21.12

HOODLE GRID

Housing

- Support permanent and short term residential development in the Hoddle Grid that accommodates a diverse population.

Economic development

- Encourage the development of a range of complementary precincts within the Hoddle Grid that offer a diverse range of specialist retail, cultural and entertainment opportunities.

- Encourage the retention and enhancement of specialised shopping and entertainment precincts within the Hoddle Grid, particularly, Hardware Lane, Chinatown, Collins Street and Little Collins Street.

- Support entertainment, bars, eating and other evening uses throughout the Hoddle Grid.

- Support the Retail Core as a compact, high-density retail precinct and facilitate easy pedestrian access.

- Support the consolidation of education clusters on the northern and western edges of the Hoddle Grid and in Flinders Street.

- Ensure the Northbank of the Yarra River has increased open space opportunities.

- Support the Queen Victoria Market as a retail and tourist facility, and as a heritage asset of State significance.

- Ensure the form and use of development around the Queen Victoria Market does not detract from its amenity nor compromise its 24 hour function.

Built Environment and Heritage

- Protect the regular grid layout, laneways, tree-lined boulevards and identified significant public open spaces.

- Protect the scale of important heritage precincts, boulevards and other unique precincts that rely on a consistency of scale for their image, including the Retail Core, Chinatown, Hardware Lane, Flinders Lane, Bourke Hill, Parliament, the Melbourne Town Hall, and the churches on Flinders and Collins Streets.

- Facilitate the civic and ceremonial function of Swanston Street.

- Enhance Swanston Street as part of a boulevard axis which runs from Princes Park to St Kilda Road.

- Maintain a low rise form and streetscapes in the Retail Core and along key views to ensure an intimate pedestrian scale and views to key buildings are maintained.

- Ensure a clear edge between the taller built form of the Capital City Zone and the Docklands Zone and the lower form of the surrounding areas.

- Ensure a strong contrast in scale of development along Elizabeth Street from the lower scale areas to the north of Victoria Street and the higher scale of the Capital City Zone.

- Ensure that development form and scale in the area south of the Queen Victoria Market Precinct achieves built form, urban design, and public realm amenity outcomes consistent with those sought for the Hoddle Grid.

- Ensure that the design of tall buildings in the Hoddle Grid promote a human scale at street level especially in narrow lanes, respects the street pattern and provides a context for heritage buildings.

- Ensure that new tall buildings add architectural interest to the city’s sky line.
- Ensure tower buildings are well spaced and sited to provide equitable access to an outlook and sunlight for all towers.
- Ensure high quality and robust public space design in arcade and laneway upgrades.
- Link arcades and laneways in the Hoddle Grid.
- Encourage arcade and laneway links between streets and public spaces.
- Ensure development fronting streets creates a continuous building edge and integrated streetscape.
- Ensure that security treatments for shop fronts allow for views into the premises at night and positively contribute to the streetscape.
- Ensure the ground level design of shop fronts on Swanston Street contribute to its role as a pre-eminent retail and lifestyle avenue and entry axis to the Retail Core.
- Ensure sunlight penetration in the middle of the day to key public spaces, appropriate to their role and function.
- Protect the Yarra River and its south bank from overshadowing throughout the year.

**Transport**

- Ensure that pedestrian use is given priority in the Hoddle Grid.
- Facilitate the development of the Bourke Street Mall as a high quality pedestrian and retail space.
- Ensure that developments provide weather protection along key pedestrian routes and areas, where this does not conflict with building or streetscape integrity.
- Ensure that the design of buildings and public realm in the Hoddle Grid enhances the safety of pedestrians, visitors and occupants of buildings.
- Ensure streets and open space are physically and visually linked to the waterfront, where practicable.
- Develop better links between the south western edge of the Hoddle Grid and the Yarra River.
- Develop better links between the water side entertainment and recreational attractions of the north and south banks of the Yarra.
- Encourage the provision of pedestrian links to the Queen Victoria Market from surrounding areas.
Figure 6: Hoddle Grid