Council has received a draft master plan from the Moonee Valley Racing Club (MVRC) and a proposal to rezone their land. The draft master plan outlines how the land could be developed into the future. It provides broad development guidelines but does not provide specific development detail. The rezoning proposes to change the zone of the land from a Special Use Zone (Racecourse) to an Activity Centre Zone, to potentially allow a greater mix of uses on the site including residential development.

Providing the community with information
This fact sheet, along with a question and answer sheet and a copy of the draft master plan are also available at the Council Civic Centre in Moonee Ponds, at library branches and in Neighbourhood Centres.

Community information meeting
Council will be holding two community meetings to provide information about the process for assessing the draft master plan and rezoning proposal.

Where
Pascoe Vale Room at the Clocktower Centre, 750 Mt Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds.

When
You can choose to attend one of the following information sessions:
Thursday 1 December
Registration from 5.30pm to 6pm
RSVP
Each session has limited places available (350 seats) so it is essential that people RSVP.
To book your place at a community information meeting please visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/racecourse and then click on the link ‘Community information meeting’.
If you can’t make these meetings you can watch them live on your personal computer. To view the meetings visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/racecourse and then click on the link ‘Community information meeting’.
The purpose of the community information sessions is to:

- outline the process for assessing the draft master plan and rezoning
- confirm the issues that the community has in relation to the proposal
- provide an update on community comments to date
- explain when and how Council will undertake community consultation on the draft plan and rezoning.

Community consultation in 2012

As outlined already, the draft master plan and rezoning are not currently on consultation.

It is expected that the draft master plan and rezoning would be on consultation with the community in the first half of 2012. It is at this stage of the process that you will have an opportunity to make a submission in relation to the proposal.

Please note that any submissions received outside of the consultation period cannot be considered. This is because the draft master plan may change before it goes out on consultation. So please ensure you hold off on sending Council your submission until the official consultation period in 2012.

Background – Moonee Ponds Activity Centre Structure Plan

In 2010, Council adopted the Moonee Ponds Activity Centre (MPAC) Structure Plan, which includes the racecourse precinct. This structure plan was developed because the State Government had nominated Moonee Ponds as a ‘Principal Activity Centre’. These centres are expected to take on increased population density and to develop into vibrant urban areas that have good access to public transport and services.

The Moonee Valley Racecourse precinct will experience increased growth and housing density as outlined in MPAC Structure Plan. Council wants to ensure that future growth in this area is planned, is in the best interests of the community and meets the needs of a growing municipality and a growing Melbourne. The best way to do this is to have a long term plan in place.

As part of MPAC Structure Plan it was recommended that the racecourse develop its own master plan to outline their future intentions for this precinct.

More information

Contact Council’s Strategic Planning Department on 9243 8888 or visit mvcc.vic.gov.au/racecourse

Understanding planning jargon

- Moonee Ponds Activity Centre Structure Plan is a document that provides Council, landowners and the community with a vision and direction for future development of the centre to the year 2030. It was adopted in March 2010 after lengthy community consultation.
- Moonee Valley Planning Scheme Amendment is a document that outlines what Council sees as the future direction for land use and development in Moonee Valley. It also contains State Government policies and requirements, and zones and overlays which show you whether a property is for residential, industrial or business use and what can be done on that land.
- Moonee Village Valley Planning Scheme Amendment is a State Government process to add or change something in the Moonee Valley Planning Scheme (i.e. rezone an area of land). This process usually involves community consultation.
- A Panel Hearing or Independent Panel is required when there are objections to a Planning Scheme Amendment. A panel is appointed by the Minister for Planning, through Planning Panels Victoria. The role of a panel is to provide an independent forum where submitters can be heard, and to provide independent advice to Council and the Minister for Planning. The panel is not a court of law, and it does not make a decision on a proposal.