

BUDGET SNAPSHOT:

City of Melbourne draft Budget 2026-27

Our draft Budget outlines how we plan to spend and invest in the parts of Melbourne that matter most.



Every day, people rely on a city that is clean and safe, easy to move around and full of life.

That's why we're proposing to invest in things like safer streets, well-lit laneways, local places like libraries and parks, and services and programs that make a difference.

This focus reflects the priorities in our Council Plan and Melbourne 2050 Vision, which were shaped by community input.

People told us they value safe and welcoming streets, affordable everyday services, places to connect with others, more green space and responsible planning for the future.

Take a look at what's proposed and share your thoughts. Your feedback will help shape the final Budget for Melbourne.



Total budget:
\$804.8 million



Surplus:
\$1.2 million



Capital works program:
\$175.1 million



Events, arts, culture, activation:
\$41.2 million



Garden City:
\$26.4 million



Safety and cleaning:
\$73.2 million

Your rates help us do this. After we delivered a full rebate on the Victorian Government's 3% rate rise last year, we'll apply the 2.75% rate cap this year.



Your voice matters. Scan the QR code to see what else we're planning to deliver and have your say on our draft Budget before consultation closes on 28 April 2026.

participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/budget-2026-27



Key ways this draft Budget proposes to support everyday life in Melbourne

Bringing our streets to life

- Decorative lighting in Hosier Lane and Hardware Lane, as well as lighting upgrades in Flinders Lane, Little Bourke Street and Healeys Lane.
- Progressing a Little India precinct in Docklands.
- Major city events including New Year's Eve, Moomba and the Christmas Festival.
- More multicultural activations and events.
- Public art projects, including the Stolen Generations Marker.



A fair go for every neighbourhood

- Opening the new Southbank Library.
- Upgrading the Boyd Community Hub.
- Finalising designs for the new North Melbourne Community Hub.
- Helping people at risk or sleeping rough to access care and support.
- Free outdoor fitness classes and summer swim lessons.

Clean, safe and easy to get around

- Improving public safety with more Community Safety Officers.
- New road safety initiatives, footpath renewal and cycling infrastructure.
- Expanding food and garden waste recycling to high-rise apartments.
- Continuing to remove graffiti and keep our streets clean.



Growing the Garden City

- Planting up to 3,000 new trees across the city.
- Delivering new and upgraded parks in areas including Southbank, North Melbourne and Kensington.
- Continuing work on Market Square at Queen Victoria Market.
- Progressing the University Square redevelopment.
- Planning the next stage of the Greenline along the Yarra River – Birrarung.