11.09   GEELONG (G21)

For the purpose of this Clause, the 'Geelong G21 region' comprises the municipal areas of Colac Otway, Golden Plains, Greater Geelong, Queenscliffe and Surf Coast, covered in the *G21 Regional Growth Plan* (Geelong Region Alliance, 2013).

Policy guidelines

In considering the policy objectives and strategies for the Geelong G21 region, planning must consider as relevant, the *G21 Regional Growth Plan* (Geelong Region Alliance, 2013).

11.09-1   Planning for growth

Objective

To optimise infrastructure and consolidate growth.

Strategies

Maximise capacity and leverage off existing infrastructure and services, particularly near central retail and transport nodes.

Support the role of Geelong as the regional city and Victoria's second city.

Support the growth of Bannockburn, Colac, Drysdale/Clifton Springs, Lara, Leopold, Ocean Grove and Torquay/Jan Juc as district towns by building on existing and planned infrastructure and focussing growth along key road and rail networks.

Plan for Colac and Winchelsea as new targeted growth nodes.

Support the proposed national transport and logistics precinct and recognise greater connection to the Werribee growth corridor and Melbourne.

Provide for long term growth options that build on existing infrastructure, including two further investigation areas north and west of Geelong.

11.09-2   Knowledge and innovation

Objective

To build and support diversity, knowledge and innovation.

Strategies

Support diversity and innovation through a range of affordable education, housing types, service provision, technology, employment and social opportunities.

Create a resilient and robust region that seeks, and is open to, new opportunities and lifelong learning.

Support growth of education and research hubs at Waurn Ponds and Central Geelong with Deakin, CSIRO, The Gordon and Barwon Health.

Provide a range of housing types with a mix of infill and greenfield options.

11.09-3 Connected communities

Objective

To create unique and connected communities.

Strategies

Support growth that enhances choice, health and wellbeing, liveability, amenity and diversity and creates a sense of place.

Create communities with opportunity to participate in arts, culture, sport and recreation, encouraging healthy lifestyles.

Support key district towns across the region providing services to surrounding areas.

Maintain a significant settlement break between the region and Melbourne.

Provide for settlement breaks between towns to maintain their unique identities.

Require a settlement boundary for all towns.

11.09-4 Environmental assets

Objective

To protect, restore and enhance the region's unique environment.

Strategies

Protect, restore and enhance the quality of land and marine areas, waterways, biodiversity and soils.

Maintain and protect the region's natural assets, including the region's parks and reserves.

11.09-5 Agricultural productivity

Objective

To secure food, water and energy resources.

Strategies

Support new opportunities in farming, fisheries and energy in a changing climate.

Support a productive, robust and self sustaining region by harnessing existing energy and natural resources while protecting and enhancing farming and natural assets.

Protect critical agricultural land, energy and earth resources required to support a growing population by focussing development to existing township areas and directing growth to towns which provide rural services.

Provide environmental and liveability benefits through the efficient and effective delivery of water infrastructure and services.

11.09-6

Sustainable communities

Objective

To allow communities to live, work and participate locally.

Strategies

Support industries that utilise skills within the region.

Support increased employment diversity.

Support new businesses that provide employment and innovation opportunities in identified employment nodes across the region.

Support key district towns providing key services to surrounding areas.

Facilitate infill development in Central Geelong and West Fyans and around activity areas within urban Geelong and district towns.

11.09-7

A diversified economy

Objective

To build the region's economy.

Strategies

Support diversity in the region's economy that builds on its competitive strengths, including tourism and agricultural land resources and economic, social and natural assets.

Recognise and develop a national transport and logistics precinct to the north of Geelong, connecting Avalon Airport, Geelong Port and the Geelong Ring Road Employment Precinct.

Facilitate growth in a range of employment sectors, including health, education and research.

Facilitate revitalising and strengthening Central Geelong as a regional city.

Protect and strengthen existing and planned employment areas and plan for new employment nodes.

Plan for the expansion of industrial employment areas at Colac and Winchelsea.

11.09-8

Transport

Objective

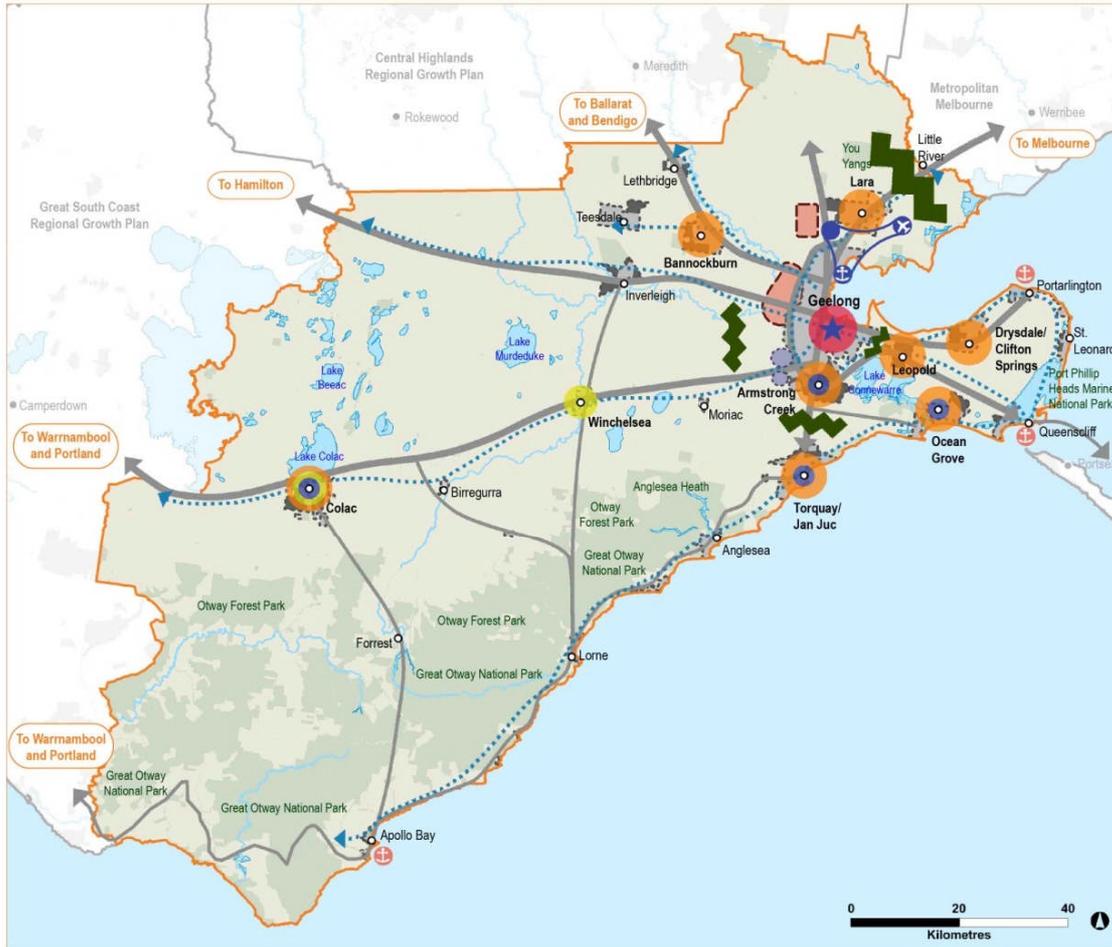To provide a range of accessible transport choices.

Strategies

Improve transport links that strengthen the connections to Melbourne and adjoining regions.

Support improved transit and access within Geelong and the wider region.

11.09-9   G21 Regional Growth Plan

SETTLEMENT ROLE AND GROWTH

★ Reinforce the role of Geelong as a regional city and Victoria's second largest city

● Strengthen Central Geelong's role as a major regional city centre by supporting growth with a focus on identified infill housing opportunity areas and building on the region's health, education and research capabilities

● Support planned growth and reinforce the role of district towns

● Introduce new targeted growth nodes at Colac and Winchelsea

⬭ Identification of two Further Investigation Areas in Geelong

〰 Identification of four key settlement breaks

⬤ Existing urban areas

⬤ Planned growth areas

◌ Designation of settlement boundaries for all towns

Provide infrastructure and services for planned growth areas and infill development

○ Settlement

MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE

➡ An efficient and equitable public transport, road and freight network leveraged off existing infrastructure

✈ Airport

⚓ Port of Geelong

⚓ Minor port

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH

⬤ Maintain productive agricultural areas

◇ Development of a national transport and logistics precinct

● Strengthen and protect the identified existing and planned employment areas

● Future employment nodes

Provide land and infrastructure for existing and future employment nodes

ENVIRONMENT

⬤ Maintain and enhance natural assets and infrastructure

⬤ Lakes and wetlands

— Rivers