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CONTEXT

The City of Greater Dandenong covers an area of 129.6 square kilometres within the Southern Region of Metropolitan Melbourne. The neighbouring municipal areas include the Cities of Casey, Frankston, Kingston, Monash and Knox.

The Greater Dandenong Green Wedge is located in the middle of the broader South East Green Wedge and features land uses of strategic importance to the wider metropolitan area, including:

- The Eastern Treatment Plant.
- Areas of landscape and environmental significance.
- Areas with potential for waste-water recycling.
- Designated odour and safety buffers near the Dandenong South industrial area.
- Locations with productive agricultural potential.

The resident population of Greater Dandenong is over 160,000 (Victoria in Future, 2019). Greater Dandenong is the most culturally diverse locality in Victoria, with residents from over 150 different birthplaces.

At the doorstep of the magnificent Dandenong Ranges, Greater Dandenong has extensive areas of open space and includes areas of significant ecological value, wetlands and remnant woodlands and grassland communities. The creeks and waterways that traverse the city, together with many areas of Aboriginal, historical and ecological significance, afford the city a composition of diverse environments. Ongoing planning for the Dandenong Creek floodplain is shared with adjacent municipalities and Melbourne Water.

In Greater Dandenong the activity centre hierarchy consists of the Metropolitan Activity Centre (known as Central Dandenong), three Major Activity Centres and a wide range of Neighbourhood Activity Centres. Central Dandenong is the regional transport hub and principal service centre to the South Eastern Growth Corridor. Successive large-scale infrastructure and urban renewal projects are transforming the city.

Older residential areas generally comprise detached houses on ‘quarter acre’ blocks. In the non-urban areas to the south there are older farm houses and large dwellings in rural-residential lots.

Greater Dandenong is a premier industrial region with exporting strengths in manufacturing, wholesale trade and transport and storage. Greater Dandenong businesses provide a high number of jobs, with the employment sector largely orientated towards manufacturing occupations.

Key transport infrastructure, facilities and services located within Greater Dandenong also service the adjoining municipalities. Extensive transport networks link Greater Dandenong with the rapidly expanding south-east region, providing access to central Melbourne and ports.