








## APPENDIX 2 BACKGROUND FACTS

### Ground and sub-surface condition

Docklands has the following sub-surface conditions:

- natural ground (high water table, saline, Coode Island silt, contamination)
- wharves
- bridges and concourses
- easements and services.

Empirical tests are required to inform design decisions regarding vegetation, built form foundations and sub-surface services and easements. See *Access Docklands: A Plan for the Docklands Transport Network* (Places Victoria, City of Melbourne with UrbanTrans, 2012). Generally, the cost of sub-ground construction is considered to be prohibitive due to high costs.

-  Wharf structure
-  Structure or bridge
-  Public space on ground
-  Railway corridor
-  Natural ground level
-  Services easement
-  Underground water storage tank

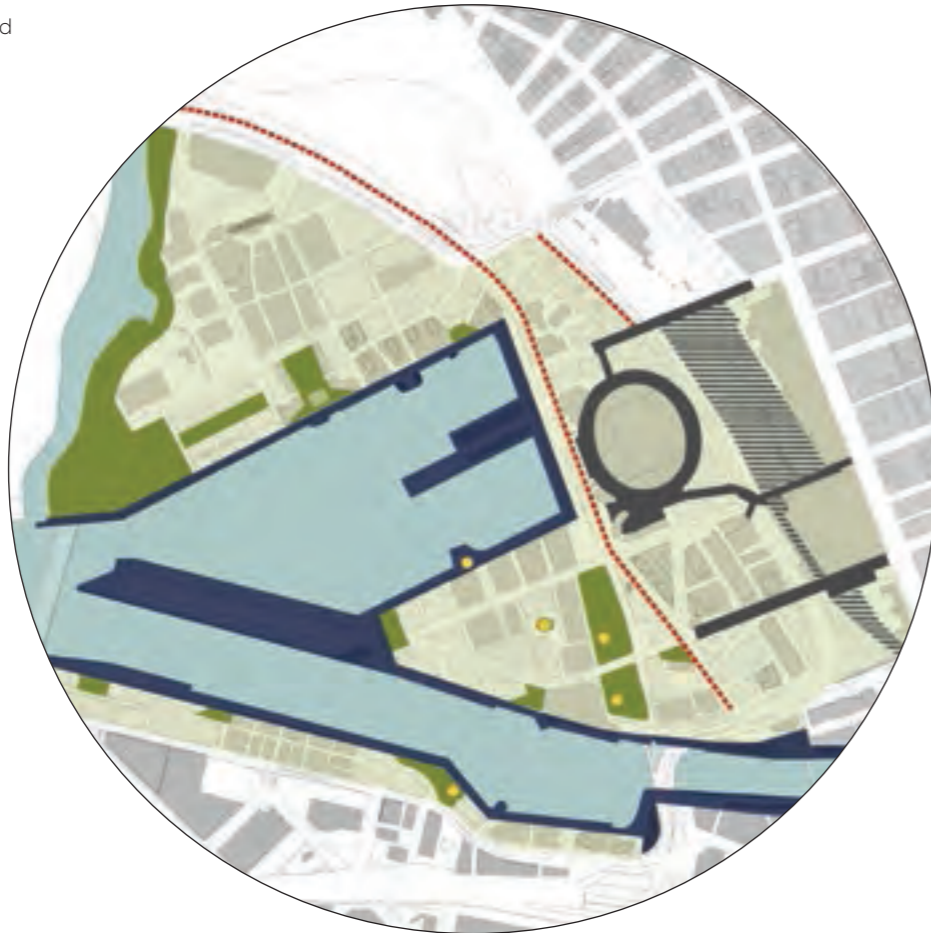


Fig 6.28 Ground conditions, 2012.

### Water Sensitive Urban Design

Drought and water restrictions have been considered in the design of public spaces in Docklands through the strategy of incorporating Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) in public spaces to reduce use of potable water for irrigation. WSUD elements have been used at a number of scales and include passive tree watering, bioretention systems (raingardens and tree pits), wetlands and stormwater storage and reuse systems.

A specific aim for WSUD in Docklands is to improve the quality of stormwater running into Victoria Harbour and the Yarra River, which is poorly flushed and therefore subject to a high risk of pollution from urban stormwater. Management of flood flows by capturing and storing or detaining stormwater on site is also incorporated into some of the WSUD elements.

- 1 Batman's Hill Drive - tree pits
- 2 Bourke Street - tree pits
- 3 Village Street - tree pits
- 4 Harbour Esplanade - tree pits
- 5 Docklands Park - wetlands and water storage
- 6 Point Park - rain gardens and water storage
- 7 Batman's Hill Drive - bio-retention swale
- 8 Water Plaza Gardens
- 9 Victoria Green - water storage
- 10 Batman's Hill outfall



Fig 6.29 A diverse range of site by site WSUD (Water Sensitive Design Initiatives) have been implemented throughout Docklands.

## APPENDIX 2 BACKGROUND FACTS

### Wind patterns

Docklands is exposed to prevailing wind conditions. *Melbourne Wind Mitigation Guidelines* (VicUrban, 2008) is an important resource for public space design.



Fig 6.30 Shielded and exposed wind locations

### Public art

With more than 35 public artwork commissioned to date, the scale and ambition of the public art program in Docklands has been significant. Public art can help to animate new urban areas and has been used in Docklands to inform the emerging local identity.



*Ned and Dan* (Alexander Knox, 2004), Doepel Way, NewQuay.

An integrated architectural response to the Nolan tower.

### Materials audit

A photographic audit of public realm materials was undertaken in December 2009. A visual summary of the findings is provided below.

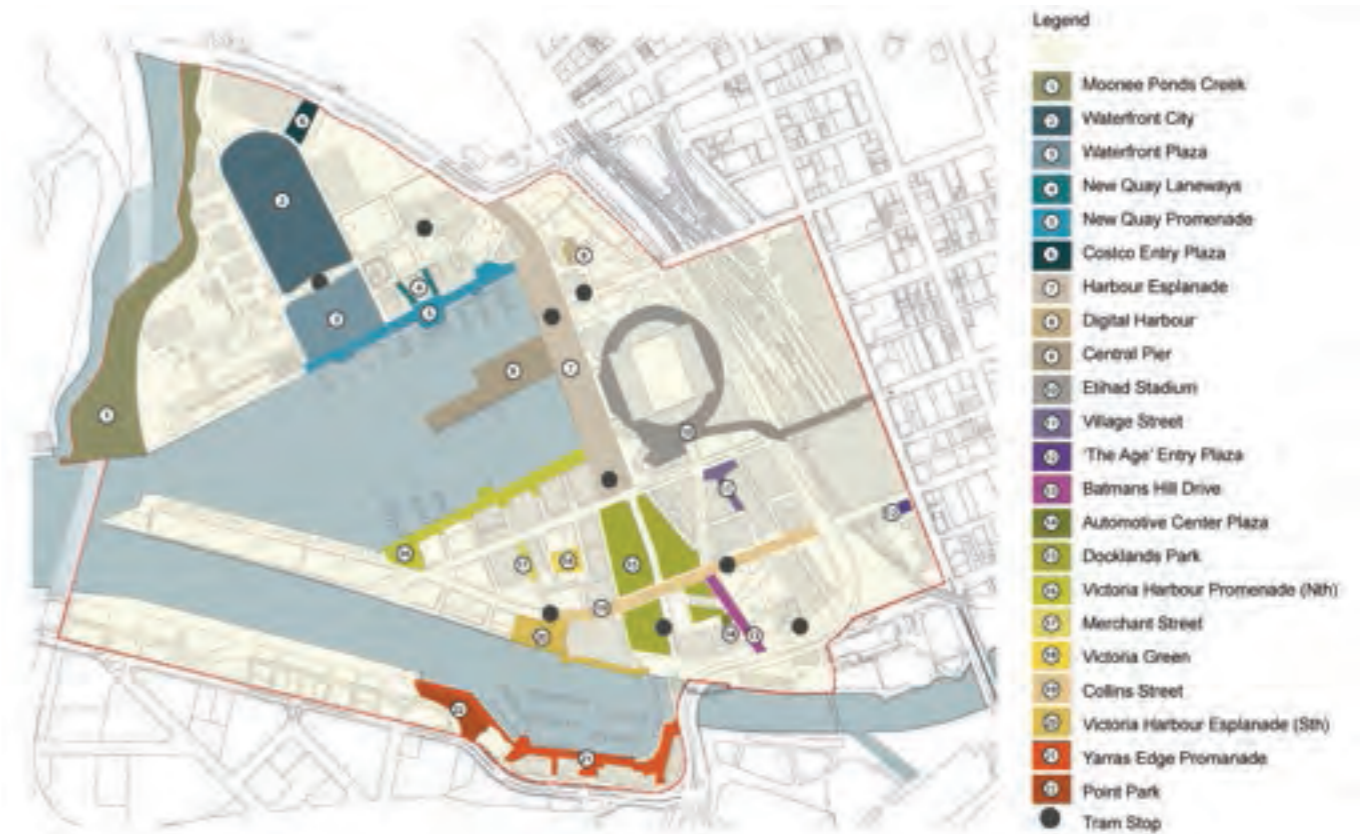
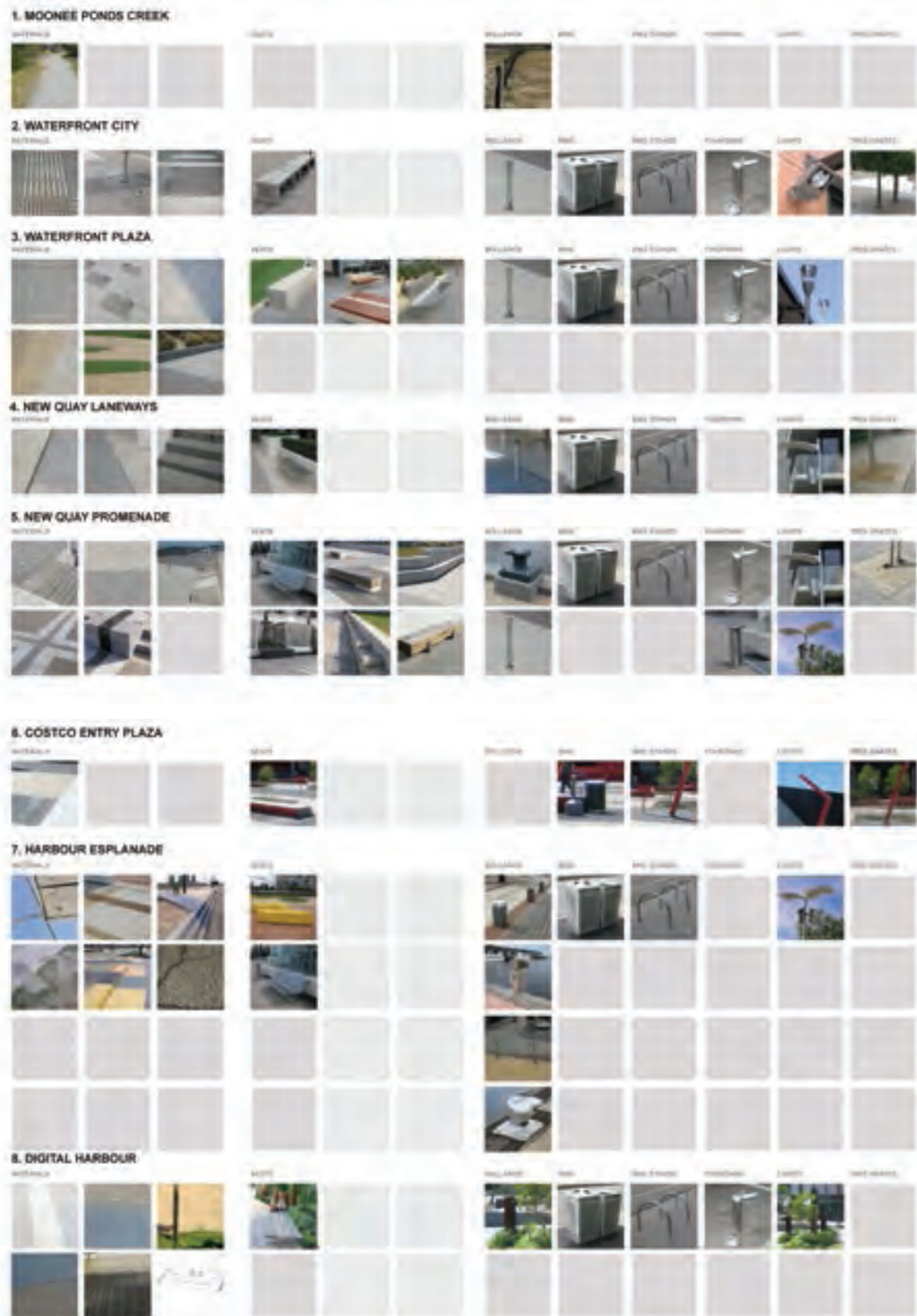


Fig 6.31 Key to materials audit undertaken in 2009. Note: NewQuay Central (formerly Waterfront Piazza) Docklands.

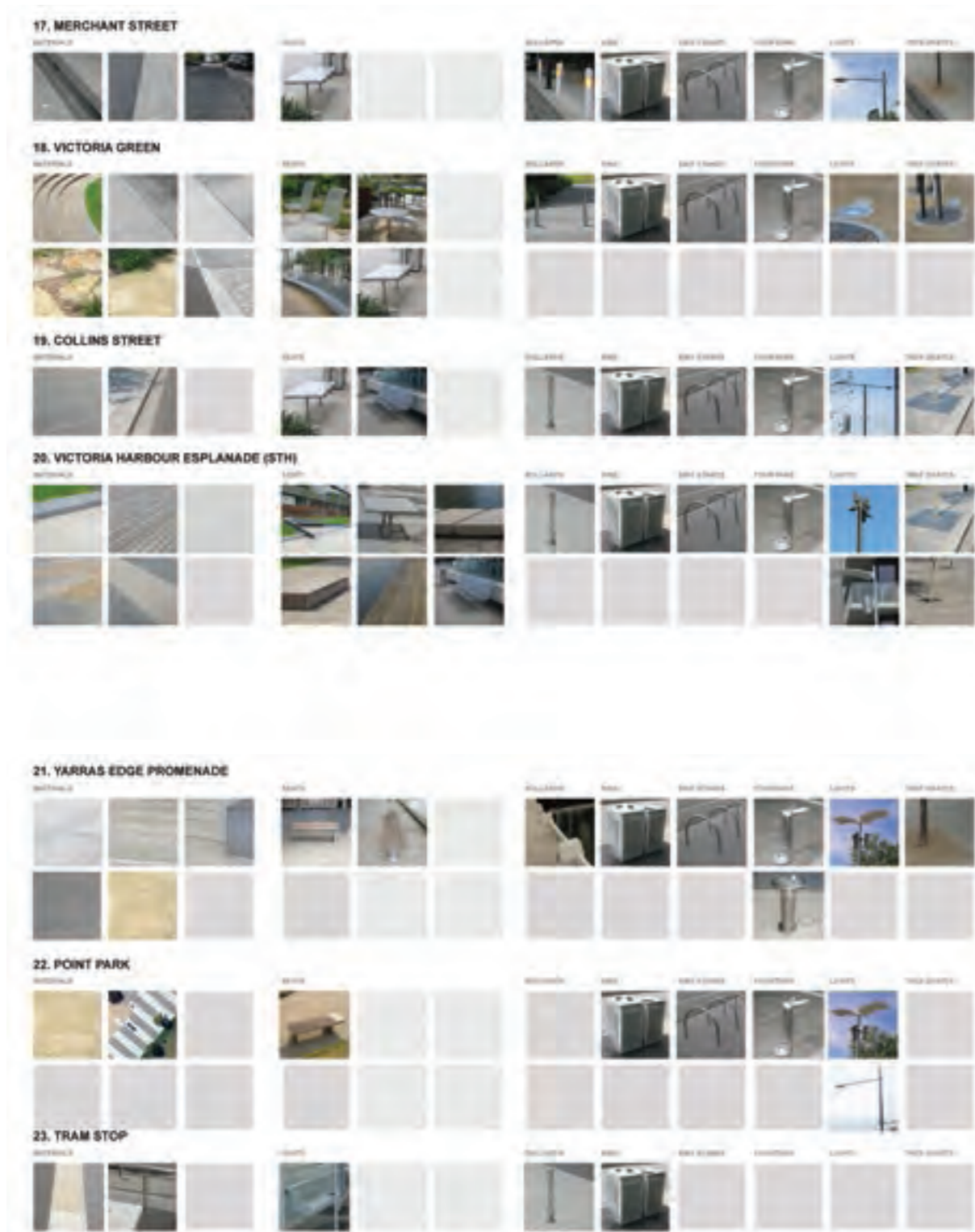
**APPENDIX 2**  
BACKGROUND FACTS



**Materials audit (Continued)**



## APPENDIX 2 BACKGROUND FACTS



## APPENDIX 3 GLOSSARY

### Activation

Being involved in the life of a public space.

### Active recreation

Organised sporting activities, programmed recreational activities, health and fitness.

### Aquatic biota

The community of algae, plants, and animals comprising an aquatic ecosystem.

### Biodiversity

The diversity (number and variety of species) of plant and animal life within a region.

### Bioretention swales

A water quality practice that utilizes landscaping and soils to treat stormwater by collecting it in shallow depressions and then filtering it through a planting soil medium.

### Contemporary

Existing, occurring, or living at the same time; belonging to the same time.

### Civic

Of, or relating to or belonging to a city; "civic centre"; "civic problems".

### Ecology

The branch of biology concerned with the relations between organisms and their environment.

### ESD

Environmentally Sustainable Design.

### Estuarine

Areas of high biological productivity found where a river meets the sea.

### Fine grain

The quality of an area's layout of buildings, blocks and plots; small and frequent subdivisions.

### Fragmented

A developable area that is too small to be a complete neighbourhood unless conjoined to an adjacent area.

### Installations

Art made for a specific space, exploiting certain qualities of that space.

### Interventions

An act which has an impact on the built environment. The act of coming between two things.

### Transition space

Space at a point where two functions meet, with characteristics of both.

### Legibility

The quality of a place being welcoming, understood easily by its users, easy for visitors to orient themselves in, and presenting a clear image to the wider world.

### Masterplan

A Masterplan is a document that guides development in an area including building height, use and form and the street and public space network.

### Passive recreation

Informal and unstructured activities including social gatherings and the provision of spaces for quiet reflection. Generally does not require physical infrastructure or programming.

### Podium

The low-rise building out of which the high-rise tower projects.

### Public realm

The parts of a village, town or city (whether publicly or privately owned) that are available, without charge, for everyone to see, use and

enjoy, including streets, squares and parks; all land to which everyone has ready, free and legal access 24 hours a day.

### Riparian

Of or relating to or located on the banks of a river or stream.

### Saline

A salt solution or any substance that contains salt.

### Sediments

Naturally-occurring material that is broken down by processes of weathering and erosion and is subsequently transported by the action of fluids such as wind, water, or ice, and/or by the force of gravity acting on the particle itself.

### Statutory

A statute is a formal written enactment of a legislative authority that governs a state, city, or country.

### Unstructured recreation

Informal and unstructured physical activities, including walking, fitness and informal ball games.

### Urban structure

The framework of routes and spaces that connect locally and more widely, and the way developments, routes and open spaces relate to one another.

### Urban area

A generic term for the whole or part of a town, city or region.

### Wetlands

A low area where the land is saturated with water. Wetlands include swamps, marshes and bogs, among others.

### WSUD

Water Sensitive Urban Design

## APPENDIX 4 GOVERNANCE

### Places Victoria

Places Victoria (successor to VicUrban) is the Victorian Government's land development agency, helping to meet the challenges of population growth and increased housing demand. Places Victoria facilitates large-scale urban renewal – for residential and mixed-use purposes – within established areas of Melbourne and strategic locations in regional Victoria. Its activities promote housing affordability and diversity and best practice in urban and community design. Places Victoria uses commercial skills to deliver housing choice to the market, increasingly in established areas, providing partnership opportunities for the private sector and encouraging the delivery of high quality, affordable and sustainable dwellings. The name, Places Victoria, reflects the organisation's emphasis on creating communities right throughout Victoria with a particular emphasis on urban renewal.

### City of Melbourne

In 2007, Docklands was officially integrated into the municipality of the City of Melbourne, becoming its youngest neighbourhood. The City of Melbourne's responsibility is to plan for the continuing growth in Docklands, while delivering quality community services and programs to ensure the area's prosperity and sustainability.

In July 2010, the City of Melbourne became the responsible planning authority for developed areas in Docklands. The City of Melbourne will continue to acknowledge the important role that Docklands plays in the strategic development of the whole city through the Municipal Strategic Statement. The City of Melbourne focuses on generating long-term quality outcomes, promoting multi-centred, mixed-use compact city living. The City of Melbourne also focuses on providing well-designed public spaces and buildings that will thrive economically and improve the quality of life for residents and workers, while welcoming visitors.

The City of Melbourne supports diverse housing alternatives that meet the needs of Melbourne's existing and future population, using commercially viable models of development. On 29 June 2012, the Minister for Planning announced that the City of Melbourne would become the responsible planning authority for developments in Docklands below 25,000 sqm.

### Parks Victoria

Parks Victoria is the responsible for the management of recreation, leisure, tourism and water transport for all waterways land situated in the 'metropolitan area' as declared under the *Water Industry Act 1994*, which includes Victoria Harbour and the Maribyrnong and Yarra rivers.

## APPENDIX 5 METHODOLOGY

The following methodology was used to prepare this Docklands Public Realm Plan.

- Literature review: an overview of the current policies and strategies that inform the current public realm outcomes in Docklands. (See Appendix 1)
- Site analysis: an analysis of the existing physical conditions and spatial facts.
- Socio analysis: analysis of existing and future residential and employment populations based on City of Melbourne research.
- Materials and furniture overview.
- Interviews with internal stakeholders from Places Victoria and City of Melbourne in 2010: delivery issues focus.
- Consideration of key recommendations from *Places for People* (Melbourne Docklands, 2010).
- Workshop with key stakeholders from Places Victoria and City of Melbourne.
- Community engagement: consultation was conducted when developing the Docklands *Community and Place Plan* in 2010 and 2011 to provide a broad understanding of current community needs. More detailed localised community engagement on public spaces will be encouraged as part of the design process on a project-by-project basis.



*Wooden Boat Building and Restoration Centre.*

