

# Building The Foundation Of A Healthy Community

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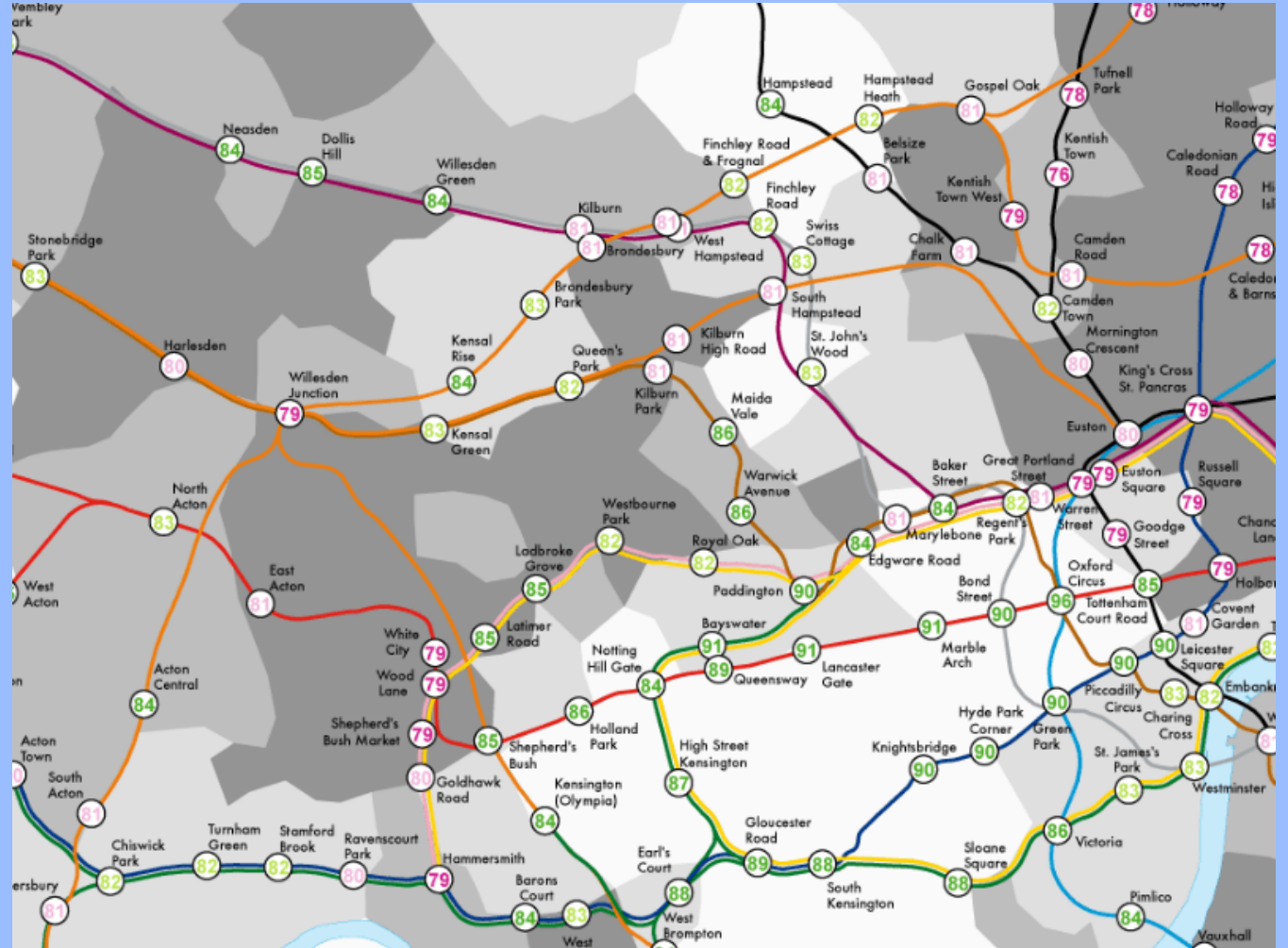
# Healthy Foundations

The way our cities, suburbs and towns are planned, designed and built plays an important role in determining our health and wellbeing.



# Reality

- Lives on the Line: Life Expectancy at Birth & Child Poverty as a Tube Map, a version of the London Tube (train) map showing life expectancy from station to station.
- Roads and parking given dominant position in city planning
- Neighbourhoods without trees, nature strips or green space



# Victorian Examples

- Tecoma Community & Council overturned at VCAT
- Black Rock

## Timeline of the battle against a McDonald's at Tecoma, Victoria

By Jacqui Peake

Posted Mon 24 Feb 2014 at 2:48pm, updated Fri 4 Dec 2015 at 12:21pm



Work is already on the way at the site of a new McDonalds, but locals say they will continue to their fight to stop the American chain from building in their town. (ABC TV)



Anti McDonalds protesters vow to keep up their demonstration



A protester at the Tecoma demonstration. (ABC News)

## Black Rock residents fuming as VCAT gives Dan Murphy's green light on Bluff Road megastore

Black Rock residents are fuming after plans for a Dan Murphy's megastore were approved, despite 500 objections and fears of a rise in alcohol-fuelled violence.

Carly Douglas and Paris Mahar

less than 2 min read April 21, 2023 - 10:26AM Herald Sun

10 comments





# Some Wins...

- International zoning changes
  - More: <https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/media-and-resources/publications/land-use-planning>
  - <https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/news-publications/publications/how-your-postcode-predicts-your-health-and-life-expectancy>
- Road Moratorium in Wales
- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Keep Mansfield Healthy and Mansfield Matters stopping a new McDonalds and an expansion of the EGMs in the pub
- But health is not embedded

Food  
Green Carts put fresh produce where the people are



## Welsh government suspends all future road-building plans

Deputy minister for climate change announces move as part of plans to reach net zero emissions by 2050



# Alternative

To create a healthier and more equitable community we need to change the way planning decisions are made.

The state parliament should pass legislation that changes the Victorian Planning Act to

**1) embed health as a priority consideration in planning** and  
**2) allow consideration of community voice into the decision making process** of planning and zoning.

This amendment should seek to promote and enable:

- i. The prioritisation of healthy food retail outlets
- ii. Local government and planning authorities to respect the wishes of community when they raise concerns about new or expanding footprints of harmful industry retailers including alcohol retailers, fast-food outlets and gambling venues
- iii. Green spaces for mental and physical health–this should also include a focus on promoting tree coverage and shade to prevent heat islands
- iv. Infrastructure that prioritizes active transport options and safe physical activity.

# Next Steps

- Research
- Case studies
- Parliamentary Inquiry
- Collaborate and learn!
- Build Community and Sector Support
- Legislative Change



# Get Involved

- Parliamentary Inquiry
- Send us your examples

As you will recall, last year the Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee commenced an Inquiry into the Protections within the Victorian Planning Framework. Following the closure of the inquiry, the sole recommendation from the committee was that a full inquiry be undertaken at the beginning of the next parliament to ensure that the matters raised in the terms of reference can be given due consideration. Additionally, there was the inclusion of 'the implications for public health planning decisions' in the terms of reference for the next inquiry....

As a health organisation concerned about the impact the built environment has on people and communities, VicHealth encourages a new inquiry - including the additional term of reference regarding the planning framework's implications on health - be opened by the committee as a priority action.

If the chair could provide an update on the timeline to re-establish the inquiry that would be appreciated.