

Community Profile



MORNINGTON
PENINSULA
Shire

Mornington Peninsula

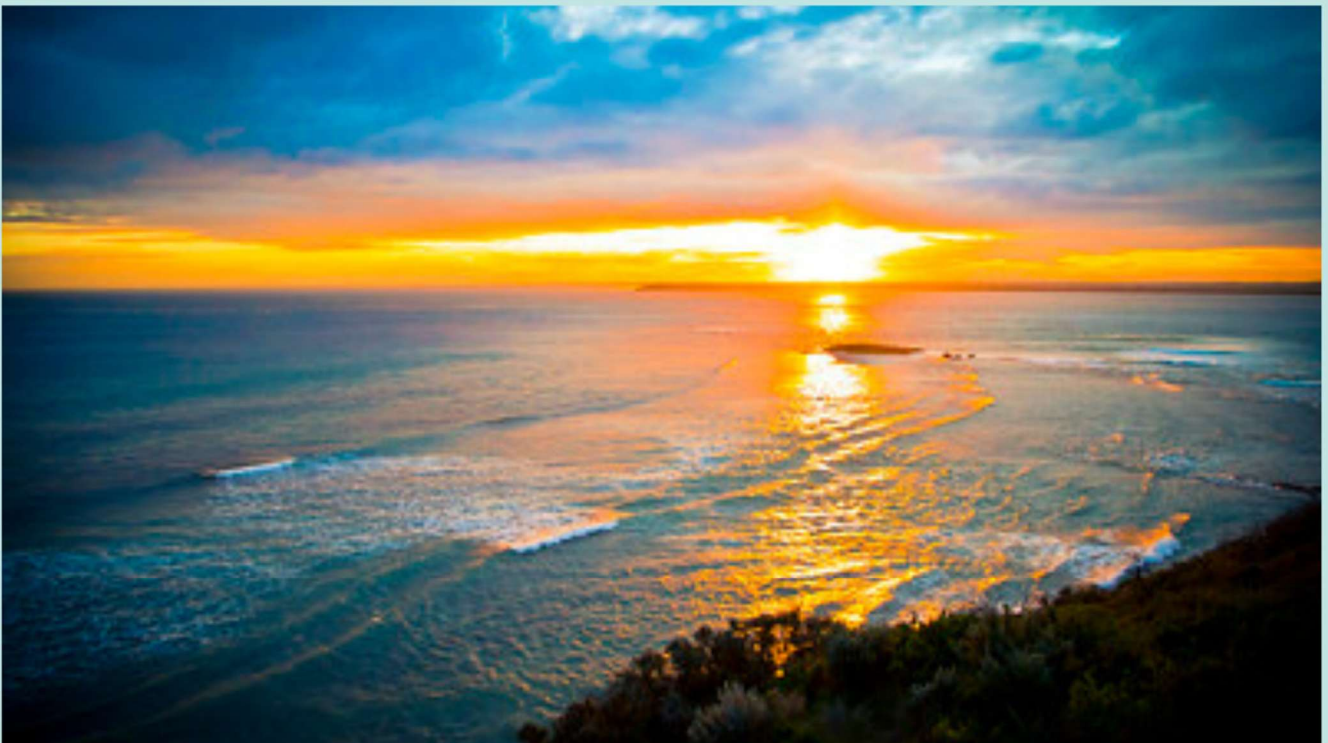


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Acknowledgement of Country



Mornington Peninsula Shire acknowledges the Bunurong people, who have been the custodians of this land for many thousands of years; and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

We acknowledge that the land on which we meet is the place of age-old ceremonies, celebrations, initiations and renewal; and that the Bunurong people's living culture continues to have a unique role in the life of this region.

Community Vision

As the community members, it is important to us that we do not feel alone in what we experience and can connect with others to celebrate culture, share knowledge and skills, or seek and extend support.

To help guide the direction representatives of the community reflected on a vision for the Mornington peninsula Community, which was adopted by Council in 2021.

The principles of the Community Vision 2040 are:

1. Addressing climate change.
2. Integrated public transport.
3. Support an inclusive, connected, and safe society.
4. Innovative planning and development of the local economy.
5. Encourage and expand education, sports and art opportunities.
6. Protect and enhance all elements of our natural land, sea and biodiverse environments.
7. Plan and regulate responsible and innovative housing development.



The purpose of the Profile

This Community Profile provides a snapshot of the community's strength and wellbeing in relation to the Vision's principles and the Council and Wellbeing Plan direction. It incorporates currently available data and information about the Shire to support a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities enabling more informed decisions.

As community members, it is important to all of us that we do not feel alone in what we experience and can connect with others to celebrate culture, share knowledge and skills and seek or extend support.

Connecting with each other through friendships, recreational groups, arts and culture goes to the heart and strength of the community. Many of these connections are through volunteered effort whether it is at school, clubs or a wider variety of organised support for those who may need assistance or are less resilient.

The benefits of inclusion, cohesion and resilience can be seen in evidence of increased physical and mental health and wellbeing, productivity, education and employment outcomes and reduced reliance on and cost of social services.

Increasingly, the understanding of what is happening in our community on broadscale and at a local level is becoming more important to ensure approaches to improvement are relevant, timely and at an appropriate scale.

Council & Wellbeing Plan Theme 1: A healthy, natural environment and well-planned townships

Managing Growth – Population & Housing

Where are we now?

- ❖ Mornington Peninsula Shire (MPS) is home to approximately 170,390 people, which is expected to increase to 181,137 by 2036. 10,747 extra persons between 2021 and 2030.
- ❖ Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islanders living in MPS in 2021 was 1,720, living in 867 dwellings.
- ❖ The number of persons per MPS household is predicted to increase to 75, 844 by 2036.
- ❖ MPS will need to accommodate approximately 7,186 new dwellings, between 2021 and 2036.
- ❖ The number of homes owned with a mortgage decreased by 1.08%
- ❖ 35.5% owned their own homes in MPS.
- ❖ 0.9% decrease in homes rented in MPS.
- ❖ 7,138 (11.7%) of MPS households are in housing stress.
- ❖ The median price in MPS is \$1,300,000.00 compared to \$855,000.00 in Greater Melbourne (GM)
- ❖ The median house rental in MPS is \$580 per week compared to \$430 per week in GM.



Port Phillip Bay image taken from Arthur's Seat



Aerial image of Mt Eliza market

Residents enjoy townships with a semi-rural and coastal character and lifestyle and is keenly sought to continue. They have previously expressed their concern about high density housing in the context of the need for balancing increased housing demand and business growth with the retention of the charm and appeal of a local areas. Much of the charm and appeal is in the open space and coastline environments is further discussed in Environmental Sustainability (overleaf)

Housing related issues include the increasing prices of property. The price increase together with the number of short term, holiday let properties has increased the pressure on the number of affordable rental properties available to residents. This is a matter of significant importance, as we have seen the beginnings of the workforce supply shortage lower paid industry and professions.

Affordable housing is defined in the Victorian Planning and Environment Act 1987 [i] as housing (including social housing) that is appropriate to the needs of very low-, low-, and moderate-income households, whose annual income ranges are derived from ABS data on Population and Housing indexed to the Consumer Price Index. An adequate supply of affordable housing keeps a local economy strong by ensuring a sufficient supply of local housing options for those who drive the local economy – the teachers, retail workers, hospital staff to name a few – to empower them to live within close commuting distance to their places of work. Data shows there is increasing number of households experiencing mortgage and rental stress.

Managing Growth – Transport

The Mornington Peninsula Shire Council is responsible for:

- ❖ 1,712 km local roads
- ❖ 3 Highways (Nepean, Western Port and Moorooduc)
- ❖ 1 Freeway (Peninsula link)
- ❖ 2 Ferries (Sorrento and Stony Point)
- ❖ 12 Bus routes
- ❖ 4 Bridges
- ❖ 929 km of footpaths and walking trails
- ❖ 67303 meters equestrian trails

Data shows that while the Shire’s roads and freeways carry large volumes of traffic it continues to have a significant unmet demand for public transport. Residents’ higher reliance on roads and car ownership together with holiday and weekend traffic adds to the congestion, particularly in summer when the population swells significantly. State Government, as custodian for most arterial roads, and Local Government with a responsibility for local roads, share the design and maintenance responsibilities for the total road network.

Over many years the MPS has recognised the deficiency in public transport which has resulted in strong advocacy for increased routes and improved scheduling of public transport services. Advocacy for improved public transport is ongoing. There is also recognition of the needs of cyclists particularly in relation to the imperative to improve health and wellbeing and reduce the impact on the environment. The two components of cycle tracks include commuter lanes on existing roads and off-track road paths. In many instances these exist as shared paths that link areas and in other circumstances, they are recreational dirt tracks.



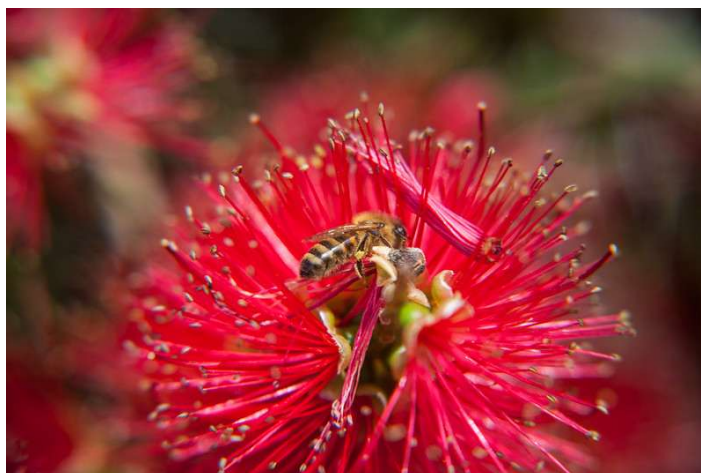
Dromana Foreshore

Managing Growth Open Space

- ❖ Mornington Peninsula Shire enjoys:
 - 2 National Parks (Mornington Peninsula National Park and Point Nepean National Park)
 - 1 State Park, Arthurs Seat Park.
- ❖ Mornington Peninsula Shire owns and/or manages:
 - 2,732.4 hectares of open space representing 3.8% of total municipal land area.
 - 34 Active sport reserves.
- ❖ 43.4% of the residents live in households that collect wastewater.
- ❖ In 2019 waste survey indicate 9.2 kilograms of waste per household is recycled compared to 7.7 kilograms of waste going to landfill.
- ❖ During 2021/22 the total Council emissions were 2357000 t co2e (tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent) mayor emissions source is residential electricity.
- ❖ 400 species of indigenous flora.
- ❖ 700 species of indigenous fauna.

Open space is recognised as important for human physical and mental health. However, it is also critical for biodiversity and climate change resilience. Climate change resilience is the ability to anticipate, prepare for and respond to hazardous events and trends or disturbances related to changes in our climate.

The management of our open spaces and their biodiversity, reduction and recycling of waste, and water together with greenhouse gas emissions are all essential elements of addressing climate change and securing a healthy environment. The local agriculture industry relies heavily on both rainfall and recycled water from the Gunamatta recycling plant to ensure sustainability of food production. The quality of water at beaches is generally very good other than immediately after storm activity when fertilizer, animal faeces and litter, including cigarette butts are washed into the Bays.



Managing Growth – Waste

As population grows the urgency to recycle, reduce and manage waste in the face of climate change becomes a greater imperative for all of us. MPS responsibility incorporates keeping streets and open spaces free from refuse guidance and facilities to encourage management of household waste and local laws to enforce littering and illegal dumping of waste.

Rye landfill is due to close in 2025 MPS is currently working with other councils and State Government to reduce waste to landfill and establish a more effective and efficient regional waste management system and resources.



Council & Wellbeing Plan Theme 2: A robust, innovative and diverse economy

Education

Levels of education in 2021:

- ❖ 71.5% of MPS children in early childhood attended kindergarten.

Levels of Literacy in 2021:

- ❖ 93.2% of Year 9 students were achieving national minimum standards in literacy similar to State levels.
- ❖ 96% of Year 7 students were achieving national minimum standards in literacy similar to State levels.
- ❖ 99% of Year 5 students were achieving minimum standards of literacy similar to State levels.

Levels of education of people over 15 years of age in MPS:

- ❖ 21.5% (30,362) of MPS hold a university degree compared to 29.2% across Victoria.
- ❖ 2.7% (4,586) attended university compared to 5% across Victoria.
- ❖ 21.3% (30,166) hold a trade (certificate or diploma) qualification compared to 16.7% across Victoria.
- ❖ 1.9% (3,292) attended TAFE compared to 2.4% across Victoria.
- ❖ 36.9% (52,190) have no qualifications compared to 36.5% across Victoria.
- ❖ In 2021, 41.7% Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples completed level 12, 134 more than during 2016.

Education makes an important contribution to labour force participation, income levels and economic productivity. Data indicates secondary education levels are tracking at similar levels to the state average. Participation in higher education, however, is lower than state average. This may be due to greater geographic distance to universities and poor access to public transport, whereas tertiary education participation in TAFE is higher than state average.



Economic Productivity

In 2021

- ❖ The Gross Regional Product was \$8.687 billion, up from \$8,572 billion in 2020.
- ❖ Labour force participation by people over 15 years of age in MPS:
 - 55.4% (78,371) participated compared to 62.4% across greater Victoria, an increase of 7,340 since 2016.
 - 38.2% (28,913) were employed part time compared to 34% across Victoria.
 - Between 2016 and 2021 the number of Aboriginal and Strait Islander people in the labour force showed an increase of 39.4% (207)
- ❖ 3.3% (2,606) were unemployed compared to 5% across Victoria.



Baxter

At 3.3%, the unemployment rate in the municipality is the lowest it has been since 2010. Examination of the data highlights employment growth in the hospital and aged care sectors will continue to increase due to the ageing population.

The top five occupations include: professionals, managers, technical/trade workers, clerical/administration and community and personal service workers.

The Mornington Peninsula continues to be an attractive destination. Spending continues to be strong with \$4.14 billion spent in the period from November 2021 – October 2022. Resident local spend comprises 50% of this amount with the online spend also very strong at over \$2.3 billion. The top three areas where residents spent their money included, trades and contractors, other and travel.

In 2021 the top five employment sectors/industries:

- ❖ 14.3% Construction
- ❖ 13.8% Health Care and Social Assistance
- ❖ 10.0% Retail Trade
- ❖ 9.0% Education and Training
- ❖ 6.8% Accommodation and Food Services
- ❖ 6.8% Professional, Scientific and Technical Services

Council & Wellbeing Plan Theme 3: A Flourishing, healthy and connected community

Health

Self-reported health status data in 2020:

- ❖ 39% are insufficient physically active compared to 44% across Victoria.
- ❖ 20.7% are obese.
- ❖ 29.3% overweight.
- ❖ 37.8% women and 19.8% men experienced doctor diagnosed depression or anxiety.
- ❖ 12.7% sought help for mental health problem in the past 12 months.
- ❖ 70% increase lifetime risk of alcohol related harm.
- ❖ 17.2% current smokers slightly higher than the State average of 16.4%
- ❖ 6.9% of people ran out of money to buy food in the past 12 months (higher than State average of 5.9%)
- ❖ 13.8% of people reported they worry about food security.
- ❖ 16.8% of people reported they consume take away food more than once a week.
- ❖ 9.7% people reported they drink sweetened soft drink daily.
- ❖ 56.1% people reported they did not meet daily fruit and vegetable recommendations.

In 2022:

- ❖ 14.9% of children in MPS were developmentally vulnerable lower than the state average of 19.9%
- ❖ 41 Aboriginal children enrolled to 4 years old Kinder and 49 Aboriginal children enrolled to 3 years old kinder

Wellbeing – Tenure of accommodation

In 2021:

- ❖ 40.7% (28,087) fully ownership of homes in MPS compared to 31% across Victoria.
- ❖ 24% (15,904) of MPS households were on incomes of less than \$800 per week compared to 21% across Victoria
- ❖ 22,980 homes were owned with a mortgage of which 10.9% (2,492) were in mortgage stress.
- ❖ 11,175 homes in MPS were privately rented of which 35.3% (3,938) were in rental stress.
- ❖ 1.4% (986) of homes were social housing rentals compared to 2.5% across Victoria.

Health and Wellbeing

Lifestyle choices influence the health and wellbeing of many individuals', however, vulnerability, food security and social exclusion can also have a significant impact on long term health.

Food security and nutrition means that people at all times have social, physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their preferences and dietary needs for an active healthy life (UN committee on World Food Security)

Many serious diseases, such as cardiovascular disease, chronic kidney disease, certain types of cancer, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure are related to lifestyle or health behaviours. Regular exercise can also reduce the risk of noncommunicable health conditions like heart disease, type 2 diabetes and cancer and improves social connection and mental wellbeing.

There are 27,587 young people between the ages of 10 years old to 24 years old in the Mornington Peninsula Shire. During these years most of them will transition from dependence to independence and follow a variety of pathways into adulthood. While young people develop into highly different individuals their adolescent years can vary widely with some young people needing additional support to deal with confronting issues that could have a lasting impact including homelessness, alcohol and substance abuse, family violence and social exclusion. A review of Grade 7 to 9 survey data revealed that since 2012 there has been a continued reduction in alcohol and tobacco use, early sexual activity, bullying school suspensions and some anti-social behaviours. Nutrition and physical activity have also improved however, so too have depressive symptoms and low school commitment. However, specific survey data for Grade 8 highlights recent alcohol use is higher for the Mornington Peninsula compared to the national sample.

There are 45,980 people over the age of 65 years old living in the Mornington Peninsula Shire, 6,029 of them are over the age of 85 years old. The Mornington Peninsula has a greater number of people over the age of 65 than Greater Melbourne. Research indicates most adults over the age of 55 years are healthy and well educated. Life expectancy is expected to continue to improve for males and females highlighting the anticipated growth in our older population. Planning for positive aging will be essential element to support the community.



Pelican Park - Hastings

Community Strength

- ❖ There is 500 Shire owned and managed buildings/facilities across the Mornington Peninsula.
- ❖ 25.1% of people over the age of 15 years provided voluntary work compared to 12.1% in Greater Melbourne.
- ❖ 32% said 'yes definitely' most people could be trusted compared to 36.1% across Victoria. (VPHS 2020)
- ❖ 61.5% said 'yes definitely' multiculturalism makes life better compared to 63.5% across Victoria (VPHS 2020)
- ❖ 42.2% of Mornington Peninsula residents talk to their friends daily compared to 34% across Victoria.
- ❖ 95.9% of residents had a close friends or family they talked with regularly like Victoria average.
- ❖ In 2016, 20.0% of the Mornington Peninsula residents volunteered compared to only 17.6% in the Greater Melbourne. Unfortunately, after the Covid-19 pandemic this number dropped to 14.8% in the Mornington Peninsula.

Communities thrive when people feel valued, connected, included, and celebrate together. Community strength, often described as the heart and soul of a community, represents the glue that holds and uplifts people within the community increasing their sense of belonging and commitment to one another. Accordingly, strong inclusive social networks can enable a respect of diversity, supportive relationships, local skills and knowledge and resources.

At an individual perspective these community characteristics contribute to and can also improve an individual's physical and mental health and positive outlook, reducing stress, anxiety, and depression.



Emil Madsen Reserve

At a whole of community perspective these characteristics can build respect and recognition of different cultures, promote reconciliation with First Nations peoples and be experienced as pride and involvement in the township, suburb or local area. Involvement can be through local celebrations of history and culture; participation in clubs and groups that, other than the social involvement, also nurture the abilities of the youngest to the oldest and most in need residents, whether it to be through sport and recreation, environmental interests, culture and language or crafts and hobbies to name a few.

Volunteering across the Mornington Peninsula also have a remarkable role in the individual's wellbeing and the help they provide to their community. Volunteering is essential to the social and economic recovery of the community after the Covid -19 pandemic. Reinvigorating volunteering is fundamental to the sense of wellbeing in the community.

These attributes build strength and resilience. In the face of a set-back or new challenge, resilience better enables individuals and communities to understand the challenges and how to respond best and accept and receive support when needed.



Smoking Ceremony at Willum Warrain

Community Safety

- ❖ 95.8% of people feel safe walking during the day.
- ❖ 60.8% of people feel safe walking during the night.
- ❖ Between March 2021 and March 2022 there were 2,064 reported incidents of family violence 7.2% less than the previous year.
- ❖ Rate of family violence per 100,000 people is 1223.7 lower than the State rate of 1360.4.
- ❖ Total criminal incidents in MPS in 2022 were down 15.7% compared with 2021.
- ❖ Top 5 offences: breach of family violence order, criminal damage, “other” theft, residential burglary, theft of motor vehicle.
- ❖ 6 deaths occurred on roads in MPS between September 2021 to 2022.

Strong inclusive social networks enable a respect of diversity, supportive relationships, local skills and knowledge and resources.

At an individual perspective these community characteristics contribute to and can improve an individual’s acceptance, physical and mental health and positive outlook, reducing stress, anxiety and depression.

At a whole of community perspective these characteristics can build respect and recognition of different cultures, promote reconciliation with First Nations peoples and also be experienced as pride and involvement in the township, suburb or local area. Involvement can be through local celebrations of history and culture; participation in clubs and groups that, other than the social involvement, also nurture the abilities of the youngest to the oldest and most in need residents, whether it is through sport and recreation, environmental interests, culture and language or crafts and hobbies to name a few.

These attributes build strength and resilience. In the face of a set-back or new challenge. Resilience better enables individuals and communities to understand the challenges and the best response as well as accept and receive support when needed.



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