



**REGEN
MELBOURNE**



Towards a regenerative Melbourne

Embracing Doughnut Economics
to create a new compass
for Melbourne

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of what we now call Melbourne, the Bunurong Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging. We recognise that we need to build conversations like these, about the future of our city, on the wisdom of First Nations people, and with an understanding and appreciation of the ongoing impacts of colonialism and dispossession. Sovereignty was never ceded. This always was and always will be Aboriginal land.

We acknowledge and support the Victorian Treaty process and the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria. We also support the *Uluru Statement from the Heart* and the call for a First Nations Voice to Parliament, protected by the Constitution.

We wish to share a heartfelt thank you to the many hundreds of people who participated in the community workshops and shared time and passion during this project. We also thank the co-hosts of the roundtables and participants in these associated networks, including;

Warwick Smith
CASTLEMAINE INSTITUTE

Dr Michelle Maloney
NEW ECONOMY NETWORK AUSTRALIA

Rob Gell and Mike Flattley
ROYAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

Dr Catherine Brown OAM
LORD MAYOR'S CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Mele-Ane Havea
SMALL GIANTS ACADEMY

Our work has been enabled and greatly enhanced by a talented and deeply thoughtful group of facilitators and graphic scribes. We thank this team for their dedication and the depth that they have brought to this project and the formation of the Regen Melbourne network: **Rachel Bucknall, Devon Bunce, Nicki Colls, Anna Crabb, Abbie Freestone, Kiran Kashyap, Phoebe Roberts, Katherine Sundermann, Matt Sykes** and with a very special mention to our Doughnut Champion **Alison Whitten**.

This project has not been an attempt to create a "representative" snapshot of Melbourne. That exercise is beyond our current scope. Rather, it builds on the strategies, visions and wisdom of organisations and individuals interested in localising Doughnut Economics in our city, and combines this with a unique community engagement exercise to create a roadmap for downscaling the Doughnut to Melbourne.

In solidarity,

Willow Berzin
COALITION OF EVERYONE

Kaj Lofgren
SMALL GIANTS ACADEMY

Stephen Torsi
LORD MAYOR'S CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Sean Trewick
CIRCULAR ECONOMY VICTORIA

REGEN MELBOURNE CONVENERS

This report includes quotes from a diverse group of prominent leaders in Melbourne who generously gave their time for interviews to discuss their love for our city, their experience of the COVID-19 disruption, the lessons that emerged for them and their vision for our city. These individuals include:

Fiona Armstrong
CEO, CLIMATE AND HEALTH ALLIANCE

Cheryl Batagol PSM
CHAIR, CRC FOR WATER SENSITIVE CITIES

Dr Catherine Brown OAM
CEO, LORD MAYOR'S CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

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SENIOR ELDER, BOON WURRONG FOUNDATION

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VICE PRESIDENT, ROYAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

Toby Kent
MELBOURNE'S FIRST CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER AND CO-FOUNDER, ELLISKENT

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DR CATHERINE BROWN OAM

Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation is proud to be a founding partner of the Regen Melbourne Network and supporter of the project detailed in this report.

As the community foundation for Greater Melbourne, our purpose is to identify and scale solutions that address Melbourne’s big social and environmental challenges. We achieve this through a focus on supporting innovative and effective models, convening and participating in impactful collaborations and working at a systems level on the biggest challenges.

The Regen Melbourne network and its focus on regenerative economic models is an outstanding example of our approach in action. It embodies innovation through the use of Kate Raworth’s Doughnut Economics framework. It succeeds through the strength of a growing network of passionate and skilful individuals and organisations. Importantly, it takes a systemic approach to helping us look with fresh eyes at the major interconnected challenges we are facing.

Community philanthropy can play a key role in catalysing innovative place-based work like this. It can take risks and act quickly, capabilities that are critical as Melbourne seeks to recover and build back better.

This recovery work is urgent, and the power of Kate’s model is that it can communicate complexity and engage a broad audience of participants, which is vital if we are to build a resilient and inclusive future for our city, its people and its ecology.

The Foundation’s impact areas are reflected in both the social foundation and ecological ceiling of the doughnut. Only when we can ensure an inclusive future for our most disadvantaged communities and individuals can we say we are truly inside the safe and just space articulated by Kate.

What is clear from this report is that within the challenges we face, there is enormous economic opportunity which can provide secure jobs for all in the next economy. This report steps out a clear path for the Regen Melbourne network as it brings in new public, private and government partners, unlocks further support and initiates demonstration projects across our city.

I commend and congratulate the Regen Melbourne network and Small Giants Academy on leading this excellent community visioning report and look forward to the next phase of development.

Dr Catherine Brown OAM
Chief Executive Officer
Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation



KATE RAWORTH

Ever since the Doughnut was first published in 2012, people in districts, towns and cities worldwide have asked ‘What would it take for us to live in the Doughnut here?’ This initiative by Regen Melbourne is a fantastically creative and inspiring opening response to that question.

This report’s first focus is on local aspirations for what it could mean to thrive in Greater Melbourne. When this is complemented with the next step – focusing on Melbourne’s global responsibility for its impact on people and planet worldwide – the result will be a powerful self-portrait of a city that is facing the challenges and opportunities of transformation and is already in motion to make it happen.

In launching this initiative, Melbourne is joining a group of cities around the world that are pioneering holistic approaches to transformation, each in their own distinct way. It’s clear that the deeply collaborative approach taken here is going to inspire communities in many other places to bring such creativity, listening, imagination and care as has been poured into this process. Those communities will, in turn, take the rich inspiration offered here and each add their own innovative twist. This is how we all keep learning – together and from each other – and how we give ourselves the best chance possible to transform the future.

I hugely look forward to seeing what happens next.

Kate Raworth
Author and Economist
Doughnut Economics: 7 Ways to Think Like a 21st Century Economist



Foreword



Executive
Summary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

“How are we as a society investing, stepping up and stepping forward to these disruptions that will continually impact on the world?”

N'ARWEET DR CAROLYN BRIGGS

INTRODUCTION

This report is for the citizens of Greater Melbourne. It serves as an invitation to join an ongoing conversation about Melbourne's future. The project described here is a small first step towards using Doughnut Economics for transformative action on the big challenges and opportunities for our city.

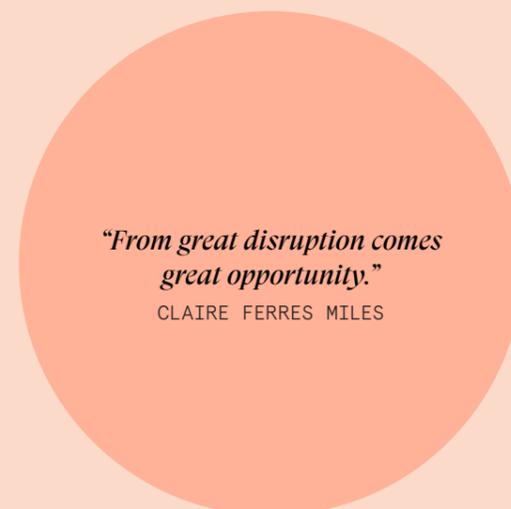
Regen Melbourne is an emerging network of individuals and organisations exploring a regenerative future for our city. Formed at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the network was convened by Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, Small Giants Academy, Circular Economy Victoria and the Coalition of Everyone. Regen Melbourne is now made up of more than 500 individuals and more than 40 organisations from across sectors and disciplines.

In October 2020, the convening organisations instigated a community engagement project with three clear purposes:

1. To investigate the appropriateness and adaptability of the Doughnut Economics model to Melbourne's unique context
2. To develop preliminary community insights around a regenerative future for Melbourne
3. To explore the value of a network-based, collaborative methodology to surface findings and recommendations for our road ahead

To achieve the above, we have combined the Doughnut Economics City Portrait methodology and a unique community engagement model. Over the past six months, we have convened five interactive community forums, undertaken 15 leadership interviews, held six roundtables and conducted countless hours of data analysis.

This report brings together the outcomes from our initial community engagement project. Many of the quotes and insights documented here bear witness to the collective experience of the COVID-19 pandemic and provide the impetus for how we can reimagine economic opportunity and resilience in our city. When referencing Melbourne this report, we are referring to the 32 Local Government Areas that make up Greater Melbourne.



CONTEXT

We are currently experiencing the convergence of three disruptive and interconnected forces: the economic crisis brought on by COVID-19, rising social inequality and the climate and biodiversity emergency. Our current economic paradigm does not adequately provide pathways for the transformative action urgently needed to overcome these complex and interconnected challenges, nor does it take advantage of the potential opportunities of this moment.

Doughnut Economics provides us with this paradigm shift. This deceptively simple model, with an ecological ceiling based on the Stockholm Resilience Centre's planetary boundaries and a social foundation based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), equips us with a 21st Century compass for meeting the needs of all within the means of the planet. The project described in the report demonstrates the potential power of this new compass for Melbourne.

The future that we have described in this report is built on the goal of attaining economic security, creating new jobs and supporting all aspects of our city to thrive. However, generating true economic security after COVID-19 is predicated on rapidly reducing our impact on the planet and increasing our care for each other. This is how we build back better and drive the creation of a more inclusive, localised, innovative, resilient and agile economy.

Melbourne is a hungry city, an unsustainable city, using up vast amounts of resources and material flows to generate economic activity. This extractive and exploitative model urgently needs reimagining to ensure safety and security not just for the people of Melbourne, but also the ecosystems, communities and regions that are in relationship with the city.

Melbourne is a global, thriving, livable city of more than 5 million people. However, we face challenges that include homelessness, housing unaffordability, social justice, income inequality and inequitable access to education, jobs and services. This requires us to think about how our city and its economy is designed, and for whom.

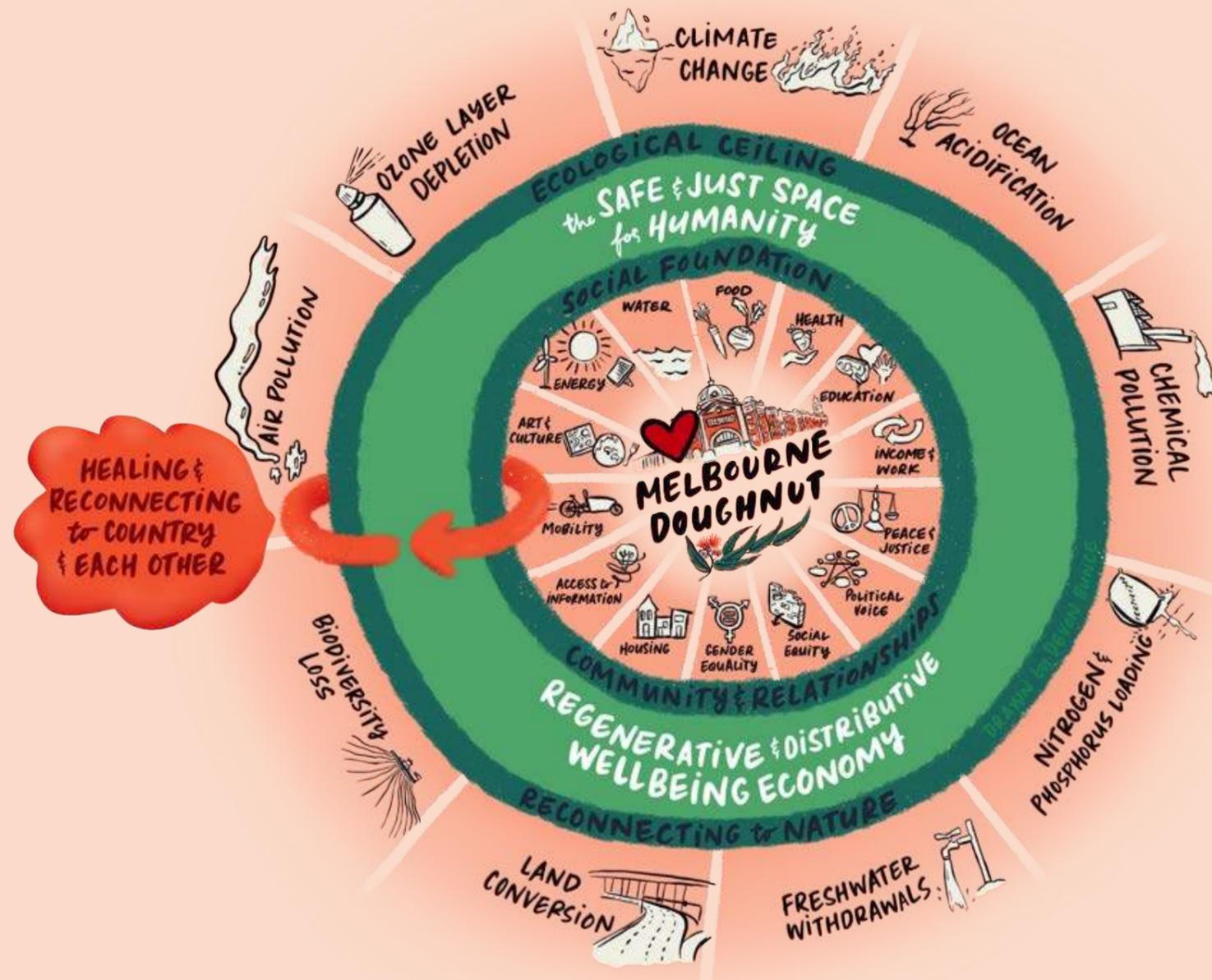
Working holistically across the dynamic complexity of Melbourne's economic, ecological and social systems is the only way to ensure long-term safety, security and justice. The Doughnut methodology embraces this holistic approach, providing us with the framework and tools to reimagine our city as a regenerative, prosperous, just and safe place to live.

There isn't a moment to lose. Moving Melbourne into the safe space described by the Doughnut is the biggest economic, ecological and social impact opportunity of our time.



FINDINGS & NEXT STEPS

PROJECT PURPOSE	PRIMARY INSIGHT	ROADMAP STEPS 2021-2023
<p>1. To investigate the appropriateness and adaptability of the Doughnut Economics model to Melbourne's unique context</p>	<p>The Doughnut Economics methodology, when downscaled to Melbourne's context, serves as a powerful new compass for our city. The Doughnut model is highly adaptable and creates the space for impactful community-led conversations about our future. The Doughnut model provided the right framework for the right time as Melbourne emerged from our COVID-19 lockdowns.</p> <p>See Melbourne Doughnut (over page)</p>	<p>Further developing the Melbourne Doughnut</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Building on the insights generated to date and the Melbourne Doughnut created here, continue the City Portrait process for Greater Melbourne and incorporate both our local and global responsibilities 2. Establish expert-led working groups for each of the dimensions of the Melbourne Doughnut 3. Investigate gaps and opportunities in local, state and federal government policy that can inform the development of doughnut-aligned policies for Greater Melbourne 4. Establish a data and measurement working group and identify primary indicators and associated data sources for each dimension of the Melbourne Doughnut
<p>2. To develop preliminary community insights around a regenerative future for Melbourne</p>	<p>Our community insights process has surfaced an emerging vision for a regenerative Melbourne. The Doughnut model and our unique community engagement model developed potent preliminary insights for Greater Melbourne. The major opportunity now is for further municipal and neighbourhood-level localisation.</p> <p>See Vision for Melbourne (over page)</p>	<p>Further community activation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Convene a regenerative business forum to support and enhance collaboration and to share knowledge of aligned business practice 6. Establish at least five Regen Melbourne neighbourhood groups to explore local, place-based activation of Melbourne's Doughnut 7. Recruit at least five Greater Melbourne councils as beacons that engage in the activation of Melbourne's Doughnut within their municipalities 8. Activate community around projects by establishing a Regenerative Project Incubator to support new ideas and ventures that move our city into the safe space described by the Melbourne Doughnut
<p>3. To explore the value of a network-based, collaborative methodology to surface findings and recommendations for our road ahead</p>	<p>The Regen Melbourne network has emerged as an Anchor Collaborative, creating meaningful community connection and activation that can be developed further. This world-first, community-led approach to localising the Doughnut model has been marked by the ease and effectiveness of collaboration within the Regen Melbourne network. This has resulted in a co-created shared vision, pathways for continued work and a framework for an aligned way to measure success.</p>	<p>Further developing the Regen Melbourne network</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Establish a Regen Melbourne steering committee, governance framework and resourcing strategy 10. Utilise the Melbourne Doughnut, create an interactive map of people, organisations, projects and research that are accelerating our city into the safe and just space for humanity 11. Share stories of individuals and organisations working to achieve the goals of Melbourne's Doughnut 12. Create and share demonstration projects and practical tools for activating Melbourne's doughnut



a REGENERATIVE MELBOURNE is:

KNOWLEDGEABLE

EVERYONE has ACCESS to KNOWLEDGE as CUSTODIANS of the ENVIRONMENT and SOCIETY



CONNECTED through CULTURE

WE are PROUD of our DIVERSITY of CULTURE as DRIVERS of CONNECTION and CREATIVITY & we LIVE as MUCH a PART of the LAND as the LAND US



FULL of LIFE

A NETWORK of NEIGHBOURHOODS that SUPPORT THRIVING COMMUNITIES & NATURAL SYSTEMS. WE can SWIM in our RIVERS, PLAY & LEARN in NATURE, GROW FOOD in our CITY



AFFORDABLE

EVERYONE has SECURE, SAFE, COMFORTABLE HOUSING POWERED by CLEAN ENERGY and QUALITY LOCALLY GROWN FOOD



COLLABORATIVE

WHERE we DO what WE LOVE for our LIVELIHOODS and WE are VALUED for our CONTRIBUTION



ENABLED

OUR ECONOMIC & GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS ENABLE these VISIONS to COME to LIFE





Context

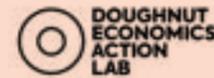
REGEN MELBOURNE NETWORK

Regen Melbourne is a network of organisations and individuals exploring a regenerative future for our city. The network is an emerging group of more than 500 individuals and more than 40 organisations.

Join regen.melbourne



Small Giants
Academy



Dumbo
Feather



evitat

MinterEllison



SPARK | BEYOND



Digital
Storytellers



The
Royal Society
OF VICTORIA
Promoting science since 1824

OUR CONTEXT

Acknowledging context is a critical element of any self-aware process or methodology. For us, this begins with examining who we are as a collective, and expands to include reflections on our role within our city, our country and the global community. We recognise that our local actions - the policies we support, the investments we make, the relationships we build - have an impact on social and environmental outcomes at multiple scales. Our decisions must therefore be made with this ripple effect in mind and an eye for embedding human prosperity and social progress while minimising pressure on our planet's natural, life-sustaining systems.

This work evolved and crystallised within Melbourne's collective experience of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The Regen Melbourne network, its projects and this work are all indelibly marked by the pandemic, resulting lockdowns and their impact on our city. Many of the city's most socio-economically disadvantaged communities bore the brunt of the health and economic challenges during this time and pre-existing social and economic inequalities were further exposed¹. More broadly, the city's economy, and especially economic activity within the central city, experienced a huge drop in payroll jobs and a significant increase in vacancy rates.

After a peak in COVID-19 cases in June 2020, Melbourne entered into a prolonged, strict lockdown that lasted more than 15 weeks (or 111 days). Announcing the end of this lockdown, Premier Daniel Andrews paid tribute to the "kindness and commitment and courage" of Melburnians in acting together to flatten the second wave of COVID-19².

Despite this success, a collective trauma was experienced and a community recovery is now underway³. Many of the quotes and insights documented here bear witness to that experience and provide the impetus for how we can reimagine economic opportunity and resilience in our city.

*"What did we learn?
I learnt that people cared...
people were courageous, young people
demonstrated their leadership in
caring about their fellow human."*
N'ARWEET DR CAROLYN BRIGGS

*"What do we want to keep
in terms of the way we live,
and what do I want to
change as a result of this?"*
PROFESSOR YIN PARADIES

*"The way in which we have
responded to the pandemic has
largely been an act of solidarity,
altruism, generosity and a
demonstration of care towards
our fellow human beings."*
FIONA ARMSTRONG

*"While there is much of
which we can be proud... we
need to hurry back carefully."*
TOBY KENT

*"I was so impressed and moved
by the solidarity...I just
finished the year feeling bloody
proud of Melburnians."*
BERRY LIBERMAN

*"I felt very proud to be a Victorian,
and very proud of my fellow
Victorians, for us all pulling
together and working towards a
common objective and a common
goal, which we achieved."*
CAROL SCHWARTZ

OUR CITY

Melbourne is the capital city of the State of Victoria and Australia's second-largest city. Although settled by Europeans in 1835, this place has long been an important meeting place for the Kulin Nation, the Traditional Custodians of this land. We acknowledge the Bunurong Boon Wurrung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin Nation and pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

When referencing Melbourne throughout this report, we are referring to Greater Melbourne, which today is made up of 32 Local Government Areas across "an area of approximately 9900 km² of suburbs spread more than 40 km to the south, 30 km to the east, 20 km to the north and sprawl across vast, flat basalt plains to the west."⁴ The population of the metropolitan area is just over 5 million people and is anticipated to grow to make Melbourne Australia's largest city by 2030.⁵

Since colonial settlement, our city has become home to wave after wave of migrants, with people from more than 200 countries now calling Melbourne home.⁶

Using traditional measures of success, Melbourne is an economic powerhouse. Its Gross Regional Product for 2018-2019 was \$369 billion, representing 19% of Australia's Gross Domestic Product.⁷ The industries that supplied the most jobs in Melbourne (as of 2017-2018) were, in order, healthcare and social assistance; administrative and support services; professional, scientific and technical services; retail trade and education and training.⁸

The Economist Intelligence Unit conducts an annual Liveability Index study which assesses global cities' liveability based on Stability, Healthcare, Culture and Environment, Education and Infrastructure. Based on these criteria, Melbourne was ranked the world's most liveable city for seven years in a row between 2011 and 2017. In 2019, it was ranked the second most liveable city

behind Vienna, Austria. While this ranking is often cited and celebrated, it should also be noted that it is not based on all Melburnians' experience of our city. We face challenges with homelessness, housing unaffordability, income inequality and inequitable access to jobs and services, particularly in certain parts of the metropolitan area.⁹ This requires us to think about how our city is designed, and for whom. The work presented here suggests a more inclusive model for conceptualising and gauging Melbourne's 'success' over the long term.

"I really love Melbourne for its diversity of culture. That's what I love about it the most."

PROFESSOR YIN PARADIES

"Melbourne is a human-scale city...both electric and global, but also slow and contemplative, and has depth. The combination between the slow and the fast coexisting is really exciting."

REBECCA SCOTT

"There's nothing better than walking back from the MCG along Birrarung Marr, people from both footy teams getting on, buskers playing. Melbourne is an incredibly positive place to live."

PROF THE HON JOHN THWAITES

OUR COUNTRY

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Australia had enjoyed almost three decades of uninterrupted economic growth. This period of stability and prosperity has allowed many Australians to enjoy an unprecedented quality of life. The distribution of this growth, however, has not been even. The Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS) has shown (as of 2015) that economic inequality in Australia has increased over the last three decades, peaking in 2007-2008.¹⁰ As of 2018, Australia's economic inequality was slightly below average for OECD nations, higher than Belgium, Germany and Sweden, but lower than Great Britain or the UK.¹¹

Similar data shows that Australia has a slightly above-average poverty rate within the OECD group of countries, with a rate of 12.1% of the population. COVID-19 has put additional strain on households living in poverty and renting privately, as these groups have been most vulnerable to unemployment or reduced hours.¹² In addition, as of the writing of this report, the effects of the conclusion of the federal government's COVID-19 employment support (particularly JobKeeper and the supplement to JobSeeker) are yet to be understood. The expectation, however, is that the conclusion of this program will have continued and greater impacts on job stability for those in already-vulnerable positions and industries.

Our recent political history has been unstable. We have had seven Prime Ministers in 14 years, many falling over the issues of energy and emissions policy.¹³ This instability, alongside the rise of big tech, the financial crisis and other factors, contributed to a decline in public trust in Australian institutions (media, government, non-profit and business) over the last two decades.¹⁴

This recent history created a fascinating backdrop for our country as we began 2020. The country was experiencing devastating bushfires that killed 34 people, burned over 46 million acres, destroyed at least 3,500 homes. Over a billion animals died,

bringing many species close to extinction.¹⁵ Already, local governments and activists around the country were calling for a climate emergency to be declared; at this stage, nearly 100 jurisdictions, accounting for 9 million people, have formally declared a climate emergency.¹⁶ Nonetheless, the federal government failed to pass a Climate Emergency Declaration Bill presented in 2020, leaving Australia without substantial climate change commitments, including being without a net-zero emissions target.¹⁷

The Australian COVID-19 experience no doubt exposed existing inequalities and systemic frailties, but it also demonstrated the role of decisive political leadership at a state level and the importance of strong public healthcare. This contributed to a more recent increase in trust in Australia's institutions and in the standing of Australia's politicians in public opinion.¹⁸

Over the past year, much discussion has focused on how we can collectively learn from these experiences so that we are prepared as a country for future shocks and stresses, including climate-induced disasters. The inequitable and environmentally damaging nature of our current economic system, however, suggests that we are in need of a new compass to guide decision-making for our city and country alike.

"Where's the redundancy in the system, the excess that we can draw on in times of trouble?"

PROFESSOR YIN PARADIES

"The decade ahead of us is the decade of action, this is the time for us to change our future trajectory."

CLAIRE FERRES MILES



Methodology

OUR METHODOLOGY

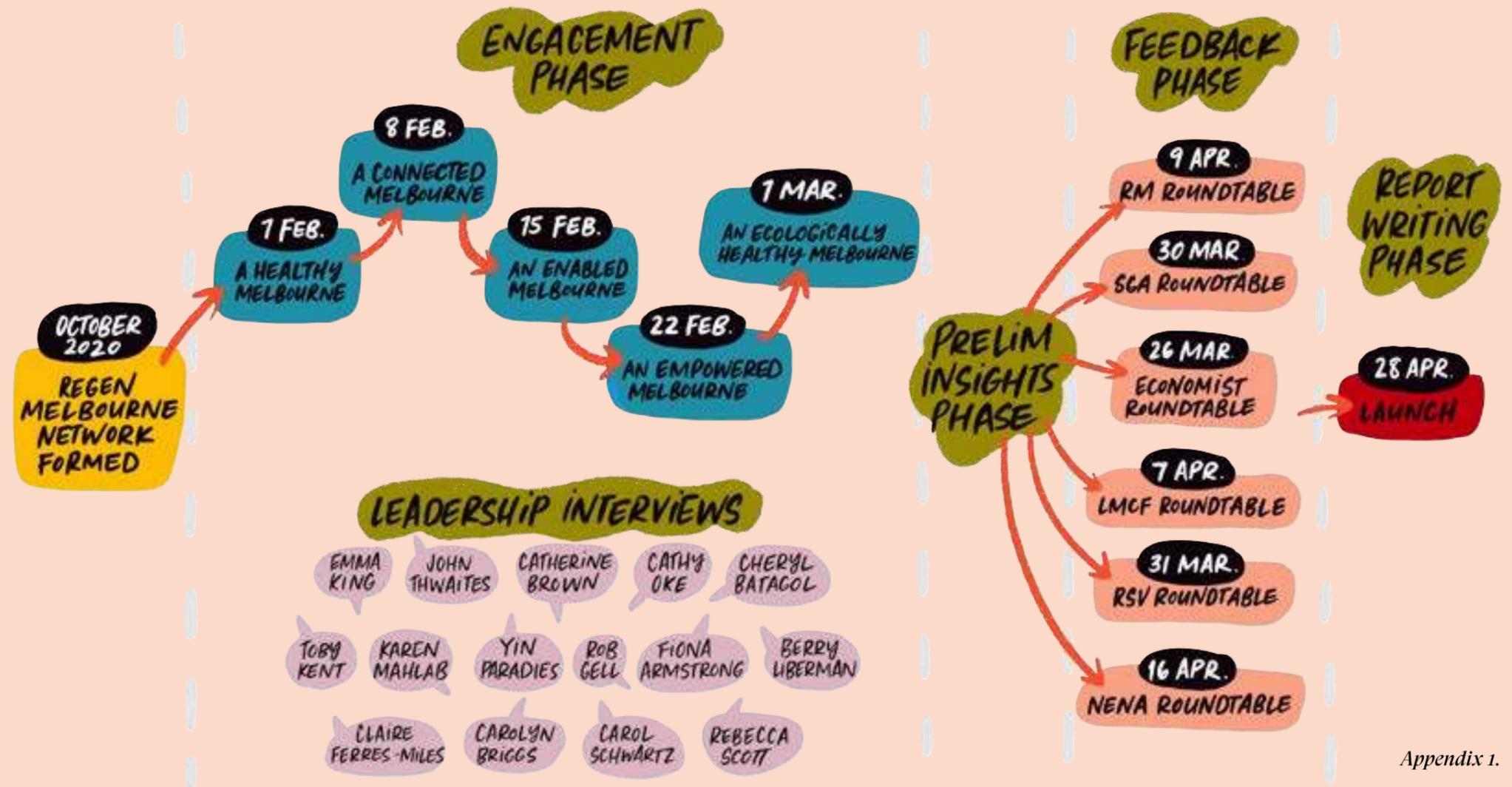
The purpose of the work presented here is threefold. Firstly, it is to explore the appropriateness and adaptability of the Doughnut Economics model to Melbourne's unique context. Secondly, it is to develop preliminary community insights around a regenerative future for Melbourne. And thirdly, it is to explore the value of a unique network-based collaborative methodology to surface key findings and recommendations for our road ahead.

To achieve the above we have combined the Doughnut Economics City Portrait methodology and a unique community engagement model. Over the past six months we have convened five interactive community forums, undertaken 15 leadership interviews, held six roundtables and conducted countless hours of data analysis. This has involved more than 500 citizens of Melbourne.

Our methodology has followed eight steps, outlined below and in *Appendix 1*. We publish this methodology in some detail to embrace a principle of transparency and creative commons, and to provide a source for distributed learning and knowledge sharing, as well as a potential blueprint for other cities in Australia and around the world:

1. Community Activation
2. Research and Mapping
3. Community Workshops
4. Leadership Interviews
5. Preliminary Insights
6. Roundtable Feedback
7. Insights Finalisation
8. Doughnut Localisation

By generating community insights and producing a locally adapted version of the Doughnut, we have taken a small step towards a full City Portrait for Greater Melbourne; a new compass to guide Melbourne in the 21st century. Our recommendations create a roadmap to achieve this outcome.



Appendix 1.

We have followed and harnessed the initial energy around the localisation of the Doughnut to Melbourne. This is the start of a conversation and we acknowledge the work still to be done to reach all the diverse voices of our city.

PART 1

A NEW COMPASS
FOR MELBOURNE

INTRODUCING DOUGHNUT ECONOMICS

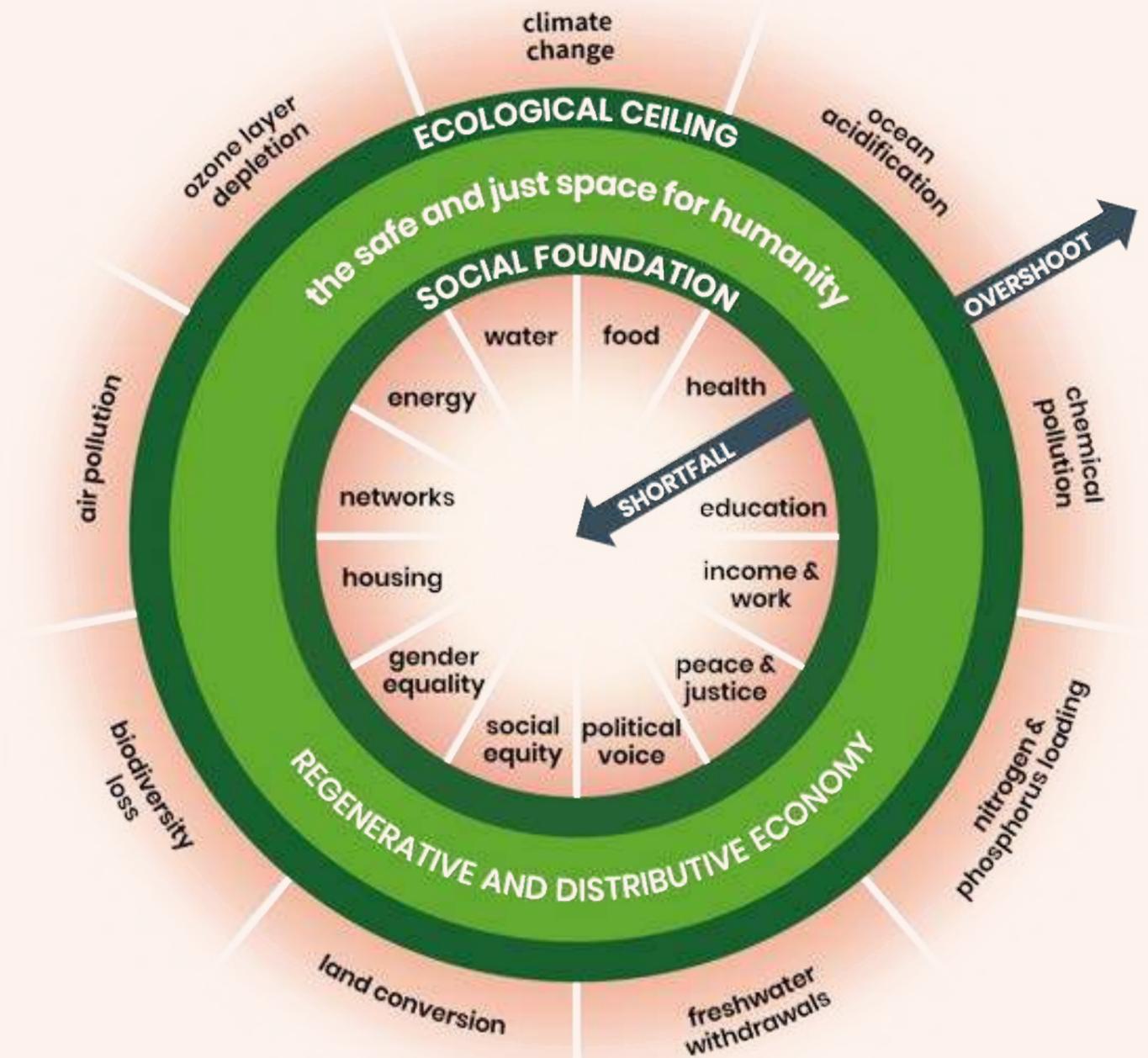
The pioneering book *Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st Century Economist* was released by economist and author Kate Raworth in 2017. This groundbreaking work presented seven ways to rethink economics. The first way is to create a new goal for progress and prosperity in the 21st century, beyond the simple, outdated and problematic goal of growth at all costs. More than a vision, the Doughnut offers us a compass to navigate the complex social and ecological challenges that face humanity in the 21st century. Visualised as two concentric circles forming a doughnut ring, with our social foundation as the inner ring and the ecological boundaries as the outer ring, this vision presents a world in which people and planet can thrive in balance.

The Doughnut's social foundation is derived from the social priorities laid out in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. In this way the inner ring of the Doughnut does not introduce new metrics or measures, but rather draws on and reflects the goals that all UN Member States agreed to in 2015. These include the essentials of life: elements like water, food, health, education, energy, income and work, peace and justice, housing and social equity. These elements are represented as 12 segments within the doughnut. In this vision of the future no one falls below this social foundation, or into the hole in the middle of the Doughnut.

The Doughnut's ecological ceiling is made up of the nine planetary boundaries as defined by the Stockholm Resilience Centre. In a similar way to the Doughnut's social foundation, this method does not introduce new science, but instead adopts an agreed way to measure our shared ecological boundary. This also identifies a range of ecological factors, going beyond a measure of climate change alone, to include elements like chemical pollution, land conversion, biodiversity loss and ocean acidification. In this vision of the future no human activity exceeds our ecological ceiling.

Between our social foundation and ecological ceiling we find the safe and just space for humanity. The Doughnut's essence becomes clear: the goal for our governance, politics, economics, science, business and civil society should be to move humanity into this safe and just space.

Of course, the world is still far from operating in this space. Not only are billions of people unable to meet their basic human needs, we are already operating well beyond at least four of our planetary boundaries.¹⁹



Our global challenge is to simultaneously meet the human needs and wellbeing of all, while also regenerating our planet and bringing our ecological impact back from our current overshoot. This challenge must be met by all actors and levels of government, including at a city scale. Cities around the world (including Amsterdam, Brussels, Copenhagen, Philadelphia and Portland) have risen to this challenge and have begun localising the Doughnut model to a city scale. This process has become known as creating a **City Portrait** and has led to the creation of innovative tools and processes that engage populations and guide decision makers.²⁰

Here in Melbourne, we have been particularly inspired by the City Portrait process and have learned from the published City Portrait Methodology. The development of this process involved 'downscaling' the global lens of the original Doughnut and making it more accessible and relevant at a local scale. At the core of this process are four questions that citizens and institutions within a city can begin to explore:

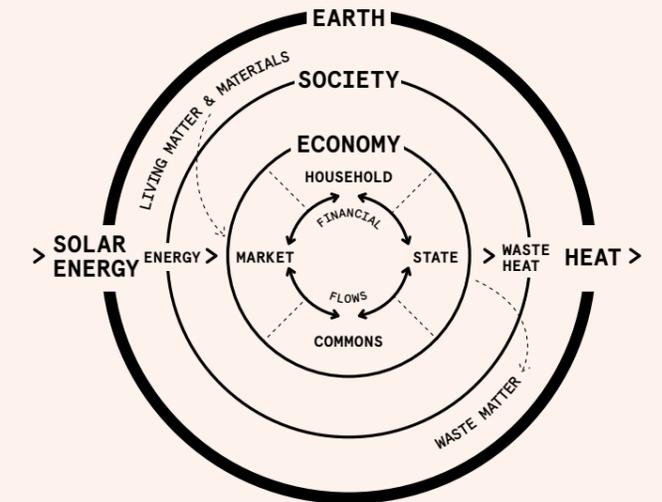
On the local axis, the methodology asks what it would mean for the people of a city to thrive (Local-Social lens) and what it would mean for the city to thrive within its natural habitat (Local-Ecological lens). On the global axis, it asks what it would mean for the city to respect the wellbeing of people worldwide (Global-Social lens) and what it would mean for the city to respect the health of the whole planet (Global-Ecological lens). By breaking these questions down into local, global, social and ecological elements, the methodology provides an inviting and accessible entry point into considering complex issues, and an ability to begin mapping existing indicators for a localised version of the Doughnut.

The reflections outlined here represent the first steps towards a City Portrait undertaking for Melbourne. The work presented here relates to the local axis of this framework; engaging with the global axis is part of our recommended pathways forward.

Finally, our work to date focuses on the first way to think like a 21st Century economist: creating a new, locally-adapted compass for social progress and prosperity in Melbourne. In order to do this, however, our work embraces a number of elements of the other seven ways of thinking (see Appendix 2). First among these is reimagining our market as part of an embedded economy. When imagining our economy, Doughnut Economics asks us to expand our thinking beyond only the market, to also think about the role of the household, the state and the commons. As Kate Raworth writes:

*"all four are means of production and distribution, but they go about it in very different ways. Households produce 'core' goods for their own members; the market produces private goods for those willing and able to pay; the commons produce co-created goods for the communities involved; and the state produces public goods for all the populace."*²¹

This embedded economy model informs our methodology for this project and how we articulate our recommendations for the year ahead. The reason for this is simple. Given the scale of the opportunities and challenges we face, we need to activate all aspects of our economy (households, market, state and commons) towards the regenerative future we seek.



	SOCIAL	ECOLOGICAL
LOCAL	What would it mean for the people of this city to thrive?	What would it mean for this city to thrive within its natural habitate?
GLOBAL	What would it mean for this city to respect the wellbeing of people worldwide?	What would it mean for this city to respect the health of the whole planet?

← THIS REPORT HAS FOCUSED ON THE LOCAL LENS

← A GLOBAL LENS IS RECOMMENDED AS A NEXT STEP

MAPPING EXISTING PLANS TO THE DOUGHNUT

We acknowledge that this project builds on a mountain of research and good work that has come before it. As such, our methodology involved a review of existing strategies, plans and literature to understand their alignment with the underlying principles and themes of the Doughnut. This included reports developed by individuals, organisations and various levels of government. We identified, too, a range of reports developed in the context of COVID-19 that acknowledge this time as an opportunity to reassess how we understand and plan for the future.

Our contribution is to begin a mapping process to illustrate this work's alignment with the Doughnut model, highlighting key research that contributes to Melbourne reaching the safe and just space for humanity. By doing this, we can begin to see how pre-existing work and initiatives intersect, overlap with and complement one another and the Doughnut.

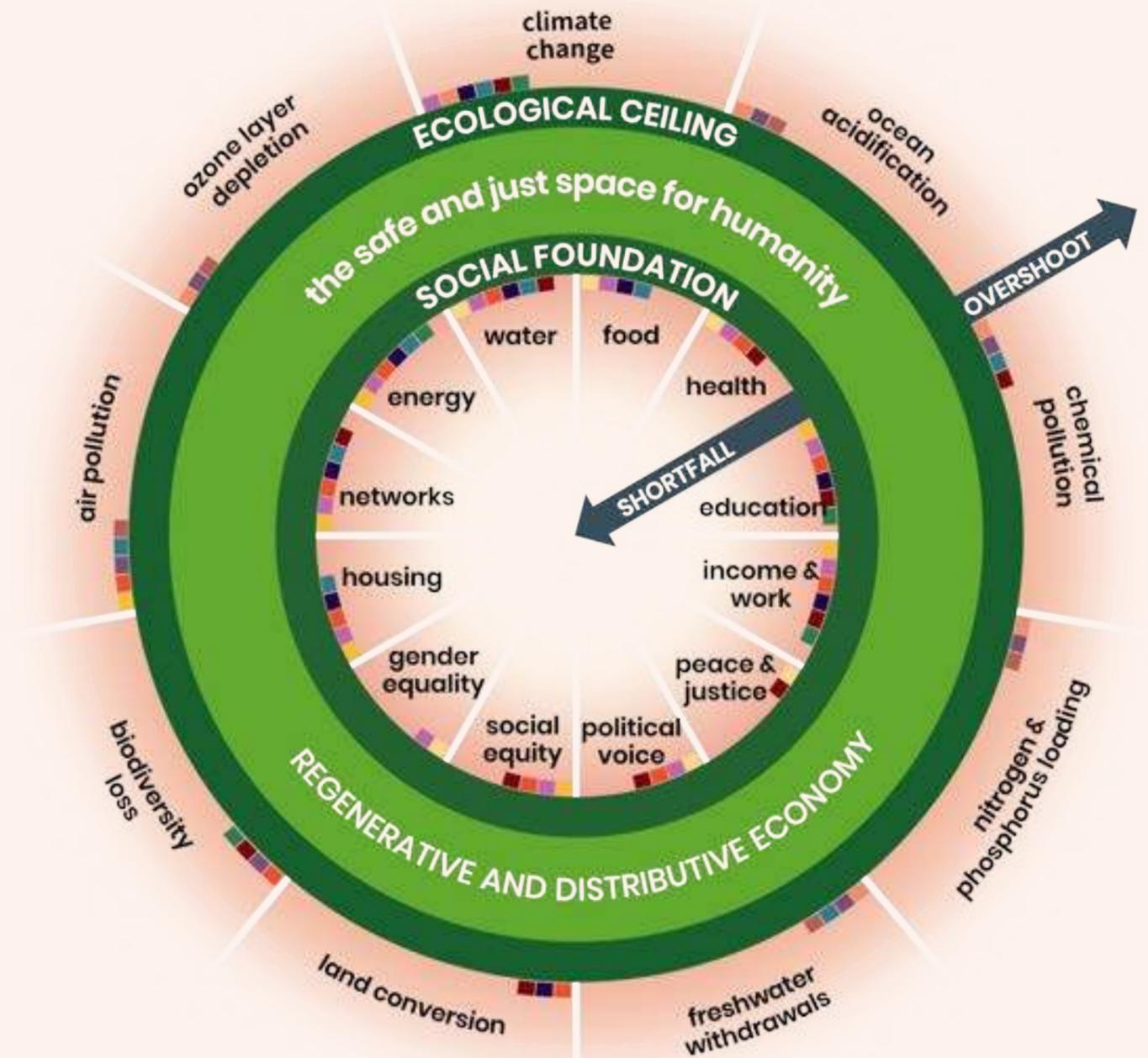
Our preliminary analysis includes the mapping of a selection of prominent and recent publications on Melbourne and Australia's future. These include:

- **Greater Melbourne Vital Signs**
LORD MAYOR'S CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
- **Melbourne Reactivation & Recovery Plan**
CITY OF MELBOURNE
- **Plan Melbourne, 2017-2050**
GOVERNMENT OF VICTORIA
- **The Million Jobs Plan**
BEYOND ZERO EMISSIONS
- **A New Normal**
FINDING INFINITY
- **Vision to Regenerate Australia**
WWF-AUSTRALIA
- **Healthy, Regenerative & Just**
CLIMATE & HEALTH ALLIANCE

We have, of course, only scratched the surface in this report. There are many more organisations and initiatives that are sector- and theme-specific which we will now work to include and encourage others to explore. This process will be made live and interactive through an online portal, where organisations can share their projects and research.

The intention here is to allow citizens of Melbourne to navigate the inherently complex mix of initiatives and knowledge in any particular area of interest, whilst also being able to view the holistic vision which all these initiatives are contributing to: accelerating Melbourne into the safe and just space that the Doughnut model defines.

This preliminary research shows the power of the Doughnut model to map existing initiatives, organisations and research. This can serve as a navigation tool for individuals, organisations and funders to contribute to issues they feel strongly about, while maintaining an appreciation for the interconnectedness of the many challenges and opportunities we face.



A MELBOURNE DOUGHNUT

Throughout our work we explored whether the Doughnut model is adaptable and appropriate to Melbourne's unique character and our particular challenges and opportunities. The analysis of our context, the research and mapping work and our community engagement process has revealed that a local version of the Doughnut can serve as a powerful new compass for our city.

The local Melbourne Doughnut is constructed by augmenting the original Doughnut to include a number of new elements, rename others and add both dynamism and texture. This augmentation is based on the contributions and conversations from the Regen Melbourne community over the past six months. These changes are described below.

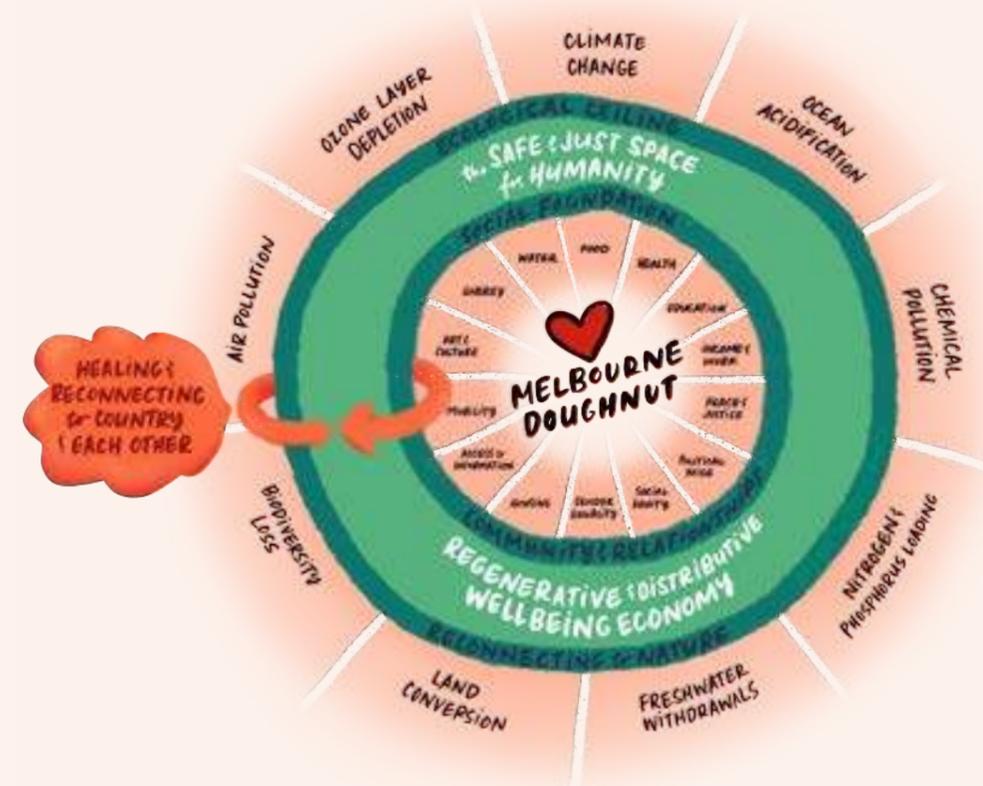
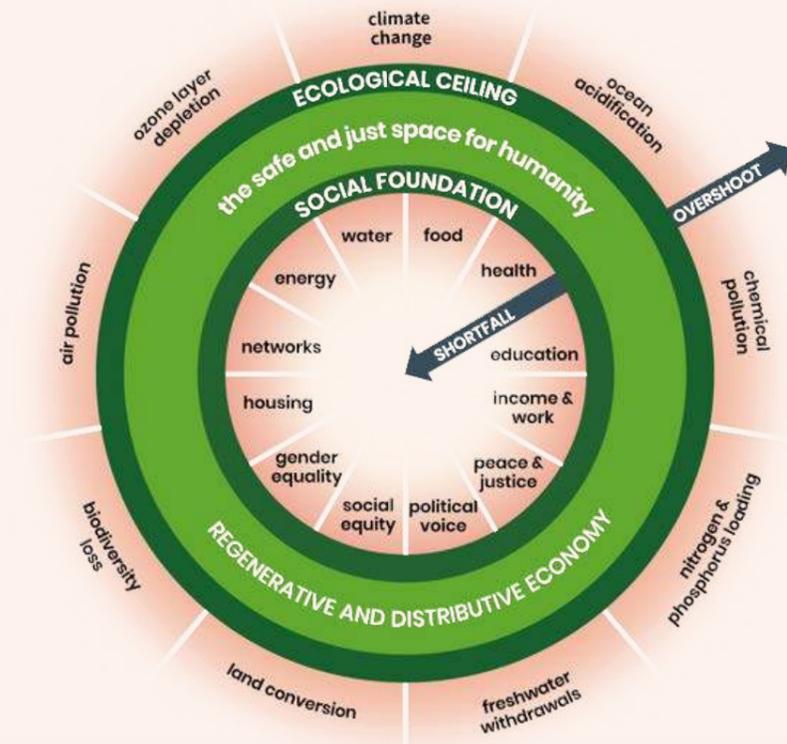
1. The original segment known as "Networks" has here been expanded into three component parts: Art & Culture, Mobility and Information.
 - + "Art & Culture" was referred to more often than perhaps any other dimension throughout our workshops and interviews. It became clear that the health of Melbourne and our citizens is in fact dependent on the health of our Art & Culture.
 - + "Mobility" was another dominant theme in our conversations. It spoke to the growing nature of our city and referred to the ability to move around in an accessible, equitable and sustainable way.
 - + "Access to Information" was discussed in a number of ways, both technical and social. This included equitable and affordable access to information channels like high-speed internet, but also included access to well-resourced public libraries. Another theme here was the importance of easy access to multilingual information.

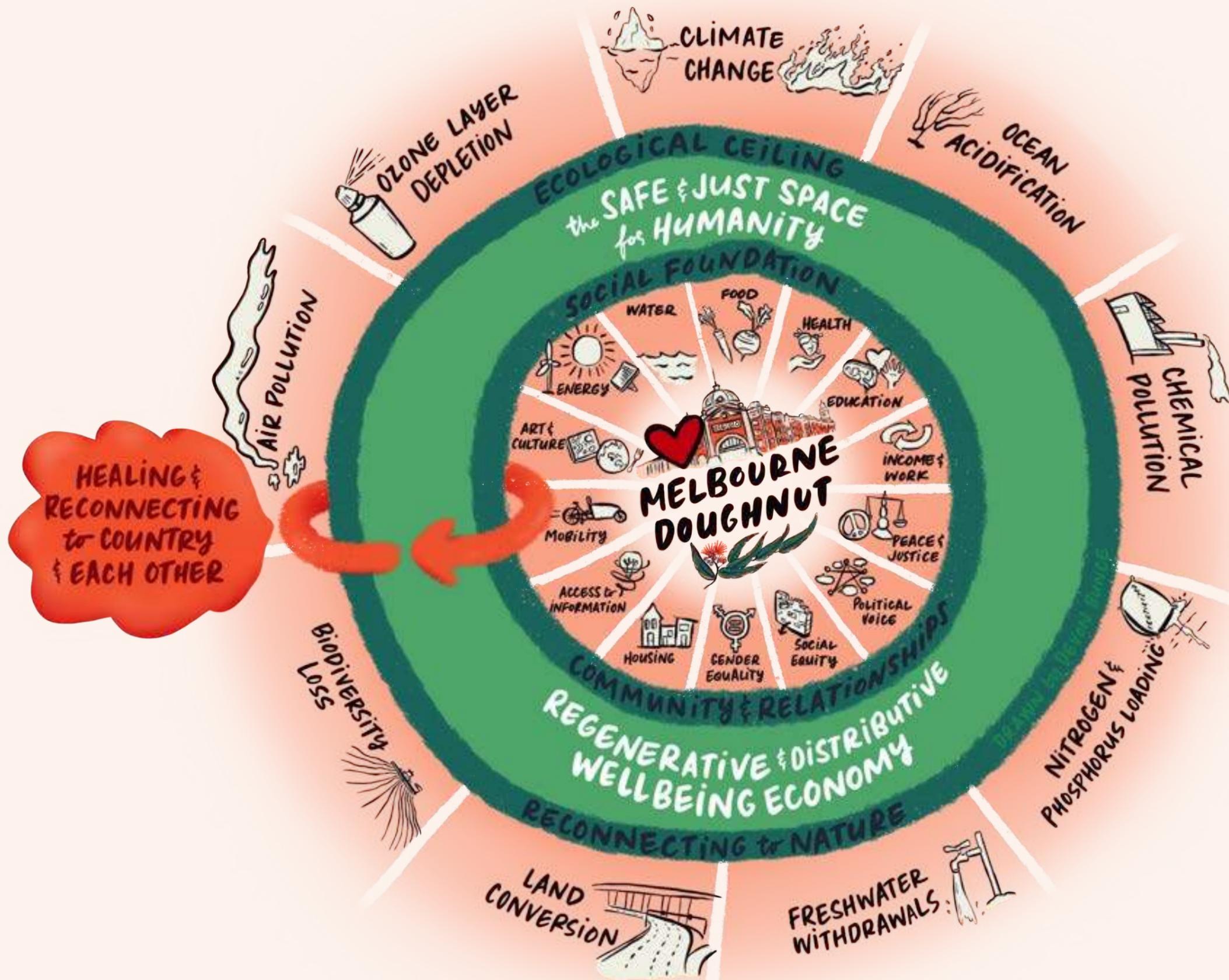
2. Throughout our workshops it became clear that the precursor to reaching the social foundation for all citizens of Melbourne was a strong and vibrant community. Melbourne prides itself on the strength of our community and yet isolation and loneliness is also rising. As such, we have included "Community and Relationships" as an important description underpinning all aspects of our social foundation.

3. In a similar way, the achievement of Melbourne operating within our ecological ceiling can only be reached if we reconnect with nature in a fundamental way. Human beings are not separate from nature. We are a part of our ecology and our ecosystem. Hence we have included "Reconnecting to Nature" as a critical addition describing our ecological ceiling.

4. We had many conversations about the need for a Melbourne Doughnut to feel dynamic, organic and alive. This was often in the context of our need to heal and reconnect, both to country and to each other. Hence, we have included a dynamic element, holding our Doughnut together, entitled "Healing and Reconnecting to Country and Each Other"

Our Melbourne Doughnut is organic and alive, and will continue to morph through the ongoing contributions from the Regen Melbourne community.





MELBOURNE DOUGHNUT
KEY: SOCIAL FOUNDATIONS



FOOD

Food is a daily essential for a healthy life, which is why all people need to have secure access to sufficient, affordable, safe and nutritious food. Yet there are still Australians who have experienced food insecurity within the last 12 months. Melbourne is known as a foodie capital, yet new data shows that food charities have never been busier. The production, consumption and waste processes around food also contribute significantly to our greenhouse gas emissions.



PEACE & JUSTICE

Personal security, government accountability, and access to justice for all are essential for peaceful and just societies. This enables people to live in their communities free from fear and exploitation. They likewise tackle corruption in business and politics by building effective and accountable institutions at all levels.



HOUSING

Sustainable and resilient homes and settlements are foundational for creating thriving communities. Melbourne is home to over 5 million people living in expansive homogeneous urban sprawls. Construction is booming, however this demand is inflating house prices, making the barrier to entry out of reach for many Melburnians. Melbourne also has a severe shortage of social and public housing, most of these buildings are run down and not on par with surrounding standards of living.



ENERGY

Access to energy for light, warmth and cooking are essential for life. But our need for energy goes far beyond these basic needs, and electricity has become a fundamental requirement for modern life. Australia enjoys a relatively stable and accessible power supply, as well as an established gas line infrastructure. Sources of energy are however, still very reliant on fossil fuels.



HEALTH

Health services provide people with essential care and treatment for illness and injury throughout their lifetimes. Australia has a comparatively strong public health system, with much focus on enabling healthy lifestyles, including free dietary advice and outdoor exercise equipment. However, there are still gaps in the current system that inadequately address issues like mental health, alcohol and drug abuse.



POLITICAL VOICE

It is core within a democracy like Australia to ensure people have voice in, and influence over, decisions that affect their lives. Democratic institutions, freedom of expression, freedom of association and a free media all tend to support more inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making in public life.



+ ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Information and communication networks are crucial in our complex modern societies. Australians experience some of the highest access to free information and open communication networks anywhere in the world, however these are not evenly distributed and often lead to negative unintended consequences.



WATER

Water is a daily essential for drinking, cooking, and maintaining healthy hygiene standards. Even though most Australians take these essentials for granted, it is important to remember Australia is a water scarce country. Currently Melbourne has some of the highest quality drinking water in the World, easily accessible at home and throughout urban public areas, however continued regional droughts are clear warnings that things can change quickly.



EDUCATION

Education is foundational to every person's ability to participate in society and to realise opportunities throughout their life. The Australian education system is one of the best in the world, however it is also one of the most unequal in the developed world.



SOCIAL EQUITY

Ensuring equality of opportunity and reducing income inequality are fundamental to the Australian narrative of a 'fair go'. People living in more equal societies tend to be healthier, safer and more trusting compared to those in less equal societies, however there are wide and growing inequalities of income and wealth in many countries. These inequalities are frequently exacerbated by inequalities of race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, age, language, disability and location.



+ MOBILITY

Physical mobility is a core component in empowering wellbeing. In Australia we enjoy high levels of mobility through access to relatively advanced transport infrastructure. However, these transportation networks are not fully integrated and are significant emitters of greenhouse gases. The COVID-19 pandemic has also shown us that levels of mobility can quickly diminish.



INCOME & WORK

Access to work that is safe, meaningful and fairly paid is essential for a fulfilled life. During the COVID-19 pandemic Melbourne saw a majority of its workforce either unemployed or working from home. The effects of this disconnection from colleagues and meaningful work resulted in a sharp rise in mental health cases. Government put various forms of economic stimulus packages in place during the pandemic. Some of these packages enabled many Australians to receive the income they needed to live.



GENDER EQUALITY

Ensuring that everyone has equal access to education, health care, decent work and representation in political and economic decision-making processes are essential elements of just societies. Gender inequality in Australia remains a prominent concern. From the gender gap in our politics and business leadership to the gender pay-gap (most recently 10.9% in Victoria), to discrimination and harassment in the workplace to gender-based and family violence, we still have a long way to go in achieving gender equality in our city and our country.



+ ART & CULTURE

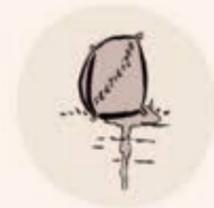
Art and culture are fundamentally important components of our complex societies. They provide the deep connection we need to connect people and place. Australia is home to the oldest living culture in the world. It is also complimented by a highly multi-cultural immigrant population, as well as a uniquely Australian culture that has taken root over the last 200 years.

MELBOURNE DOUGHNUT
KEY: SOCIAL FOUNDATIONS



CLIMATE CHANGE

When greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide are released into the air, they enter the atmosphere and amplify Earth's natural greenhouse effect, trapping more heat within the atmosphere. This results in global heating, whose effects include rising temperatures, more frequent droughts, floods and storms, and sea level rise. How we live, work and play in Melbourne (and the goods and service we produce and consume) has an impact on the global climate.



NITROGEN & PHOSPHOROUS LOADING

Reactive nitrogen and phosphorus are widely used in agricultural fertilizers but only a small proportion of what is applied is actually taken up by crops. Most of the excess runs off into rivers, lakes and oceans, where it causes algae blooms that turn the water green, brown or even red. These blooms can be toxic and they kill off other aquatic life by starving the water of oxygen.



BIODIVERSITY LOSS

A decline in the number and variety of living species damages the integrity of ecosystems and accelerates species extinction. In doing so it increases the risk of abrupt and irreversible changes to ecosystems, reducing their resilience and undermining their capacity to provide food, fuel and fibre, and to sustain life.



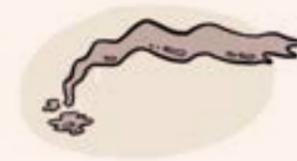
OCEAN ACIDIFICATION

Around one quarter of the carbon dioxide emitted by human activity is eventually dissolved in the oceans, where it forms carbonic acid and decreases the pH of the surface water. This acidity reduces the availability of carbonate ions that are an essential building block used by many marine species for shell and skeleton formation. This missing ingredient makes it hard for organisms such as corals, shellfish and plankton to grow and survive, thus endangering the ocean ecosystem and its food chain.



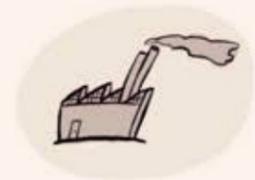
FRESH WATER WITHDRAWALS

Water is essential for life and is widely used by agriculture, industry and households. Excessive withdrawals of water, however, can impair or even dry up lakes, rivers and aquifers, damaging ecosystems and altering the hydrological cycle and climate.



AIR POLLUTION

Micro-particles, or aerosols, emitted into the air – such as smoke, dust and pollutant gases – can damage living organisms. Furthermore, they interact with water vapour in the air and so affect cloud formation. When emitted in large volumes these aerosols can significantly alter regional rainfall patterns, including shifting the timing and location of monsoon rains in tropical regions.



CHEMICAL POLLUTION

When toxic compounds, such as synthetic organic pollutants and heavy metals, are released into the biosphere they can persist for a very long time, with effects that may be irreversible. And when they accumulate in the tissue of living creatures, including birds and mammals, they reduce fertility and cause genetic damage, endangering ecosystems on land and in the oceans.



LAND CONVERSION

Converting land for human use – such as turning forests and wetlands into cities, farmland and highways – depletes Earth's carbon sinks, destroys rich wildlife habitats, and undermines the land's role in continually cycling water, nitrogen and phosphorus.



OZONE LAYER DEPLETION

Earth's stratospheric ozone layer filters out ultraviolet radiation from the sun. Some human-made chemical substances, such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) will, if released, enter the stratosphere and deplete the ozone layer, exposing Earth and her inhabitants to the sun's harmful UV rays.

Note: We acknowledge that the ecological ceiling described here can and should be localised to Greater Melbourne. This work is part of our next phase.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The local Melbourne Doughnut sits alongside a set of guiding principles that have also been informed by our community engagement process.²²

1. We recognise and honour the connection of First Peoples to Country and value their contribution to caring for and managing the land and waterways of Melbourne. We commit to building reciprocal relationships that build a safe and just future for all;
2. We believe in the balance between wisdom and action, between pursuing research to increase our knowledge and undertaking projects to generate change on the ground;
3. We value lived-experience as an important expertise and centre this in our process;
4. We value both community-led approaches and sector-based expertise;
5. We will move at the pace of trust in our ongoing community engagement; and
6. We aim to create less hierarchy and more dialogue, creating circles (and doughnuts), not silos.

Each of these has been part of our journey so far, and all will be critical to carry us into the safe and just space we want for our city.

"I imagine it's moving as a living organism, expanding and contracting and rotating. And it looks like it should move. You know, it should be alive. And that's what we need. We need to talk about growing things from seeds. You know, that's an organic metaphor. I have no time for hierarchies."

PROFESSOR YIN PARADIES

"It could be an absolutely critical way to reconfigure our economy and ascribe greater value to the things that actually sustain us."

TOBY KENT

"Kate Raworth's work tells us you can have both prosperity and growth, but it reimagines what growth looks like... I really like the collectivism of the Doughnut that we all need to work together for the prosperity of all."

CLAIRE FERRES MILES

"To me the Doughnut construct is less of an economic framework than it is a way of thinking about the way we organise for a stable healthy society. But it requires changing our economic system to support that."

FIONA ARMSTRONG

"I actually think it's a really good model for assessing where we're at. And we could do that in Melbourne. I really support doing it for Melbourne."

CHERYL BATAGOL

"The thing that I loved about it is there are no externalities that haven't been taken care of. So it's all fed back into the model as a closed system."

KAREN MAHLAB

"So water and land and culture, they're all connected and they can thrive if approached from a three dimensional government, business and community lens. And that is a conversation that we need to have. The Doughnut economic model will help us."

BERRY LIBERMAN

"It is understanding that the way we live depends upon good jobs but also fair society and a good environment and you have to put all those three things together."

PROF THE HON JOHN THWAITES

PART 2

COMMUNITY INSIGHTS
FOR MELBOURNE'S FUTURE

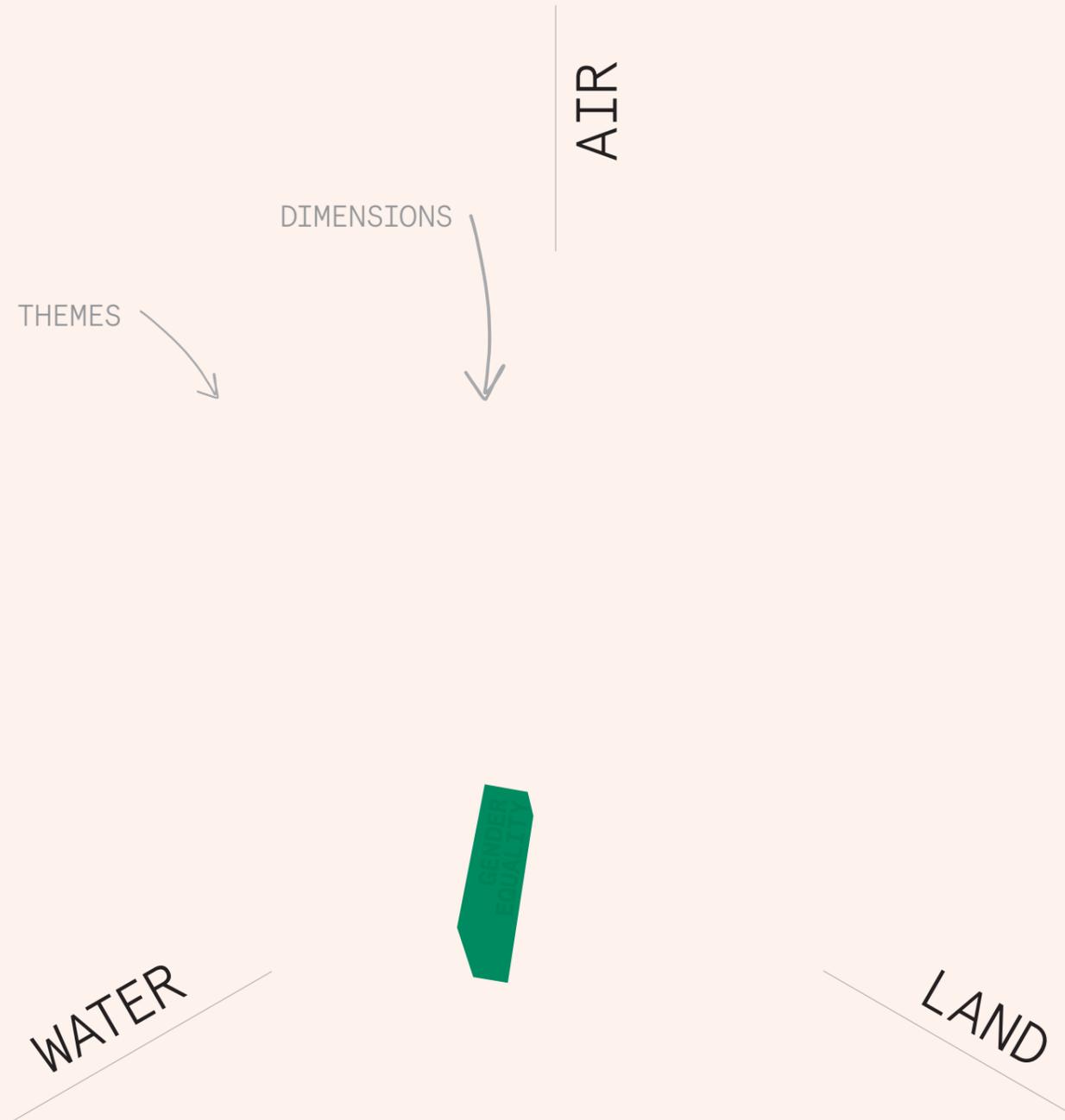
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

At the core of our community engagement process were five community forums, each covering one theme and a number of sub-dimensions. These themes and dimensions come directly from the City Portrait Methodology, published by the Doughnut Economics Action Lab.

These workshops each addressed five key questions about the future of our city:

1. What is your vision for a regenerative Melbourne, through the lens of each theme and each dimension?
2. What are the lived experiences and perceived challenges for Melbourne in each theme and dimension?
3. What is the role of each dimension in achieving a more healthy, connected, empowered, enabled and ecologically healthy Melbourne?
4. What are potential indicators that can measure Melbourne's progress in each dimension?
5. What are the practical examples of projects and organisations that are taking Melbourne into the safe and just space that the doughnut describes?

A synthesis of responses to these questions, as discussed and debated in the workshops, is presented in this section for each of the themes. We begin with a distillation of our collective, co-created vision for a regenerative Melbourne.



A VISION FOR A REGENERATIVE MELBOURNE

"How can we provide a society as a place of radical abundance, not artificial scarcity? There's a lot out there for everyone in terms of physical, psychological, spiritual, social, economic resources."

PROFESSOR YIN PARADIES

A clear vision for Greater Melbourne is essential to guide decision makers of all kinds as we embrace a post-COVID future that faces more complex challenges including climate change, local and geopolitical instability and biodiversity breakdown. This involves thinking beyond business as usual and relearning how the four elements of our economy (household, market, commons and state) can together work towards a safe and just future for our city's people and ecology.

Throughout our workshops, interviews and roundtables, we asked our network to consider vision statements for Melbourne as a whole and for Melbourne through the lens of the Doughnut's themes and dimensions. This resulted in dozens and dozens of vision statements. Through a thorough process of grouping and surfacing commonly used concepts and words, a co-created vision was developed (see "A Regenerative Melbourne is...").

Our connection to our natural environment and to one another is the central thread that is knitted into all elements of this vision. The process we have undertaken over the past several months has continually surfaced the crucial need for healing - of ourselves, of our relationships and of country. As long as we remain disconnected from the land and from each other, we will not be able to genuinely commit ourselves to the ideals outlined in our vision. This is what truly localising the Doughnut to Melbourne means to us. It is not easy or comfortable, but it sets the direction for our community and for our beloved city.

This vision has been created and now adopted by the Regen Melbourne network and will guide all of our work together.

a REGENERATIVE MELBOURNE is:

KNOWLEDGEABLE

EVERYONE has ACCESS to KNOWLEDGE as CUSTODIANS of the ENVIRONMENT and SOCIETY



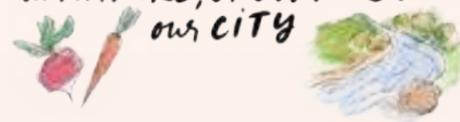
CONNECTED through CULTURE

WE are PROUD of our DIVERSITY of CULTURE as DRIVERS of CONNECTION and CREATIVITY & we LIVE as MUCH a PART of the LAND as the LAND US



FULL of LIFE

A NETWORK of NEIGHBOURHOODS that SUPPORT THRIVING COMMUNITIES & NATURAL SYSTEMS. WE can SWIM in our RIVERS, PLAY & LEARN in NATURE, GROW FOOD in our CITY



AFFORDABLE

EVERYONE has SECURE, SAFE, COMFORTABLE HOUSING POWERED by CLEAN ENERGY and QUALITY LOCALLY GROWN FOOD



COLLABORATIVE

WHERE we DO what WE LOVE for our LIVELIHOODS and WE are VALUED for our CONTRIBUTION



ENABLED

OUR ECONOMIC & GOVERNANCE SYSTEMS ENABLE these VISIONS to COME to LIFE



"I often lie awake at night and imagine the city in a decade, I imagine all the little streets, Little Bourke, Little Collins, Little Lonsdale, all the little streets now being walking pedestrian streets. And like they've been re-wilded. You don't drive down them. They are these unbelievable forests you are walking through. You are walking through these amazing green, lush streets and everyone is spilled out onto the streets."

REBECCA SCOTT

"I would like to see a city where people don't have to travel more, and they actually do walk and bike. Not because it's some sort of trendy European thing. But just because that is what everyone does."

PROF THE HON JOHN THWAITE

"In 2030 we've made a difference in terms of realising circular economy and that goes from household level right through to global institutional level."

CHERYL BATAGOL

"It's green. It's vibrant, it's self-reliant. We're producing and eating our own food...we've got food sovereignty, fresh water sovereignty. We've got everything we need for a changing climate. But it's culturally thriving because everyone feels safe and everyone has enough for everyone's need, but maybe not for everyone's greed."

BERRY LIBERMAN

"Our ultimate goal is prosperity for people and prosperity for the planet...I would like to see by 2030, that we are well on our way to be a circular economy, that we have adopted circular regenerative economic principles...that the jobs are prosperous, and aligned with our future economic direction."

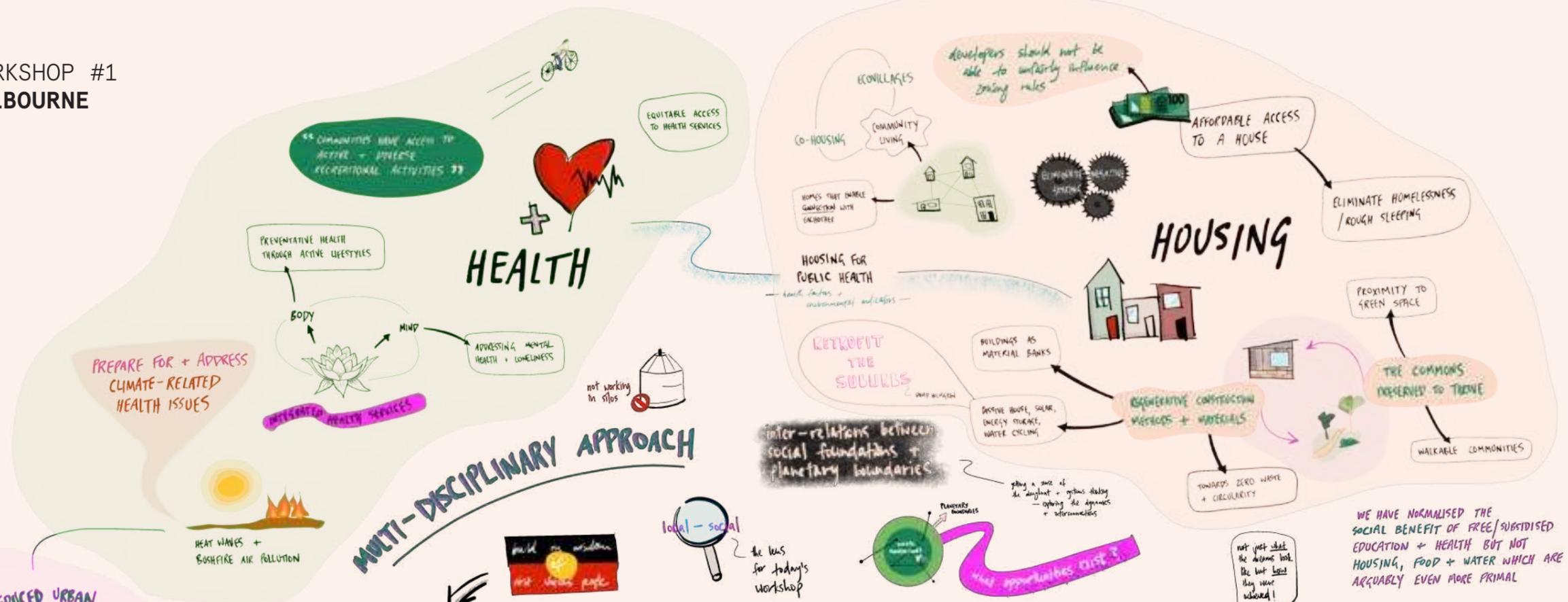
CLAIRE FERRIS-MILES

"What does a post consumer society look like? Because I look at a younger generation that is much more concerned, and rightfully so, with climate risk, with the way their children and grandchildren are going to live, and how we create a sustainable society. And I can see different different values and different patterns of behaviour are emerging than existed in in my generation. And I think that's a good thing."

CAROL SCHWARTZ



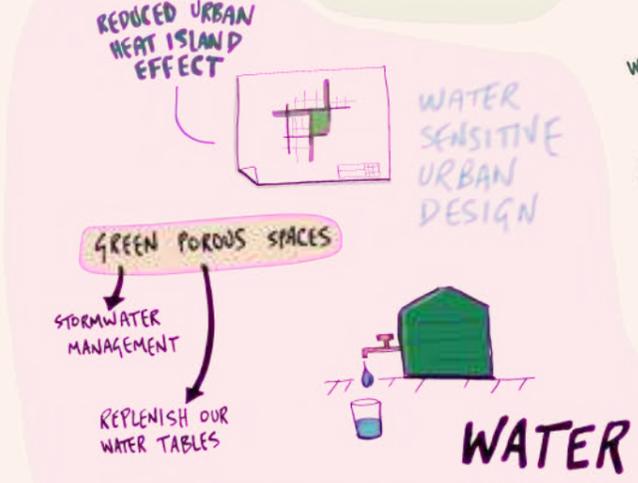
Community
Workshops



MULTI-DISCIPLINARY APPROACH

A HEALTHY MELBOURNE

VISION



WATER



Regen Melbourne COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #1
55 PARTICIPANTS + FACILITATORS

TAKE URBAN AGRICULTURE SERIOUSLY!
— the language we use matters —

what % of Melbourne's food can be grown within 100kms?



SEASONAL PRODUCE — connect to the local cycles of life —
COMMUNITY GARDENS — bring LIFE to the streets —
ENCOURAGE A CULTURE OF SHARING

meats + plant-based foods priced according to social / planetary costs

DECENTRALISED FOOD PRODUCTION

with seedbanks + composting

where does our food come from?

eliminate food stress
FOOD SECURITY
accessible, fresh + healthy food

EQUALITY DISTINGUISHED HEALTHY OPTIONS



FOOD

Indigenous-led native food production + Multi-cultural food production, cultural diversity

increased biodiversity + regenerative agriculture

more info: regen.melbourne

drawn by: Kiran Kaslyap

Now IS THE TIME TO DREAM BIG

“walking around the city with fresh air + smelling trees”

not just what the doctors look like but how they were raised!

what approaches exist?

local-social the lens for today's workshop

inter-relations between social foundations + planetary boundaries

not working in silos

PRESENTED HEALTHY SERVICES

PREPARE FOR + ADDRESS CLIMATE-RELATED HEALTH ISSUES



A HEALTHY MELBOURNE: THEME-LEVEL INSIGHTS

Our workshop began with an exploration of theme-level insights, in this case an exploration of Melbourne as a healthy city. We asked a series of questions and invited both written and verbal contributions. Our questions were:

- When do you experience Melbourne as a healthy city?
- When do you experience Melbourne as an unhealthy city?
- What challenges does Melbourne experience in being a healthy city?
- How does it feel to live in a healthy city?

These questions resulted in dozens of thoughtful responses. Our team distilled these insights into two categories, as shown below. Fully complete Miro collaboration boards are available on our website www.regen.melbourne



A HEALTHY MELBOURNE IS DEPENDENT UPON

A meaningful connection to nature

Access to fresh, healthy and local food

The integration of physical exercise into mobility and transport

Physical safety

The active reinvestment in public healthcare, including mental health

The depth and richness of our art and culture

A healthy ecosystem: clean air, clean water, healthy soil

A HEALTHY MELBOURNE IS CHALLENGED BY

Access to fresh and healthy food and bad eating habits.

Monopolised retail supermarket sector with minority of market share left to independent retailers and markets.

Legacy water infrastructure.

Increasing population.

Climate change and traditional soil depleting farming practices.

Legacy urban sprawl with large heat absorbing surface areas, and a monoculture in planning and building.

Large conservative construction sector driven by ever rising house prices.

A HEALTHY MELBOURNE: DIMENSION-LEVEL INSIGHTS

Our workshops then took a deep-dive into the four elements of what makes a healthy city. In this section we asked:

- **What is the role of each dimension (food, water, housing, health) in creating a healthy Melbourne?**
- **What is your vision for each dimension (food, water, housing, health) in creating a healthy Melbourne?**

We also compiled a list of potential indicators and practical examples of projects and initiatives that are working to support Melbourne's health. These emerging databases appear in Appendix 3 and will continue to grow through the contributions from our community and our expert-led working groups. Below is a summary of lived-experience insights from our community.



THE ROLE OF FOOD

Feeds us
Fundamental to our regional and local economies
Brings us together to socialise
Builds connection to other cultures
Gives us a proud culinary identity

THE ROLE OF WATER

Hydrates us
Keeps us in good hygiene
Brings us together to play
Fundamental for economic activities
Is a source of tranquility and connection

THE ROLE OF HOUSING

Protects us from the elements
Gives us a space to be ourselves
Creates a sense of belonging and identity
Enables our core household economy to function
Builds generational wealth and economic security

THE ROLE OF HEALTH

Keeps us physically, mentally, and emotionally well
Fundamental for a productive workforce
Extends our lives
Enhances our wellbeing

VISION FOR FOOD

Melburnians have access to and choose to consume fresh local produce
Local farmers use regenerative practices to enhance yields and reduce costs
Every resident can meet their basic nutritional requirements
People are empowered to grow their own food, and more common spaces are made available for urban agriculture
All school goers have access to healthy meals at school
Food waste is eliminated and disposed organic material regenerates the soil

VISION FOR WATER

Melburnians enjoy hot days swimming in the Yarra river
Households and businesses store rainwater and use it for their daily needs
Treated wastewater is accepted and used by Melburnians
Waterways are rewilded and communities reconnect to the natural ecosystems that surround them
Stormwater runoff is captured, treated and introduced into a resilient water distribution network

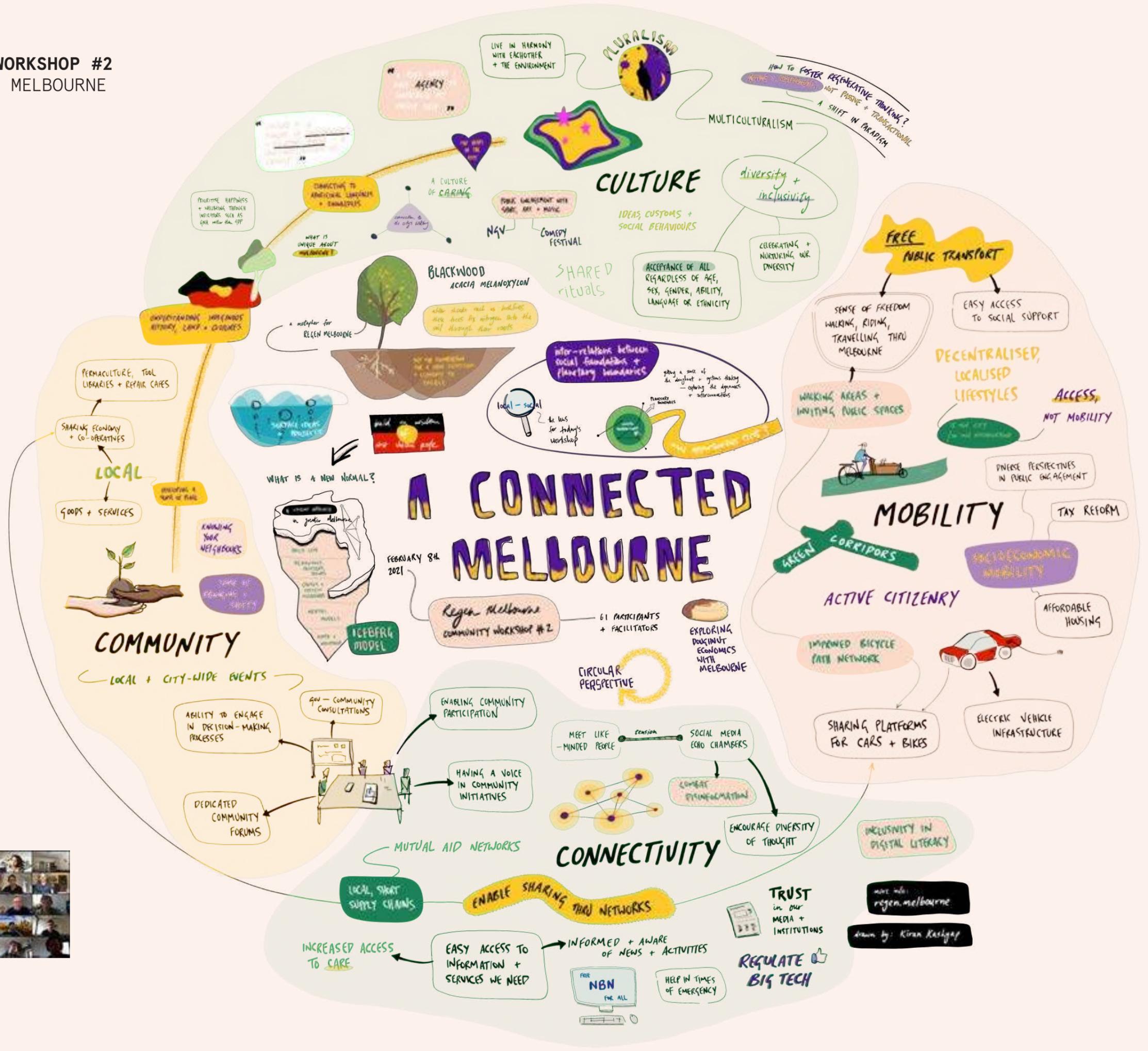
VISION FOR HOUSING

Melburnians have better access to affordable housing through long term lease options
Multigenerational houses are the norm
New houses are designed and built to minimise negative environmental footprint
Existing houses are retrofitted to reduce their operational footprints
Homelessness is eliminated through access to adequate housing
Neighbourhoods and Cities are designed for people to have access to everything they need within a 15-20 minute walk

VISION FOR HEALTH

Melbourne champions preventative care where residents can live a physically and mentally healthy life
Melburnians have access to a wide variety of quality recreational facilities
Cycling is the primary transportation method for individual commuting within densely populated areas
High quality hospitals are freely available, and our health system is resilient enough to handle external impacts like future pandemics

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #2
A CONNECTED MELBOURNE



A CONNECTED MELBOURNE: THEME-LEVEL INSIGHTS

Our workshop began with an exploration of theme-level insights, in this case an exploration of Melbourne as a connected city. We asked a series of questions and invited both written and verbal contributions. Our questions were:

- **When do you experience Melbourne as a connected city?**
- **When do you experience Melbourne as a disconnected city?**
- **What challenges does Melbourne experience in being a connected city?**
- **How does it feel to live in a connected city?**

These questions resulted in dozens of thoughtful responses. Our team distilled these insights into two categories, as shown below. Fully complete Miro collaboration boards are available on our website www.regen.melbourne



“There could be heaps more green green space, not just green space, but green activities in Melbourne, like community gardening, for example, and tree planting and caring for parts of our environment. I think we lose something when we outsource care of our neighborhoods to, for example, even local councils.”

PROFESSOR YIN PARADIES

“What really enhances a city is its cultural, and creative institutions...I think that our galleries, our creativity, our innovation is really up there.”

CAROL SCHWARTZ

“(During lockdown) the local became much more important: knowing your local coffee place, knowing your local grocer, your local, the local economy, and your connection to it became stronger.”

KAREN MAHLAB

“The economic ecology that's grown up by having all those people in the city is going to change.”

CHERYL BATAGOL

A CONNECTED MELBOURNE IS DEPENDENT UPON

Easy and equitable access to information flows

A sense of belonging

The embrace of First People's culture and language

A thriving arts, culture and festival sector

The nurturing and celebration of our sporting culture

Thriving public spaces, including libraries, community centres and parks

The celebration of our religious and spiritual diversity

A deeper understanding of our pre and post colonial history

A CONNECTED MELBOURNE IS CHALLENGED BY

Inconsistent levels of digital literacy

Disruption of in-person connection and less formal professional and personal relationships

Increasing impacts of echo-chambers powered by social media and marketing algorithms

People are less dependent on the people that surround them

Unequal distribution of community services between council areas

Fear of others due to language barriers, cultural or religious backgrounds, social status, etc.

Legacy urban sprawl with limited transport options, gaps in transport networks and a cycle friendly infrastructure

A CONNECTED MELBOURNE: DIMENSION-LEVEL INSIGHTS

Our workshops then took a deep-dive into the four elements of what makes a connected city. In this section we asked:

- **What is the role of each dimension (community, culture, mobility, connectivity) in creating a connected Melbourne?**
- **What is your vision for each dimension (community, culture, mobility, connectivity) in creating a connected Melbourne?**

We also compiled a list of potential indicators and practical examples of projects and initiatives that are working to support Melbourne becoming a more connected city. These emerging databases appear in Appendix 3 and will continue to grow through the contributions from our community and our expert-led working groups. Below is a summary of lived-experience insights from our community.



THE ROLE OF CONNECTIVITY

Provides us with the information we need
Enables life-long learning
Brings us together to exchange ideas and engage with one another
Catalyses innovation
Enables our complex social networks to develop & thrive

THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY

Develops our sense of identity and belonging through history and place
Empowers us to collaborate and take collective action
Enriches our world-views

THE ROLE OF MOBILITY

Gets us to where we need to go
Enables our global supply chains
Builds our nation through immigration
Promotes a sense of freedom and adventure
Brings people of the World together

THE ROLE OF CULTURE

Shapes our values and beliefs
Connects us to those who came before
Brings us together to celebrate life
Evolves over time

VISION FOR CONNECTIVITY

Digital forums and networks work to connect, objectively inform and break down echo chambers

Melburnians trust the information that is made available to them

Connection to history of people and place is central to feeling connected to Melbourne

The internet is free and accessible to all people, no matter how remote

Melburnians can speak at least two languages

Melbourne, along with State and Federal regulators, hold large technology and media companies accountable for the information that is put on their platforms

VISION FOR COMMUNITY

Melburnians have found a deep love and respect for the diversity of cultures that make up Greater Melbourne

People feel empowered to be who they want to be

People from all realms of life come together around a diverse array of common interests, missions and purposes

Adequate infrastructure has been put in place to catalyse local communities

The solidarity built over the Covid pandemic has been strengthened and continues to bring people together to solve the complex challenges of our time

VISION FOR MOBILITY

Melbourne's public transport is recognised as one of the most sustainable, integrated and inclusive transport networks in the World

Streets within CBDs throughout Greater Melbourne have been converted into urban forests and farms that provide safe passage to residents and native species

Peak-hour bottlenecks are eliminated through flexible working arrangement, allowing mobility systems to develop around more local needs

Cycling is the primary transportation method for individual commuting within densely-populated areas

Disability access is designed into all infrastructure projects to ensure equitable mobility for all

Digital systems are designed with older and less digitally literate citizens in mind to ensure equitable digital mobility

VISION FOR CULTURE

Melburnians listen and empathise with each other, and are curious and respectful of different backgrounds

Neighbours talk and get to know one another

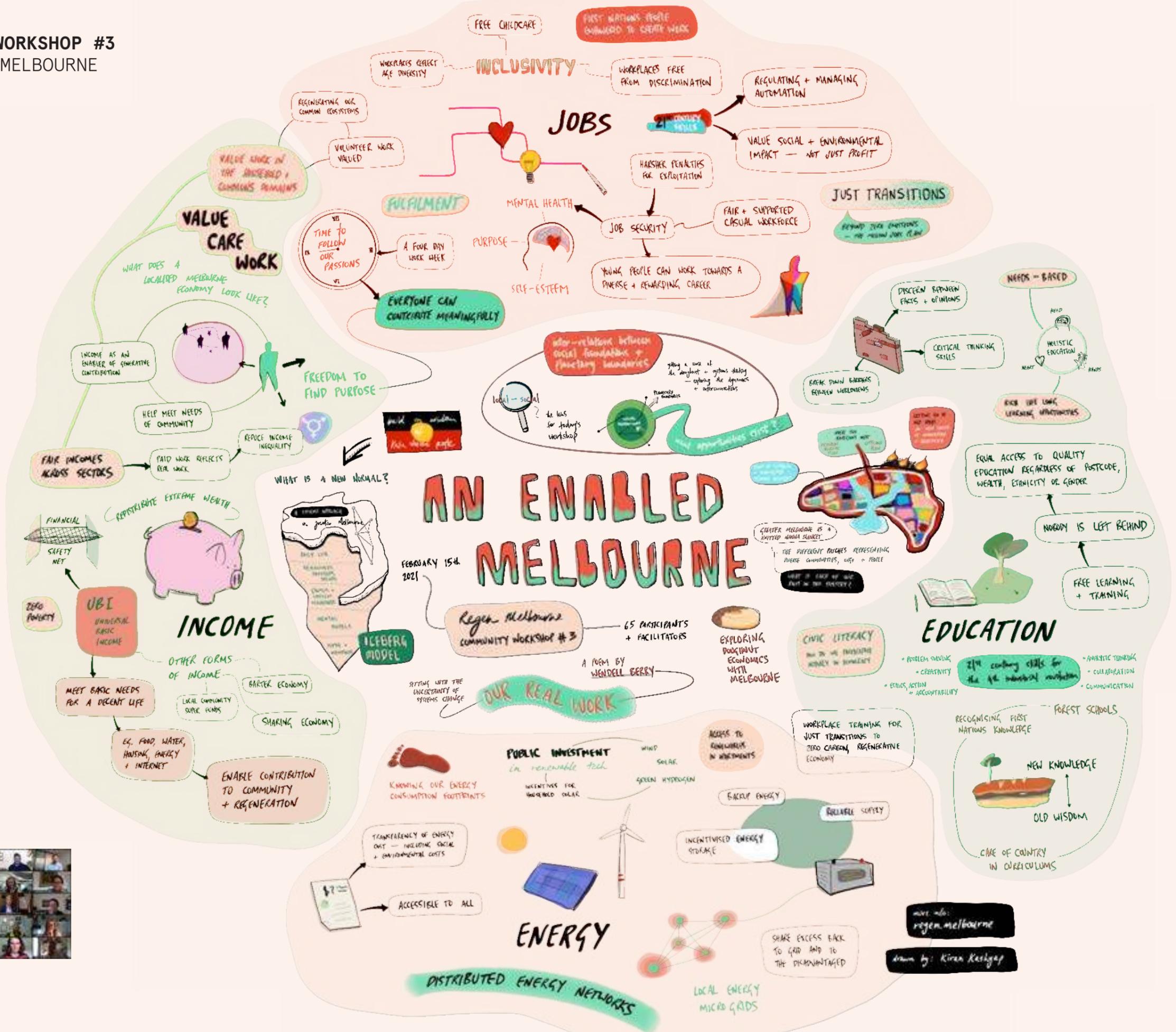
Communities support diverse cultures and provide ways to feel a sense of belonging

Melbourne promotes a culture of connection to our natural ecosystems

Melbourne celebrates creators and artists that give the urban centres a soul

We celebrate our strong love of sport that unites all backgrounds

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #3
AN ENABLED MELBOURNE



AN ENABLED MELBOURNE: THEME-LEVEL INSIGHTS

Our workshop began with an exploration of theme-level insights, in this case an exploration of Melbourne as an enabled city. We asked a series of questions and invited both written and verbal contributions. Our questions were:

- When do you experience Melbourne as an enabled city?
- When do you experience Melbourne as not being an enabled city?
- What challenges does Melbourne experience in being an enabled city?
- How does it feel to live in an enabled city?

These questions resulted in dozens of thoughtful responses. Our team distilled these insights into two categories, as shown below. Fully complete Miro collaboration boards are available on our website www.regen.melbourne



“How do we rebalance work? Why don't we use this as an opportunity not to go back to where we were, but an opportunity to change.”

CHERYL BATAGOL

“There should be a regulatory and policy environment created that encourages collaboration, encourages connection in industries and across sectors, and incentivised us to become a resilient city.”

BERRY LIBERMAN

“The casualisation needs to change, we need to better recognise the importance of many of those jobs in a caring profession and pay them more. And the unemployment benefits are just starvation wages now. And what we learnt was by paying people more, not only does it help them, but it helps the whole economy.”

PROF THE HON JOHN THWAITES

AN ENABLED MELBOURNE IS DEPENDENT UPON

A strong connection between community & education

Equitable access to meaningful work, which benefits both individual and society

Affordable housing and cost of living

Equitable access to renewable energy

Continuous reinvestment in public education

A rich volunteering culture

Political leadership and long-term thinking

AN ENABLED MELBOURNE IS CHALLENGED BY

Neoliberal story of market as the all encompassing definition of jobs and work

Culture of work to live keeps us bound from imagining a new narrative

Jobs entry points for young people and vulnerable communities are more insecure and casual

Low wage growth compared to cost of living

Federal government policy & energy companies hindering use of renewables/solar in the community

Expensive higher education costs

Public & private school divide

AN ENABLED MELBOURNE: DIMENSION-LEVEL INSIGHTS

Our workshops then took a deep-dive into the four elements of what makes an enabled city. In this section we asked:

- **What is the role of each dimension (income, jobs, education, energy) in creating an enabled Melbourne?**
- **What is your vision for each dimension (income, jobs, education, energy) in creating an enabled Melbourne?**

We also compiled a list of potential indicators and practical examples of projects and initiatives that are working to support Melbourne to become a more enabled city. These emerging databases appear in Appendix 3 and will continue to grow through the contributions from our community and our expert-led working groups. Below is a summary of lived-experience insights from our community.



THE ROLE OF JOBS

Gives meaning and purpose to our lives
Household work feeds, clothes, and raises us
Provides us with income, education and social relationships
Employment encourages political stability
Keeps our societal services functioning

THE ROLE OF INCOME

Provides for our basic needs
Gives us freedom
Enables our passions and recreations

THE ROLE OF EDUCATION

Enables life long learning
Empowers critical thinking
Build our self-confidence
Develops life long friendships
Exchange ideas and challenge our paradigms to be better citizens

THE ROLE OF ENERGY

Fundamental requirement to meet all of the other social dimensions of the Doughnut
Enables our digital world
Is the fuel for our industrial economy

VISION FOR JOBS

Melburnians are empowered to do work that provides meaning and purpose to their lives

Work in Melbourne provides continuous learning opportunities

All employees understand their roles in terms of holistic impact on society and natural ecosystems

Work done outside of the market is valued, encouraged, and rewarded

Diversity of thought is encouraged, and innovation ecosystems are developed to create new job opportunities

School goers are better prepared for contributing to the economy, society and the environment as a whole

VISION FOR INCOME

All Melburnians are guaranteed a basic liveable income

Melburnians are able to generate income in diverse and creative ways

The fear of not earning a living wage is a distant memory

VISION FOR EDUCATION

Melburnians are life-long learners that have access to, and engage in diverse and cross-disciplinary topics

Melburnians are also life-long teachers that encourage and share learnings with others

There is no gap between public and private schools, and traditional rating systems for schools and education institutions no longer exist

Teaching techniques are flexible and appropriate for the highly integrated and complex twenty first century

First Nations wisdom of connection to country is taught as a fundamental concept at all levels of education

Access to open source knowledge through digital and physical channels are widely available to all

VISION FOR ENERGY

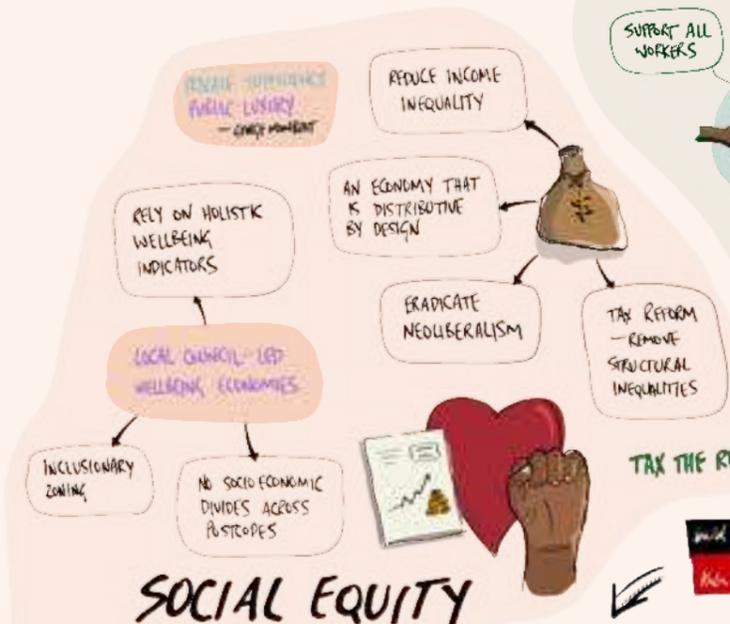
The electricity grid is powered entirely by renewables sources

Melbourne has advanced energy infrastructure that is able to manage a highly distributive electricity network of processors, users, and stores

Energy prices are no longer a tangible part of monthly expenses as everyone is a producer of green electricity

Buildings are designed to maximise efficient use of electricity

Old cars and other legacy equipment are retrofitted to be integrated into the distributive electricity grid



AN EMPOWERED MELBOURNE: THEME-LEVEL INSIGHTS

Our workshop began with an exploration of theme-level insights, in this case an exploration of Melbourne as an enabled city. We asked a series of questions and invited both written and verbal contributions. Our questions were:

- **When do you experience Melbourne as an empowered city?**
- **When do you experience Melbourne as not being an empowered city?**
- **What challenges does Melbourne experience in being an empowered city?**
- **How does it feel to live in an empowered city?**

These questions resulted in dozens of thoughtful responses. Our team distilled these insights into two categories, as shown below. Fully complete Miro collaboration boards are available on our website www.regen.melbourne



“I want people to have that chance to engage in participatory budgeting, participatory decision making that really changes the flavor of involvement, of enthusiasm, of engagement with the city.”

PROFESSOR YIN PARADIES

“When you use a lens of equity you deliver better outcomes for everybody...when we invest in equity and in making society as equitable as possible, the benefits accrue to everybody.”

FIONA ARMSTRONG

“There are significant inequalities in Melbourne across Melbourne. Those inequalities go to education, access to parks, access to transport.”

PROF THE HON JOHN THWAITES AM

“Decision making needs to be more equitable”

DR CATHY OKE

“It’s absolutely crucial that our city be safe for women and girls at any time of day or night...we have to make sure that our city has a reputation for being incredibly safe and secure for all people at all times.”

CAROL SCHWARTZ

AN EMPOWERED MELBOURNE IS DEPENDENT UPON

A culture of learning and unlearning

The embrace and active encouragement of political participation

The embrace of diversity and inclusion as a core strength

The embrace of social equity as a pillar of progress

A culture of collaboration

AN EMPOWERED MELBOURNE IS CHALLENGED BY

Sense of apathy in general population

Political short term focus

Highly consolidated news and media sector

Lack of Aboriginal representation and agency in key decision making processes

Colonial legacy in social and political systems

Myth of the fair go

Rising wealth and income inequality

Decades of increased prosperity provides a subtle but wide spreading sense of complacency

Growing isolation and loneliness

AN EMPOWERED MELBOURNE: DIMENSION-LEVEL INSIGHTS

Our workshops then took a deep-dive into the four elements of what makes an enabled city. In this section we asked:

- **What is the role of each dimension (social equity, peace & justice, equality in diversity, political voice) in creating an empowered Melbourne.**
- **What is your vision for each dimension (social equity, peace & justice, equality in diversity, political voice) in creating an empowered Melbourne.**

We also compiled a list of potential indicators and practical examples of projects and initiatives that are working to support Melbourne to become a more empowered city. These emerging databases appear in Appendix 3 and will continue to grow through the contributions from our community and our expert-led working groups. Below is a summary of lived-experience insights from our community.



THE ROLE OF PEACE & JUSTICE

Enables a fair society, where we can develop, be creative and realise our potential
Provides us with a general sense of safety & security
Holds those in power accountable
Provides the rules and laws of society
Build trust between us

THE ROLE OF SOCIAL EQUITY

Empowers our access opportunity
Breaks down barriers to build community and other important social constructs

THE ROLE OF POLITICAL VOICE

Gives us a voice to shape our World
Challenges our paradigm through dialogue & debate
Holds those in power accountable
Empowers us to actively participate as a citizen

THE ROLE OF GENDER EQUALITY

Reduces fear of difference
Pushes us outside of our comfort zones
Inspires and catalyses innovation
Builds understanding and empathy

VISION FOR PEACE & JUSTICE

Melbourne justice systems promotes restorative justice and takes a systems approach to prevention and healing
Melburnians regularly integrate peaceful practices such as meditation, mindfulness, yoga into their daily routines
Communities work together to support peaceful neighbourhoods addressing the root causes of wrong doing
All people feel safe to walk around any part of Greater Melbourne at any time of the day or night
Melbourne adopts and practices Earth Jurisprudence

VISION FOR SOCIAL EQUITY

All Melburnians feel a strong sense of belonging and attachment to their community/neighbourhood and the City as a whole
Everyone feels like they have a fair opportunity to build the life that they want to live
Disability access is designed into all physical and digital initiatives to ensure equitable access to all
Public spending promotes more distributive local economies
Melbourne and Victoria adopt the key principles of Doughnut Economics and Wellbeing Economics into macro-economic policies
Greater Melbourne introduces a local universal basic income for all of its residents
Extreme wealth is frowned upon, rather social reverence is given to positive social and environmental impact
A treaty is signed with indigenous groups

VISION FOR POLITICAL VOICE

Relationships between media companies and political parties are made transparent
Political parties compromise for the common good
Bipartisan collaboration is common, strengthened by healthy debate and backed by objective multiparty research
Politicians in Melbourne and Victoria have a long term view and are not guided by short term political momentum as voters no longer support this view
Public participation is truly engaging and residents feel confident that their ideas and concerns are being heard
Local representation is given a stronger voice in State level decision making
Citizens are given the time needed to actively participate in democratic and civil processes
Data is used as a strong support structure for political voice in Melbourne

VISION FOR GENDER EQUALITY

Melbourne daily news channels are available in multiple languages online
Melbourne is truly a place to be proud of your individuality within community
Every child in Melbourne has the same foundational opportunities for their life from birth
Melburnians are curious and actively engage with people from different backgrounds and opinions
Governments actively work to break down barriers between suburbs and encourage inter council community engagement
A Melbourne where the social housing blocks in the inner suburbs do not feel separate to the neighbourhood

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP #5
 AN ECOLOGICALLY
 HEALTHY MELBOURNE



AN ECOLOGICALLY HEALTHY MELBOURNE

For the ecological layer we followed the City Portrait methodology and broke down the complex ecological ceiling into three core elements: air, water and land. Our workshops asked:

- How can Melbourne be as generous and resilient as its natural ecosystem through the lens of air, water and land?
- What is your vision for each element (air, water, land) in creating an ecologically healthy Melbourne?

We also compiled a list of potential indicators and practical examples of projects and initiatives that are working to support Melbourne to become a more ecologically healthy city. These emerging databases appear in Appendix 3 and will continue to grow through the contributions from our community and our expert-led working groups. Below is a summary of lived-experience insights from our community.



“Have a moment to listen to those birds... it reminds us that this is bigger than ourselves, and everybody plays a part. Our ecology plays a part in our wellbeing”

N'ARWEET DR CAROLYN BRIGGS

“Globally, we really don't value nature in our economic rationale. As a consequence this, and the prevailing focus on a growth economy, means we continue to consume more of the world's resources than the planet can bear every year. Unsurprisingly, we do that at a Metropolitan Melbourne level as well, but it doesn't have to be so.”

TOBY KENT

“I'm really interested in what has been that response of Melbournians getting out and walking in the middle of winter? And what are they seeing? What's been new for them? What's released them to think differently?”

ROB GELL

“I think we have to have a very firm focus on what climate science is telling us and not delude ourselves about whether we have time to prevaricate any longer. We don't.”

FIONA ARMSTRONG

AIR

GENDER EQUALITY

WATER

LAND

HOW MELBOURNE CAN MIMIC NATURE (AIR)

Powered entirely by renewables
Air pollutants are filtered out
Urban environments are as forested as their natural ecosystems

HOW MELBOURNE CAN MIMIC NATURE (WATER)

Water is highly valued
Waterways better mimic natural flows
Rainwater is better captured and stored

HOW MELBOURNE CAN MIMIC NATURE (LAND)

Urban development rewild city landscapes and promote biodiversity
Circulate resources in closed loops
Regenerate the soil
Take a long term view of the future
Stewardship and custodianship over ownership

VISION FOR AIR

The vast majority of Melburnians walk or cycle to work
Melbourne is fully powered by renewable energy sources
Melburnians only purchase products that are fully circular
Urban areas have been rewilded with indigenous flora
Air temperatures in urban areas are no higher to those in native bushlands

VISION FOR WATER

Water custodianship is empowered at a household level in a highly distributive water network
Commercially produced bottled water is a thing of the past
Melburnians enjoy swimming in local clean waterways throughout the City
Waterways better mimic natural flows and stores to provide greater access to downstream ecosystems
Human used water is recycled and reintroduced into the water supply
Biophilic design practices are embedded within industrial practices

VISION FOR LAND

Melbourne is city that redefines what it means to be an urban environment, pushing our imaginations of how humanity can live in harmony and balance with nature
We support and celebrate diversity and success of all native species
Melburnians reconnect to country by embracing First Nations culture
Victorian farming soils are regenerated using organic waste from urban centres
Land ownership paradigms have shifted to land custodianship
Linear raw material extraction models have been replaced by circular practices

PART 3

THE ROAD AHEAD

FINDINGS & NEXT STEPS

PROJECT PURPOSE	PRIMARY INSIGHT	ROADMAP STEPS 2021-2023
<p>1. To investigate the appropriateness and adaptability of the Doughnut Economics model to Melbourne's unique context</p>	<p>The Doughnut Economics methodology, when downscaled to Melbourne's context, serves as a powerful new compass for our city. The Doughnut model is highly adaptable and creates the space for impactful community-led conversations about our future. The Doughnut model provided the right framework for the right time as Melbourne emerged from our COVID-19 lockdowns.</p> <p>See Melbourne Doughnut (p.22)</p>	<p>Further developing the Melbourne Doughnut</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Building on the insights generated to date and the Melbourne Doughnut created here, continue the City Portrait process for Greater Melbourne and incorporate both our local and global responsibilities 2. Establish expert-led working groups for each of the dimensions of the Melbourne Doughnut 3. Investigate gaps and opportunities in local, state and federal government policy that can inform the development of doughnut-aligned policies for Greater Melbourne 4. Establish a data and measurement working group and identify primary indicators and associated data sources for each dimension of the Melbourne Doughnut
<p>2. To develop preliminary community insights around a regenerative future for Melbourne</p>	<p>Our community insights process has surfaced an emerging vision for a regenerative Melbourne. The Doughnut model and our unique community engagement model developed potent preliminary insights for Greater Melbourne. The major opportunity now is for further municipal and neighbourhood-level localisation.</p> <p>See Vision for Melbourne (page 28)</p>	<p>Further community activation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Convene a regenerative business forum to support and enhance collaboration and to share knowledge of aligned business practice 6. Establish at least five Regen Melbourne neighbourhood groups to explore local, place-based activation of Melbourne's Doughnut 7. Recruit at least five Greater Melbourne councils as beacons that engage in the activation of Melbourne's Doughnut within their municipalities 8. Activate community around projects by establishing a Regenerative Project Incubator to support new ideas and ventures that move our city into the safe space described by the Melbourne Doughnut
<p>3. To explore the value of a network-based, collaborative methodology to surface findings and recommendations for our road ahead</p>	<p>The Regen Melbourne network has emerged as an Anchor Collaborative, creating meaningful community collaboration and activation that can be developed further. This world-first, community-led approach to localising the Doughnut model has been marked by the ease and effectiveness of collaboration within the Regen Melbourne network. This collaboration has resulted in a co-created shared vision, pathways for continued collaboration and a framework for an aligned way to measure success.</p>	<p>Further developing the Regen Melbourne network</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Establish a Regen Melbourne steering committee, governance framework and resourcing strategy 10. Utilise the Melbourne Doughnut, create an interactive map of people, organisations, projects and research that are accelerating our city into the safe and just space for humanity 11. Share stories of individuals and organisations working to achieve the goals of Melbourne's Doughnut 12. Create and share demonstration projects and practical tools for activating Melbourne's doughnut

CONCLUDING REFLECTIONS

Our vision is for Greater Melbourne to move into the safe and just place for humanity, as expressed by our Melbourne Doughnut.

Our mission is to build a place-based collaborative network that generates community-led research, catalyses unique projects and channels capital towards our vision.

Transformation and transition can be painful, complex, non-linear processes full of resistance and a desire to return to business as usual. These processes of change can also open up previously unimagined possibility, opportunity and prosperity. We have heard much about resilience over the past year, in many cases, it seems, to make us feel better about the difficulties that we have collectively faced. In the truest sense, however, resilience is about transformation, finding new ways of working and thinking that lead us down different pathways towards a more sustainable and enduring future.²³

We are experiencing the convergence of three disruptive and interconnected forces: economic crisis brought on by COVID-19, rising social inequality and the climate and biodiversity emergency. This is a daunting realisation and also an opportunity to reimagine the way in which our economy is structured, who it serves and how it can be truly regenerative. Only by reducing our impact on the planet and increasing our care for each other can we realise the economic opportunity which is now presenting itself. This is how we build back better and drive the creation of a more inclusive, localised, innovative, resilient and agile economy.

This project demonstrates the power of a new compass for Melbourne. Moving Melbourne into the Doughnut is the biggest economic, ecological and social impact opportunity of our time.

We recognise that our work sits alongside numerous government and market pathways to economic recovery articulated for Melbourne and Australia over the past 12 months. These vary in their scale, ambition, and ability to address the range of current and future challenges confronting

our city. Drawing on each of them, as well as the roles and capabilities of the organisations that have developed these plans, will be important for moving forward in the wake of COVID-19. We must be willing to learn from our experience, to prepare for the next unexpected shock that will come our way.

While our initial work as the Regen Melbourne network has focused on reflection and visioning, it has been grounded and based on very real collective and individual lived experience. What has emerged most clearly from the insights generated from this project is that there is no shortage of work to be done to move Melbourne into the safe and just space; to create a more livable, vibrant, equitable, sustainable and resilient city.

These insights do not look back. They are based in the present and allow a glimpse of the future, highlighting that this pressing work is already happening all over Melbourne. The Regen Network aims to amplify and accelerate this work and this transition to a future that more fully meets the needs of people and our planet.

Our network is empowered by the creation of a Melbourne Doughnut and our co-created vision for a regenerative Melbourne. But this is just the beginning. We encourage all citizens of Melbourne to join our network, be part of this emerging conversation and contribute your lived experiences and your expertise. It is only through active citizenship that we can build a Melbourne that operates within the safe and just boundaries of the Doughnut.

Join regen.melbourne

“So we need leaders in various parts of government and civil society to say we’re going to try something that’s different to what we had before.”

PROFESSOR YIN PARADIES

“Our city is ultimately just a manifestation of the aggregate of what 5 million bodies do and don’t do together.”

TOBY KENT

“You know where I get excited? It is if we could create some tools around the Doughnut thinking.”

REBECCA SCOTT

“So let’s create that Doughnut... we’ll call it something else. All right, but it sounds fatty... Maybe we make it a vegan one.”

N’ARWEET DR CAROLYN BRIGGS

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APPENDIX 1:

DETAILED
METHODOLOGY

DETAILED METHODOLOGY

STEP 1: COMMUNITY ACTIVATION

The first phase involved approaching strategically relevant community groups, organisations and individuals to join our conversation about the future of Melbourne. We convened a number of open community workshops (online) and facilitated conversations about the value of the Doughnut Economics model as Melbourne emerged from lockdown.

This first step also involved establishing a web-presence, a mailing list and a Slack channel. The Slack channel has been critical in activating our network. Alongside #general, #introductions and #references channels, we have built dedicated Slack channels around the four components (and personas) of the embedded economy, as defined by Doughnut Economics: #household, #commons, #market and #state. This allows our community to explore specific areas of interest linked to the Doughnut model while also engaging in the broader network. Ultimately, this community infrastructure has been pivotal in building and managing a growing network.

In parallel with this process, we began early discussions with Indigenous leaders and Traditional Owner groups around Melbourne. Our exploration involved testing the underlying assumptions of the Doughnut model and raising the question about how we might begin to consider a 'decolonised' view for Regen Melbourne's work. We acknowledged that deeply embedding and building on First People's perspectives is both critical to localising the Doughnut to a Melbourne context, as well as a long-term journey that must be grounded in relationships and trust-building. This is an ongoing process to which Regen Melbourne is committed.

STEP 2: RESEARCH AND MAPPING

Melbourne has a proud history of participatory community engagement, and there are many existing research projects and reports on the future of our city that incorporate a diversity of perspectives and priorities. These have been developed by individuals, organisations and various levels of government. A range of reports have specifically and recently been developed in the context of COVID-19 which identify that this severe disruption has created an opportunity to rethink the status quo economic dynamic.

This second phase therefore involved mapping the founding Regen Melbourne organisations and a recent list of research reports on Melbourne's future to the Doughnut model itself. By doing this, we could begin to see how pre-existing work and initiatives intersect, overlap with and complement each other in alignment with the underlying principles and goals of the Doughnut.

This research mapping process is also just the beginning. As part of our activation of this report, we will be developing an interactive online portal where citizens of Melbourne can use the Doughnut to navigate organisations, initiatives and research that are aiming to accelerate Melbourne into the safe and just space for humanity. Our contribution here is one step in this direction.

STEP 3: COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

Utilising the City Portrait methodology, canvases developed by DEAL and online collaboration software (MIRO), we conducted five online community workshops throughout February 2021. These were convened as part of the Sustainable Living Festival, supported by a dedicated group of about a dozen Regen Melbourne facilitators and graphic scribes and involved more than 400 participants. These participants came from all over Greater Melbourne, as well as a few from other cities in Australia and globally; many represented a range of organisations from large businesses to small community organisations, while some participated purely out of personal interest. Some participants attended the full series of five workshops, while others joined only one or a subset. There was no requirement to participate in the full sequence, nor was any prior knowledge of Doughnut Economics expected.

These workshops were designed to surface insights, develop vision statements, and create a database of projects and potential indicators for each Doughnut segment. Our workshops were (like the Doughnut itself) playfully serious in tone and full of feeling to generate a sense of connection through the shared experience of this work undertaken collectively.

WORKSHOP DESIGN

Our workshops were developed using the four themes of the City Portrait's Local-Social lens (Healthy, Connected, Empowered and Enabled), plus a workshop on the Local-Ecological lens (Ecologically Healthy, including air, water and land).

Each of our four sessions on the Local-Social lens was structured around the City Portrait methodology and city-scale breakdown of themes and their underlying dimensions. This city-scale adaptation of the original Doughnut model is critical in surfacing relevant insights, indicators and projects that can be locally relevant.

The interactive workshops were two hours each and included three core phases:

1. An introduction to Doughnut Economics and space to freely play with the Doughnut and make systems-connections between elements;
2. A session exploring the theme (Healthy, Connected, Empowered, Enabled or Ecologically Healthy) at a high level, generating experience-level insights, challenges and barriers; and
3. Deep-dive sessions on each of the dimensions (e.g. for our healthy Melbourne workshop: *food*, *water*, *housing* and *health*), generating role-level insights, potential indicators, example projects and dimension-level vision statements.

Ultimately, our community workshops were the first step on a journey towards a fully developed and localised Doughnut City Portrait for Melbourne. The insights generated here also contributed towards the augmentation of the Doughnut itself and the development of a local Melbourne version of the Doughnut as participants identified concepts and central threads that link the different themes and dimensions in a Melbourne-centric context.

DATA COLLECTION

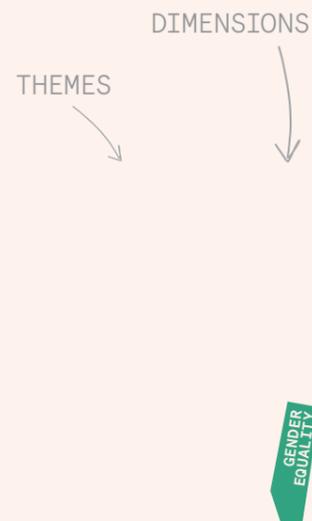
The above process allowed for a suite of data to be collected from each workshop. Below is a template example of the interactive canvases used to illustrate how data was collected at both a thematic and dimension level.

Theme-Level Insights (Healthy example below)

- Lived-Experience Insights
e.g., *when do you experience Melbourne as a healthy city. As an unhealthy city?*
- Challenges and Barrier Insights
e.g., *what challenges does Melbourne experience in being a healthy city?*
- Felt-Experience Insights
e.g., *how does it feel to live in a healthy city?*

Dimension-Level Insights (Food example below)

- Role Insights
e.g. *what is the role of food and food systems in a healthy Melbourne?*
- Illustrative Indicators
e.g. *what indicators speak to the role of food in a healthy Melbourne?*
- Practical Examples
e.g. *what projects, organisations and examples are supporting Melbourne's health through the dimension of food?*
- Vision Statements
e.g. *what is your vision for food in a healthy Melbourne?*



STEP 4: LEADERSHIP INTERVIEWS

As a complement to our public workshops, we conducted 15 interviews with prominent leaders in Melbourne. The purpose was to speak with a diverse representation of leaders about their love for our city, their experience of the COVID-19 disruption, the lessons that emerged for them out of it and their vision for our city. Reflections from these interviews can be found throughout this report as quotes.

Our interviewees include:

Fiona Armstrong

CEO, CLIMATE AND HEALTH ALLIANCE

Cheryl Batagol PSM

CHAIR, CRC FOR WATER SENSITIVE CITIES

Dr Catherine Brown OAM

CEO, LORD MAYOR'S CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

N'arweet Dr Carolyn Briggs AM

SENIOR ELDER, BOON WURRONG FOUNDATION

Claire Ferres Miles

CEO, SUSTAINABILITY VICTORIA

Rob Gell AM

VICE PRESIDENT, ROYAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA

Toby Kent

MELBOURNE'S FIRST CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER AND CO-FOUNDER, ELLISKENT

Emma King

CEO, VICTORIAN COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Berry Liberman

CREATIVE DIRECTOR, SMALL GIANTS ACADEMY

Karen Mahlab AM

CEO, PRO BONO AUSTRALIA

Dr Cathy Oke

ENTERPRISE SENIOR FELLOW IN INFORMED CITIES, UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Professor Yin Paradies

PROFESSOR AND CHAIR IN RACE RELATIONS, DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

Carol Schwartz AO

BOARD MEMBER, RESERVE BANK

Rebecca Scott OAM

CEO, STREAT

Prof the Hon John Thwaites AM

CHAIR, MONASH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

STEP 5: PRELIMINARY INSIGHTS

Our community workshops generated a large amount of data on virtual post-it notes, applied by participants across our Doughnut canvases. Our team embarked on a process of analysing each contribution and grouping notes into themes. We then undertook a process of distilling the essence of each thematic grouping into one or more insight statements and cross-linking these to one or more dimensions of the Doughnut. This created a large spreadsheet of distilled data from which preliminary insights were extracted.

The above process was followed for all theme-level and dimension-level insights, aside from the vision statements. For this element our team conducted a grouping process using all vision statements from across the dimensions, rather than looking at these in segments. This allowed cross-cutting themes to emerge. These cross-cutting themes were then analysed and common words elevated, which led to the preliminary version of our vision statement for the city.



STEP 6: ROUNDTABLE FEEDBACK

Once synthesised, key findings from our preliminary insights phase were presented to a series of groups in a roundtable presentation / discussion format for feedback. This process identified blindspots in the research completed to-date and created a more holistic set of insights. It also served to clarify the recommendations coming out of this project. These roundtables included key stakeholder groups:

- Selected Economists
- Small Giants Academy community
- Royal Society of Victoria community
- Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation community
- Regen Melbourne community
- New Economy Network Australia community

Each of our roundtables followed a similar structure, designed for insights to be challenged and for feedback to be provided:

- Introduction to the Doughnut Economics model
- Group discussion on the strengths and weaknesses of the model
- Introduction to the community research, insights and potential localised augmentation of the model
- Discussion of feedback on the insights and suggestions for further development
- Next steps and an invitation for further involvement

STEP 7: INSIGHTS FINALISATION

The next stage of this project was to integrate feedback from our roundtables into the preliminary findings. This process also involved finalising the recommendations and roadmap emerging from this project, and relating these to the existing strategies at LMCF, the City of Melbourne and other organisations. In doing so, we aimed to acknowledge the richness of existing work on the ground, suggest ways to build on this work and highlight opportunities to continue to work collaboratively.

STEP 8: DOUGHNUT LOCALISATION

The final stage of this project was to apply the insights gained to the Doughnut model itself to augment the original Doughnut and to present a localised version of this model. Over the course of this project, as we have gathered and analysed data, and distilled insights, our team has considered the dominant themes and how they either complement or challenge the existing Doughnut model. After finalising our insights work, the team considered the elements that challenge the model or must be refined within it, and designed a Melbourne-centric version of the Doughnut. We present it here for feedback and ongoing development.

METHODOLOGY PRINCIPLES AND ASSUMPTIONS

EMBRACING THE EMBEDDED ECONOMY

Our methodology actively embraced the embedded economy model developed by Kate Raworth. In this model, the economy is rightly reframed as including more than just the market. When considering the economy, we must also think about the role of the household, the state and the commons. As Kate Raworth writes:

“all four are means of production and distribution, but they go about it in very different ways. Households produce ‘core’ goods for their own members, the market produces private goods for those willing and able to pay, the commons produce co-created goods for the communities involved, and the state produces public goods for all the populace.”²⁴

In our workshops and roundtables we considered which roles or ‘hats’ our participants were wearing. Whilst of course not uniform, our community workshops were largely made up of people wearing their household or commons hats. However, in our roundtables and our interviews, participants were more likely to be wearing their market and state hats. This allowed for a cross-section of insights and potential actions to be generated that encompassed a richer, deeper consideration and understanding of the role of Melbourne’s economy.

EARLY ADOPTERS

While we have endeavoured to reach a diverse audience, we acknowledge that the nature of conversations and projects such as this means that participants can be identified as early adopters, individuals who have the economic and social capacity to take time out from work and family to consider big ideas and how they could influence the future of our city.

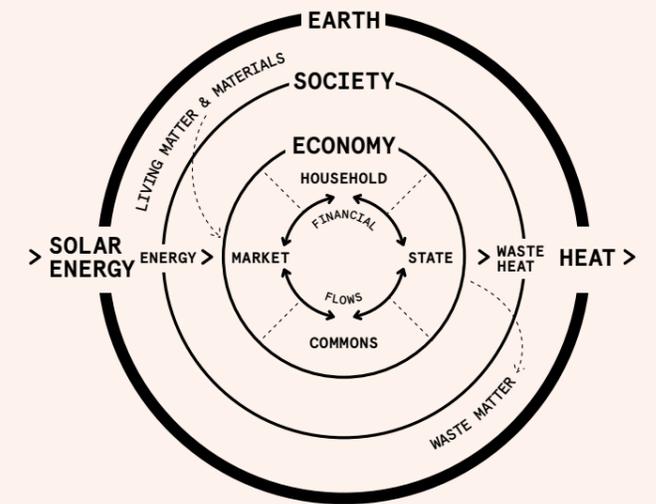
As the work of Regen Melbourne develops, our intent is to facilitate deeper and broader conversations around the themes presented here, particularly with marginalised and unheard voices. These conversations are of course built on trust and require both time and further resources. However, if we are seeking to develop a deep understanding of our city in order to shape its future then this work is both critical and ongoing.

CURRENT PARADIGMS

“I think we tend to repeat the dynamics of the world we’re in, in the one we’re envisioning. Sometimes the future is just a colonial attempt of the present. So I would say that what we need to do is to stay with the trouble, meet in places where we can be met by the world in return, hopefully defeated in our attempts to understand it. Where confusion becomes a form of research inquiry. Confusion becomes a philosophy, an epistemology. And maybe there, maybe there, we might learn about the world and about ourselves anew. There is no guarantee. But that’s the invitation of the moment.”²⁵

BAYO AKOMOLAFE, 2021

We acknowledge we are working within the parameters, culture, thinking and ways of knowing that are inherent in our current economic system. This may limit our ability to look beyond the current moment with as much ambition as the moment demands. However, as curator, author and teacher Bayo Akomolafe says, our goal is to sit together and embrace the confusion that the world is presenting to us. Maybe there, with the Doughnut as our guide, we can learn to sit with complexity and uncertainty and begin to see our city anew.



APPENDIX 2:

DOUGHNUT
ECONOMICS

SEVEN WAYS TO THINK LIKE A
21ST CENTURY ECONOMIST

The seven ways to think like a 21st Century economist are summarised in this image and can be explored further at the Doughnut Economics Action Lab (DEAL).



APPENDIX 3:

EMERGING REGEN
MELBOURNE DATABASE

EMERGING REGEN MELBOURNE DATABASE

Through our community workshops we began compiling a list of potential indicators and practical examples within each dimension in the Doughnut methodology. This emerging database is shown below and will continue to grow through the contributions from our community and our expert-led working groups.

	FOOD	WATER	HOUSING	HEALTH
POTENTIAL ILLUSTRATIVE INDICATORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantity of food waste (sent to land fill) • % of food grown within 100km of Melb metro • Demand for food vouchers • Obesity and eating disorder rates • Local food production yields and distribution • Number and distribution of food businesses • Food costs • Food supply chain stakeholder share of selling price • Nutritional knowledge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water storage levels (public & domestic) • Flood severity and levels during storm events • Frog and aquatic life populations • Water quality (phosphorous, e-coli levels) • Frequency of domestic water tanks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A distance to nature - public open space • Suicide and mental illness rates • Heart and lifestyle disease rates • Life satisfaction scores • Ratings in international quality of life surveys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average distance between work and home • Number of homeless people • Average cost of housing VS average income • Average energy usage in homes • Housing density levels
PRACTICAL EXAMPLES FROM MELBOURNE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Food Network • Kitchen Garden Foundation • Sustain • Fairshare and other food relief organisations • Bring Me Home • Suburban and Inner City Farmer Markets • Community and rooftop gardens • Bulk buy stores • STREAT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yarra River Keeper Association • The Nature Conservancy • Water Aid • National independent water and catchment policy centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenstar and other sustainability ratings • Urban Coup • Victorian Energy Saver • A New Normal • Nightingale Housing • 20 minute Neighbourhoods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RedR Australia • Climate and Health Alliance • RMH Foundation • SANE Australia • Lively Social Enterprise

	CONNECTIVITY	COMMUNITY	MOBILITY	CULTURE
POTENTIAL ILLUSTRATIVE INDICATORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet speed distribution • Internet cost average • Ratio of internet connections to households • Utilisation of public areas (libraries, BBQs, etc) • % population who are members of social clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % population that volunteer in community organisations • % diversity representation in workforce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average communter times • % places accessibility friendly • Utilisation of transport methods • Distance to nearest public transport • Cost of public transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average languages spoken by person • Number of languages spoken in a city • Crime rates • Mental health stats
PRACTICAL EXAMPLES FROM MELBOURNE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nextdoor App • Father Bob Maguire Foundation • Good Karma Networks • MeetUp • Renew • Libraries • VicEmergency App 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melbourne Soup • Ross House • Probono Australia • Volunteering Victoria • Gather My Crew 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Cycles • PTV App • Vic Traffic • Shebah 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek / Lunar New Years and other cultural festivals • NGV and other galleries • CoffeE roasters and cafes • AFL • Immigration Museum • Mosaik Experiences • Sisterworks
	JOB	INCOME	EDUCATION	ENERGY
POTENTIAL ILLUSTRATIVE INDICATORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distance between home and work • Average working hours • Average staff turnover with sub metrics • Employment rate vs Job seeker number • Employment contract type distribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average debt entering workforce • Income distribution • % spend of wage for basic needs • Income increase vs productivity increase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % early childhood development attendance • % spend of wages on education • Availability of internships / practical placements • Participation in online eduaction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average greenstar rating of houses/buildings • Distribution of energy grid • Energy price fluctuation • % energy from renewables
PRACTICAL EXAMPLES FROM MELBOURNE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earth Worker Cooperative • B Corporation • Hire Up • Social Procurmenet Framework • CERES Work Experiences • Paid parental leave • 4 Day work week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Exchange System Australia • The Venus Project • Universal basic income • Good Shepherd • Micro Finance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groupwork Centre • CERES Educational Experiences • Global Leadership Foundation • Regenesis Group • The School of Life • Small Giants Academy • Laneway Learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperative Power • Community Power Agency • Hepburn Wind Community Energy • Solar Victoria • What's Your 2040 • New Normal • Solar Our Schools

PEACE & JUSTICE

SOCIAL EQUITY

POLITICAL VOICE

GENDER EQUALITY

POTENTIAL ILLUSTRATIVE INDICATORS

- Crime stats
- Gang violence stats
- First Nations peoples' deaths in custodies
- Number & types of corporate law breaches

- Ratios of CEO's to lowest-paid workers
- Average living wage
- Wage growth VS housing costs
- Taxation rates (individual & business)
- % of women in leadership positions

- Voter turnout
- Private sector investment in State (\$\$\$)
- First Nations representation in government
- % of women in government
- Carbon emissions reductions

- Equal pay for women & minority groups
- % of public VS private-educated leaders
- No. of police stations run by First Nations officers
- Participation rates in schools and universities
- Standard curriculum on First Nations history and living culture

PRACTICAL EXAMPLES FROM MELBOURNE

- She's a Crowd
- Michael West Media
- #LetHerSpeak
- Humans in Geelong
- Australian Progress

- STREAT
- MITS
- Melbourne Social Equity Institute
- NDIS
- Mission Australia

- Stronger Stories
- Friends of the Earth Melbourne
- Vote FluxLabGov.City - City as a Commons
- Sociocracy
- Democracy in Colour

- Beapplied
- Minus 18
- Local newspapers in different languages
- Neighbourhood Houses
- Bicultural bilingual information access
- Ethnic Communities Council Victorias

AIR

WATER

LAND

POTENTIAL ILLUSTRATIVE INDICATORS

- % power produced by renewables
- Total life carbon measurement of products
- Pollutant particles in air
- Urban greening rate
- Number of people walking or cycling to work

- Marine biodiversity within waterways
- Distribution of bodies of water
- KL of rainwater captured
- Chemical pollutant levels in waterways

- Plant biomass within urban areas
- Organic waste put back into the soil
- Biodiversity within urban areas
- Average size of houses

PRACTICAL EXAMPLES FROM MELBOURNE

- ADAPT Loddon Mallee
- Melbourn Urban Forrest - Visual
- Victorian Cleantech Cluster
- Jaunt Motors

- Port Phillip Eco Centre
- Stop Ecocide
- Werribee Purple Watre Pipe
- Brickworks Shopping Centre
- The Aboriginal Water Program

- CERES Environmental Park
- Greenfleet
- Melbourne Sky Farm
- Urban Growers
- Plant-for-the-planet

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