Victorian Greenhouse Alliances Conference 2022

Looking back, looking forward: local government leadership on climate change.

Victorian councils began working together to form Greenhouse Alliances over 20 years ago, and they have been leading on climate action ever since. What will government action on climate change look like in the critical decade ahead?

Welcome to the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances Annual Conference 2022

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri, the Traditional Owners of the land we are meeting on today, and pay respect to their elders: past, present and emerging. We acknowledge that their sovereignty was never ceded and that they have looked after this country for millennia.

Likewise we acknowledge Traditional Owners around Victoria, whose lands provide us with the energy, food, water and other resources we are using today.

Victorian Greenhouse Alliances

- Goulburn Murray Climate Alliance
- Wimmera Mallee Sustainability Alliance
- Barwon South West Climate Alliance
- Gippsland Climate Change Network
- Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action
- Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action
- Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action
- South East Councils Climate Change Alliance
- Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance

Brought to you by the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances and CASBE. Supported by the Victorian Government's Sustainability Fund: Supporting Our Regions to Adapt program.

Panel discussion

Visions of 2030 and the critical decade ahead

Panel discussion

Dr Jennifer Alden, Councillor, City of Greater Bendigo – food systems

Llewellyn Reynders, Infrastructure Victoria – infrastructure

Craig Memery, Program Director, Energy + Water Consumers' Advocacy Program, Public Interest Advocacy Centre – energy

The Way We Eat Needs To Change

- Paul Hawken - Drawdown and Food System emissions
- Climate and Health and Food Security
- IPCC Report - new focus on behaviour change - shifting diets

From Community to Local Government

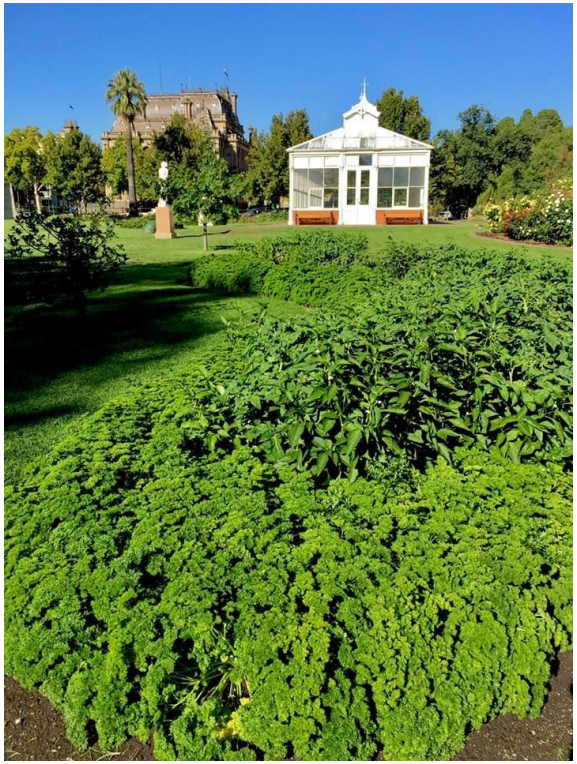
- The Food System and issues
- Local Government Act 2020 Council Plans - Mir Wimbul
- The COP26 Glasgow Food and Climate Declaration

The Greater Bendigo story

- Healthy Greater Bendigo
- Climate Change and Environment Strategy
- Food Systems Strategy - process
- UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy

How to Be The Change

- Role of Greenhouse Alliances
- Advocacy - Food policies; Reduce emissions from urban and regional food systems; Call on national governments for policy and governance
- Future Foodscapes



An Appetite for Change

Cr Dr Jennifer Alden

City of Greater Bendigo

Chair Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance

INFRASTRUCTURE VICTORIA

Infrastructure transformation in the decade ahead

Llewellyn Reynders

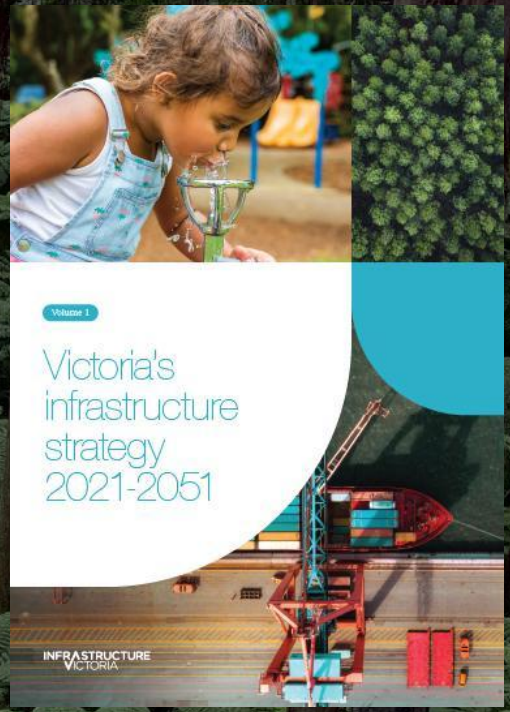
Director, Research and Economics

Acknowledgment of Country

Image from The Great Ocean Road.
The region includes the traditional lands of the Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung peoples.

Victoria's infrastructure strategy 2021–2051

- Confront long-term challenges
- Manage urban change
- Harness infrastructure for productivity growth
- Develop regional Victoria



INFRASTRUCTURE VICTORIA

Transport

- Prioritise open space combined with good walking and cycling infrastructure
- Invest in a stronger, interconnected bus network
- Increase off-peak service frequencies and suburban rail corridor capacity
- Build further train capacity and reliability in the City Loop and growth areas
- Prepare for Melbourne Metro Two and direct Geelong rail services
- Extend rail services in Melbourne's western and northern growth areas
- Accelerate the uptake of zero emissions vehicles
- Transition government fleet and freight vehicles to zero emissions technologies

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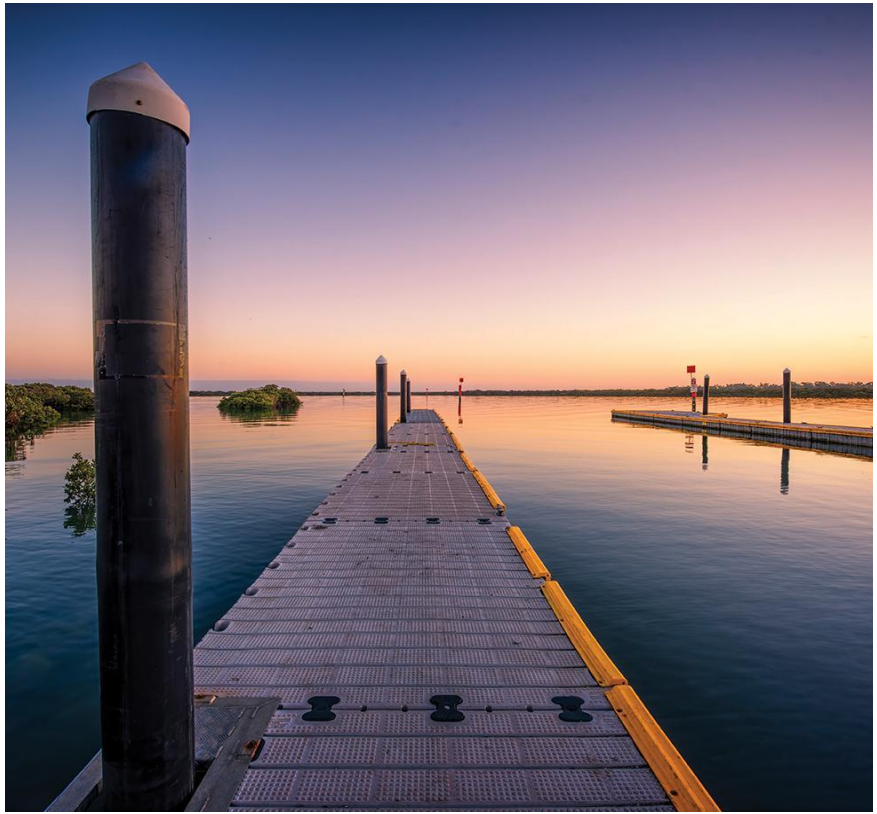
Water

- Consider all water supply sources, including recycled drinking water
- Improve decision-making for urban water investment
- Strengthen agricultural water security by modernising irrigation
- Upgrade Victoria's emergency water network



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Gas

Interim Gas Advice report – early findings

- Doing nothing is not an option
  - Gas sector must decarbonise to meet emissions reduction targets – completely offsetting or capturing emissions is not practical
  - Gas transition likely to take decades – Victoria should start now
- A range of options needed to diversify risk while reducing emissions
  - There are strategies that reduce emissions now
  - Explore multiple pathways and technologies including electrification, hydrogen and biogas
  - Significant change for households and businesses

Circular economy

- Facilitate improved recycling infrastructure for priority materials
- Strengthen end markets for recycled materials
- Address barriers to recycling and reducing waste
- Minimise waste and improve residual waste infrastructure planning

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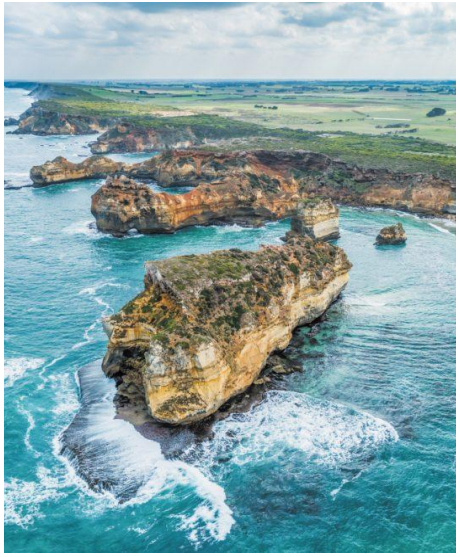
Health

- Deliver multipurpose shared social service facilities in the regions
- Create climate-adapted facilities or rural communities to manage the health impacts of extreme heat and bushfire smoke.
- Make social housing suitable for changing local climates
- Increase energy efficiency and manage energy demand
    - Require 7-star energy-rated new homes by 2022, and increase afterwards
    - Mandate a home energy disclosure scheme
    - Strengthen minimum energy efficiency standards for rented homes

Adaptation and resilience

- Build climate change into infrastructure decisions
- Specify climate scenarios and carbon value in planning and assessing infrastructure
- Build back better after emergencies, and adapt to changing coastlines
- Target 30% tree canopy coverage in growth areas
- Improve regional telecommunications infrastructure resilience
- Improve critical infrastructure information and embed resilience



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Thank you

Llewellyn Reynders

Director

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