, and closes the loop on delivery of plans.
- » Our community value its involvement in decision making which should be transparent and equitable and financially sustainable for future generations.



Our community said:

"Forward planning with realistic goals and budget"

"Proper long term planning, accountability and transparency in the decision making process"

"Over time Council has slowly decentralised much decision making power to the community. This was facilitated by the blockchain, to allow for more efficient service delivery and governance"

"Transparent in approach, engaging all members of the community prior to making decisions, be focused on the longer term not just short term gain and \$\$"

"Engage community more actively in decision making. Clarifying the role of local govt so that everyday citizens know what to expect from each level of government and how they have power at a local level"

"I think residents would love to be more engaged and work towards these goals."



CITY OF
MONASH

Monash Civic Centre | 293 Springvale Road, Glen Waverley, 3150 | 8.30am to 5pm | Monday to Friday
Oakleigh Service Centre | 3 Atherton Road, Oakleigh, 3166 | 8.30am to 5pm | Monday to Friday
9518 3555 | www.monash.vic.gov.au | mail@monash.vic.gov.au | NRS 1800 555 660

Monash Interpreter Service

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廣東話	4713 5002	Ελληνικά	4713 5004	Italiano	4713 5008	සිංහල	4713 5020	Other languages	4713 5000

