

**Report to the Future Melbourne (Finance and Governance)
Committee**

Agenda item 6.5

Review of Future Melbourne Plan

9 June 2015

Presenter: Ben Rimmer, Chief Executive Officer

Purpose and background

1. On 12 May 2015, the Future Melbourne Committee requested the Chief Executive Officer to report back in June proposing options for a review of Council's Future Melbourne Plan (Future Melbourne) in 2015–16.
2. The purpose of this report is to seek Future Melbourne Committee approval to commence a process to refresh Future Melbourne, with the refresh to be completed in the third quarter of 2016.
3. Future Melbourne was developed over a period of nearly two years and endorsed prior to the election caretaker period in September 2008. Whilst the vision and goals of Future Melbourne continue to serve the city well, they were developed eight years ago and it would be timely for planning and consultation on Future Melbourne's successor to begin now.

Key issues

4. **Timing** – The refresh is to be completed in the third quarter of 2016. This will enable time for the community to discuss and own the plan and for well-developed and substantiated community views to be placed on the public record prior to the Council elections in October 2016.
5. **Scope** – The refresh could lead a dialogue with the community taking a fresh look at the vision and goals through the lens of the significant changes that have occurred in the city in the past eight years, including for example, significant advances in digital technology and transition in the Victorian economy. This would not rule out changes to the vision and goals, should that be where the community conversation leads. It will also be important for the refresh to build in a strengthened framework for implementation and ongoing review, as this was a learning from the previous process.
6. **Plan horizon** - Future Melbourne was originally conceived as a 10+year vision. Management proposes the refresh continue this approach.
7. **Community engagement** - Future Melbourne was a community led and City of Melbourne sponsored exercise. The City of Melbourne's community engagement approach has moved ahead significantly in the past eight years and there will be an opportunity to apply this to the refresh. In addition, it will be important for the refresh to facilitate thought leadership including in the areas of digital transformation and resilience. This may take the form of discussion papers developed with relevant stakeholder/advisory groups and then released for broad-based community engagement.

Recommendation from management

8. That the Future Melbourne Committee:
 - 8.1. Agrees to the administration commencing a process to refresh Council's Future Melbourne Plan (Future Melbourne), with the refresh to be completed in the third quarter of 2016.
 - 8.2. Agrees to the administration beginning pre-planning for the review of Future Melbourne, including:
 - 8.2.1. targeted conversations with key external partners
 - 8.2.2. appointment of a project team
 - 8.2.3. consideration of the most appropriate project/engagement model.
 - 8.3. Requests the Chief Executive Officer report back to Council Forum in July 2015 with a project plan.
 - 8.4. Requests an additional \$350,000 be included in the proposed 2015/16 Annual Plan and Budget.

Supporting Attachment

Legal

1. Section 3C of the *Local Government Act 1989* provides that the objective of Council is '*to endeavour to achieve the best outcomes for the local community having regard to the long term and cumulative effects of decisions*'.

Finance

2. The refresh is estimated to cost around \$500,000. Of this, \$150,000 will be met by re-aligning activities already included in the proposed 2015-16 Annual Plan and Budget. e.g. research-related activities, and community engagement. The recommendation seeks an additional \$350,000 for the project.

Conflict of interest

3. No member of Council staff, or other person engaged under a contract, involved in advising on or preparing this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to the matter of the report.

Stakeholder consultation

4. This report seeks authorisation for the administration to begin pre-planning for the review of Future Melbourne, including targeted conversations with key external partners.

Environmental sustainability

5. Environmental sustainability will be a key focus of the review of Future Melbourne.