Why sustainability is important for the market precinct

When Queen Victoria Market began trading in 1878, Melbourne was a bustling yet much smaller city and the market's original design and infrastructure still reflects this.

Over the last 139 years the city has grown around the market. Now the precinct will undergo a major renewal focused on preserving heritage, improving sustainability and responding to the impacts of climate change for our growing city.

Projections for Melbourne are for a hotter and drier climate with more frequent and extreme weather events, which is particularly significant for Queen Victoria Market due to the potential vulnerability of its supply chain and the impact on its open-air spaces.

Despite ongoing improvements to its operations, the market has the potential to improve its environmental performance in terms of mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, reducing waste and adapting to a changing climate, particularly if traders and visitors are supported by the right level of sustainable infrastructure.

In addition to the infrastructure changes, we understand that the choices we all make have an important contribution to achieving the sustainability goals, so we'll be working with customers and traders to put sustainable commitments into action.

Sustainability will be important throughout renewal, and as work commences in 2017, projects will include:

Sustainable trader facilities below-ground

Beneath the fully restored sheds A-D and H and I will be new below-ground operational areas for traders, separating the market's busy service zones from customers.

In addition to enhanced amenities and new back-of-house facilities such as storage, cool rooms and delivery zones, the below-ground operational areas will include state-of-the art waste management, recycling and water collection and re-use facilities.

Temporary Greenhouse pavilion to help make market more sustainable

A sustainable new market site will open at Queen Victoria Market late this year. The temporary market pavilion will be located on Queen Street and ensure relocated traders can continue to operate throughout the five year market renewal program.

In addition to giving market traders access to better facilities such as refrigeration, water, power and storage, the greenhouse inspired pavilion will include facilities to recycle organic and non-organic waste to produce compost to be used for a market garden and rainwater collection and reuse.

We will work closely with traders to select and design these sustainable features.

GET INVOLVED

To find out more about the program and register for future updates:

W: melbourne.vic.gov.au/queenvictoriamarket

P: 03 9658 9658

E: qvmrenewal@melbourne.vic.gov.au









Better protection from the impacts of extreme weather across the precinct will ensure traders, customers and the local community can enjoy an even better open-air market experience forever.

Market renewal

In 2017 our five-year program to renew Queen Victoria Market and the surrounding precinct begins, signalling the start of the largest single market renewal in the world right now.

The renewal will preserve and celebrate the market's heritage and history, while providing traders with safe, efficient and more sustainable facilities.

Solar power, stormwater harvesting and an on-site organic waste recycling facility are just a few of the projects proposed.

We know that market trade is heavily impacted by the weather, with days of extreme heat affecting visitation, the integrity of produce and trader opening hours. Through renewal, we want to focus on climate resilience, with new open spaces, more planting, trees and water sensitive design to cool the precinct.

The renewal will be guided by the Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal Master Plan which was developed in close consultation with the community, market visitors and traders.

What is currently happening at the market?



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Around 6000 tonnes of solid waste is produced each year



Approximately 52 per cent of total waste is recycled, including meat and fish waste



Around 60 tonnes of organic fruit and vegetable waste is composted each month



An average of 2.1 GWh of electricity is consumed each year – enough to power more than 540 two person households in the City of Melbourne



Around 2,250 tonnes of CO2 equivalent (including natural gas and transport) is produced each year - equivalent to the emissions from around 600 cars



Around 32,500 kilolitres of potable water is consumed each year - enough to fill 13 Olympic swimming pools

How will we make the market more sustainable?

We will seek to make the market more sustainable by focusing on four key areas:



Energy and carbon Waste and resource efficiency



Climate resilience and water



Economic and social sustainability

Sustainability Goals	Pathway	Actions
Zero Carbon	Energy and carbon Deliver a zero net emission outcome for the Queen Victoria Market precinct.	 Implement energy efficiency measures in both new and existing buildings. Generate on-site renewable energy through large-scale solar power and battery storage where viable, purchase offsite renewable energy for remaining electricity and source offsets for any other emissions. Maximise energy efficiency across the Queen Victoria Market precinct through use of technologies to monitor and manage energy sources and loads across the site. Explore opportunities with commercial and residential operators within the precinct to contribute to the zero carbon goal.
Zero Waste Resource Efficient	Waste and resource efficiency Achieve a zero net waste-to-landfill target for the Queen Victoria Market precinct as well as leading recycling and waste diversion targets for renewal construction programs.	 Develop an on-site collection, separation and organic recycling facility. Work with market traders on an effective waste reduction campaign. Meet best practice standards for renewal works construction waste. Explore other local waste reduction and organic recycling options in the surrounding community.
Climate Resilient	Climate resilience and water Reduce the use of potable water in the Queen Victoria Market precinct and potentially the adjacent Flagstaff Gardens through rainwater and stormwater collection and recycling.	 Reduce potable water consumption in the precinct through rainwater collection, stormwater harvesting and water recycling. Improve climate resilience within the precinct through increased planting, trees and water sensitive landscaping.
Economically and Socially Sustainable	Economic and social sustainability Ensure the long-term economic and social sustainability of the Queen Victoria Market precinct.	Use the Green Star Communities framework to evaluate the social, economic and environmental sustainability attributes of the QVMPR Program.