

Open Forum FAQs

Maribyrnong River catchment flood mitigation study

Wednesday 2 April 2025

Pre-submitted questions

How can we prepare for flood?

There are a number of steps you can take:

Know your flood risk: To know if you are in a flood risk location, review the [maps on Melbourne Water's website](#). Ultimately, the VicSES local flood guide will be updated with the new maps.

Sign up to alerts and warnings: You should install the [VicEmergency App](#) and create a Watch Zone. You can also monitor weather warnings and forecasts at the [Bureau of Meteorology website](#).

Business flood plan: If you run a business, create a flood plan to help reduce damage and risk of flooding by downloading the [Business flood planning checklist](#).

Create an emergency plan: The Australian Red Cross provide a '[Get Prepared](#)' app and [Rediplan template](#) which you can complete to ensure you have local emergency services contacts at your fingertips and a plan in place you can activate in an emergency event.

Pack an emergency flood kit: An emergency kit ensures you have essential items close at hand if you lose power or need to evacuate quickly. The VICSES website includes a [checklist of what to pack](#).

Keep your property maintained: Regularly clean your gutters, downpipes and drains to remove debris and leaf litter and prevent blockages, and check that loose items around your home are safely secured.

And finally, check if your home and contents insurance covers flooding.

Retarding basin and wildlife

How will wildlife be considered in choosing mitigation options?

Melbourne Water will consider flood mitigation options that deliver positive mitigation outcomes consistent with economic, environmental and social outcomes. We are looking at all flood mitigation options, and assessing them against a range of metrics, including the environmental impacts for flora and fauna.

What mitigation options will be investigated?

Together with the community, Melbourne Water is exploring mitigation options in the Maribyrnong River catchment to help reduce flood risk in the lower catchment. These could include:

- Structural flood mitigations
 - Traditional options: for example, reservoirs, dams and retarding basins – for example, Arundel.
 - Innovative options: for example, nature-based solutions, such as restoring wetlands or creating 'spongy' catchment areas where the hard surfaces of urban areas are cleared to allow the landscape to absorb water.
- Non-structural flood mitigations
 - Traditional options: for example, zoning and development restrictions, flood warning systems, community education or emergency management plans.
 - Innovative options: for example, flood resilient homes and improved preparedness through community response rehearsals.

Given the size and diversity of the Maribyrnong River Catchment, it is unlikely that just one flood mitigation option will be identified.

The study is likely to identify a number of options which could be implemented by Melbourne Water and other delivery partners in the short term, medium term (a minimum of 5 years) and others which will take considerable time to implement (a minimum of 10-15 years).

Expected Forum outcomes and government commitment

Why does it seem we are back at a community fact-finding stage? What is the outcome expected from this forum?

Although Melbourne Water has sought to work closely with affected residents and businesses over the past two years, recent feedback from the community, in particular the Maribyrnong Community Recovery Association (MCRA), is that the community still has more to say.

The primary purpose of the Open Forum is to actively listen to what the Maribyrnong River catchment community has to say. We want to respectfully hear the community's concerns and feedback. We want to work collaboratively with the community and build a flexible engagement process that the community has confidence in and wants to be a part of.

The focus of the Open Forum was to understand and learn from your experience.

Flood map

Where can I find the current flood map?

You can view PDF flood maps of the new Maribyrnong River Flood Model on the Let's Talk page here: <https://letstalk.melbournewater.com.au/maribyrnong-river-flood-model/maribyrnong-river-flood-model-maps>.

The maps provide information about the current day (i.e. year 2024) and future (i.e. year 2100) flood extent and flood depth scenario predictions:

- The 2024 scenarios show our best understanding of the flood extent and flood depths for current day
- The 2100 scenarios show the projected flood extents and flood depths under a climate change scenario.

The 2024 modelling outputs provide the information required to prepare communities for flood risks from both emergency response and planning.

Water quality and recovery

Has the water quality has been tested since the flood and is it ok?

Melbourne Water have a long-term water quality monitoring program, that includes sites on the Maribyrnong River and in its catchment. Samples are collected on a monthly or bimonthly basis and analysed for a range of water quality parameters. This program helps us understand long-term trends in condition of waterways across the Melbourne region over time. EPA Victoria use these results to publish an annual water quality report card -

<https://www.epa.vic.gov.au/for-community/monitoring-your-environment/monitoring-victorias-water-quality/report-card>.

Following the floods in October 2022, EPA Victoria conducted additional monitoring of water quality in 24 waterways across Victoria, including the Maribyrnong, to better understand the risks associated with floodwaters. EPA have published these results, which you can view and download on their website: <https://www.epa.vic.gov.au/for-community/flood-impacted-waterways>.

Cost benefit analysis, incorporating community expertise

At what point in the process does cost-benefit evaluation come into this work?

There are four phases of community engagement for this project, the cost benefit analysis evaluation will come in phase three. In phase three we will have identified what the community value in the catchment and then we'll move to the list of mitigation options identified in the study.

A cost-benefit analysis will be a part of the process to develop alternative schemes with suitable mitigation options.

Are you actually going to consider community's suggestions?

Yes. Community input will be key to the success of the Maribyrnong River catchment flood mitigation study. Comprehensive engagement to involve the community in open and engaging discussions about the full suite of potential mitigation options, along with the findings of the mitigation study will help guide decisions about preferred mitigation options.

Nature based solutions

How might community groups be involved in nature-based solutions? Can the defence site be used as a nature-based flood mitigation site?

Community groups can play a role in supporting and shaping nature-based mitigation options, which are a key focus of the study. Nature based options can be effective for managing flood risk as well as offering broader community benefits such as improved amenity, biodiversity and overall liveability of an area. The study will consider a range of structural, non-structural and nature-based options.

Areas like the defence site will be explored as potential flood mitigation options, which could include opportunities for flood storage or nature-based solutions like wetlands. Jacobs have a global team of experts with experience in nature-based strategies and are currently evaluating a wide range of options, combining local knowledge with international best practices.

Every location and river system is unique, so community input is important in identifying suitable mitigation options. Local perspectives will help ensure mitigation options not only address flood risks, but also align with community values.

Jacobs' role

Is there a conflict of interest given Jacobs' updated the flood model for Melbourne Water, and now they're undertaking the flood mitigation study?

During the procurement process for this study, Melbourne Water have undertaken due diligence to check for conflict of interest of all submissions as part of tender evaluation.

In the procurement of the services for the Maribyrnong River flood mitigation study, we conducted a rigorous process, which involved:

- engaging an external probity advisor to ensure the process was fair and in line with government policies
- seeking independent subject matter expertise and advice during the technical evaluation of the submissions.

With respect to the flood modelling work was independently peer reviewed by HARC consulting at key milestones of development. The work of both Jacobs and HARC was also informed through access to an independent and deeply experienced expert panel (two leading hydrologists) enabling an additional layer of review and challenge to ensure a robust modelling outcome. HARC had

no contact with the expert panel as is appropriate for an independent peer reviewer.

It is important to note that the Mitigation Study is not designed to interrogate the Maribyrnong River flood model; but rather, we will use the Maribyrnong model to inform the Mitigation Study.

How were Jacobs selected as consultants to complete this study? How many other tender applications were there other than Jacobs?

We went through an extensive, three phase procurement process that began in June 2024. The process started with an expression of interest (EOI) and a two-phase request for proposal (RFP) stage.

The EOI helped Melbourne Water to understand the capacity, capability and availability within the market prior to issuing the two-stage request for proposal stage, which represented the main part of the tender process.

During the RFP process, we received 10 submissions, nine of them went through to detailed development and tender evaluation. Following that, we shortlisted the top three applicants and who were invited to clarification interviews before the preferred consultant was selected.

We also had an independent technical advisor for the whole process to help inform the assessment as well as engaged independent probity throughout the process to ensure that we are in line with government policies.

Engineering solution near Epsom Road walking bridge

The idea of a dam further up river from existing homes. Is there an engineering solution to preventing the flood water breaking the banks of the Maribyrnong River in its current weak spot at the water channel near the Epsom Road walking bridge? Such as gabions?

Melbourne Water note this as a comment and will ensure it is included as a contribution to our first phase of engagement.

What is in place to avoid this happening again

Are there any short-term protection works planned prior to the major solution being selected? How are you going to protect my assets short term?

One of the key outcomes we aim to achieve from this study is the recommendation of a preferred flood mitigation scheme for the lower

Maribyrnong River catchment. The preferred scheme could be made up of a group of mitigation options of varying scale. But first we'll need to go through the process of the study to identify what the mitigation options are. The outcomes of the study will inform the implementation pathway of the preferred scheme.

For example, Melbourne Water together with our delivery partners, can consider smaller, simpler and/or temporary mitigation options that could be implemented in a shorter time frame to manage risks, alongside progressing work towards implementing larger and more complex mitigation options.

What is Melbourne Water doing to ensure we don't get flooded again?

You can never completely eliminate the risk of flooding. Managing flood risk in the Port Phillip and Westernport region is a shared responsibility between many organisations, including Melbourne Water, councils, state government and emergency management services.

There are three important levers that Melbourne Water use to manage flood risk, that is through:

- flood awareness and preparedness
- land use planning and building design; and
- physical infrastructure, where it is feasible.

Flood data and modelling is the key enabler for all three of those levers, so it sits underneath all of those. Melbourne Water undertakes that modelling for the Port Phillip and Western Port regions and shares this information with a range of authorities, councils and property owners.

We shared new flood modelling with communities in the Lower Maribyrnong catchment last year and undertook a program of community engagement events. The flood modelling is also key to inform the flood mitigation study.

Mitigation update

What is the expected timeline for this project?

The study started in early 2025 and is expected to finish by mid-2026.

The community engagement will take place in four main phases:

- **Phase 1** is about identifying what is important to you in your communities, and what you value in your local area, to help inform the evaluation criteria which will be used to assess the flood mitigation options

- **Phase 2** is about working in collaboration with the community to explore potential flood mitigation options through seeking your involvement in the evaluation criteria with the aim of refining the 'long-list' of options into a 'short list'
- **Phase 3** is about seeking your feedback and inputs to assist with reviewing and refining the 'short-list' of options. We will also start to develop an early plan of how to implement the preferred mitigation option(s)
- **Phase 4** will involve presenting you with the outcomes of the study and the release of a community consultation report.

What progress has been made on the flood mitigation project?

Together with the community, Melbourne Water is exploring mitigation options in the Maribyrnong River catchment to help reduce flood risk in the lower catchment. We have been working on this study since June 2023:

- A preliminary desk top review of past flood mitigation studies for the Maribyrnong River was completed and released in 2023, you can read more on [Let's Talk](#).
- The new Maribyrnong River Flood Model was released in April 2024
- We then began a thorough tender process to appoint a specialist team to complete the Maribyrnong River catchment flood mitigation study, which resulted in Jacobs' appointment in January 2025.
- During this time, we kept you informed via letter-box drops, website and email updates, 1:1 meetings, and drop in sessions.
- The first phase of community engagement is now underway.

How will the public know that the 'long-list' options are exhaustive?

The long list of mitigation options will use feedback from the community, local knowledge, and input from local and international technical experts on flood mitigation measures.

As part of the study, we will provide the full long list of all mitigation options, which the team has started to collate from multiple sources of information. To date (March 2025), the following sources have been looked at, including:

- Past studies (including various historic Melbourne Water Board of Works reports) and past engagement activities.
- Parliamentary Inquiry review submissions.
- Suggestions received during the recently closed Let's Talk engagement activity.

Jacobs will complement the initial long list with:

- Ideas and suggestions raised by the community during Phase 1 engagement events, which will be announced soon.
- Meeting with various Melbourne Water experts to review the initial long list and ensure to capture any additional knowledge they have of the Maribyrnong River and options that they know have been considered in the past, or indeed ideas they may have.
- Advice from local and global advisors who will challenge us, and seek their ideas based on best practice, innovation and experience with mitigation options implemented elsewhere.

The long list will contain references to the source of the option/idea, state the study/report conclusion(s) on the option, and other metrics that could be of relevance for the analysis we will carry out in this study.

We will share the long list online via our Let's Talk page and at our Community Events

When will the list of mitigation options be made available?

Phase 1 (now to mid-2025) is about working in collaboration with the community and other stakeholders to explore potential flood mitigation options through seeking your involvement in defining evaluation criteria.

These will help us screen the 'long-list' of options into a 'shorter list' of options. Phase 2 (mid to late 2025) is about seeking your feedback and inputs to assist with reviewing and refining the 'short-list' of options.

Which tools do you propose to use to model the effectiveness and benefit of mitigation options?

We're looking to identify what's important to the community and translate those into values. Some of them will be monetary, some of them won't be.

There will be a combination of different types of criteria that we will be developing to evaluate the various options identified by the study.

There will be several analyses used to assess the efficacy and benefits of mitigation options, such as cost benefit analysis. Often referred to as a CBA, it is a best-practice evaluation method which is widely used to estimate and compare total costs and benefits of a project in economic terms. Usually expressed as a dollar value, the result of the CBA helps to understand if a mitigation option, or a combination of mitigation options, offers value for money.

In addition, in order to evaluate and optimise flood mitigation schemes across the scale and type of mitigation options (structural and non-structural etc), we

will assess different combinations of the mitigation options that might work together to best reduce the riverine flood risk in the lower Maribyrnong catchment.

The overall approach to reducing flood risk in the Lower Maribyrnong catchment is based on a well-established risk-based process that has been practiced in Australia for many decades. In fact, this process is similar to what is done around the world including the United Kingdom, Europe, the United States and New Zealand.

The process involves establishing what the flood risk is, developing and testing options to reduce flood risk and repeating until flood risk has been reduced to an acceptable level.

What are the primary solution selection drivers?

Some of the primary selection drivers we'll consider are:

- Feasibility
- Flood risk reduction (expressed in for example Annual Average Damages, number of properties impacted)
- Number/type of critical and social infrastructure impacted
- Economic assessment
- Community values
- Social values
- Environmental values & impact
- Cultural values.

How will you ensure that any mitigation works will stand up to future events and climate change models?

Our flood mitigation study will consider all options and identify the most feasible flood mitigation options that prioritise the safety and resilience of the communities within the catchment. We will consider options which have the greatest impact on reducing the flood risk of sites impacted by 1% annual exceedance probability (AEP) flood events in the current day and/or year 2100 scenario which takes into consideration climate change.

The aim of this study is to find a range of mitigation options that will better protect people and property from the impact of flooding from the river, but there will always be the chance of a flood that is larger than the one that has been designed for. We have adopted an adaptive planning framework for this project, so that implementation of the flood mitigations can progress under the uncertainty associated with changing climate and future weather events.

Once any mitigation solutions are implemented, we will evaluate any need to re-model the flood risk.

There's no new information - why are you gathering us again?

We're committed to sharing project milestones to keep you informed at every step, to answer questions and work together on mitigation options that have genuine community benefit.

Since our last community drop-in session in December, we have;

- Announced the launch of the first phase of community engagement
- Selected a specialist team and awarded Jacobs, one of the world's largest providers of flood modelling and mitigation services, the contract to deliver the flood mitigation study
- Held a community webinar in February to introduce you to the project team and share information about the Maribyrnong River catchment flood mitigation study.

Tonight's focus is to understand and learn from your experience. We would like to know what you need, your ideas and any concerns about reducing flood risk in the future provide you with information about the study.

Kensington flood plain

Why is the whole of Kensington now classed as a flood plain zone when only small parts of Kensington were affected by the last flood? Are insurance companies just using this to increase premiums?

Kensington Banks is now classed as a flood plain zone based on the new flood model that maps the 1% annual exceedance probability (AEP) current day flood event. This is a more extreme scenario than the October 2022 flood, which was a 2% AEP event. The new modelling covers a larger area to align with standard planning controls, not just recent flood event in October 2022.

While the new 1% AEP event modelling indicated flooding will impact properties in Kensington Banks in a 1% AEP flood event, this does not necessarily mean that your property will experience above floor flooding during such an event. Impact to properties can range from over floor flooding to flood waters across a driveway or in the garden of a property, or just in the street. The extent to which buildings are impacted also depends on the way they are built. For instance, the level of clearance between the ground and the flood of the building.

We encourage all residents and landowners impacted by the changes in flood risk to contact us to better understand their flood risk profile and possible actions they can take.

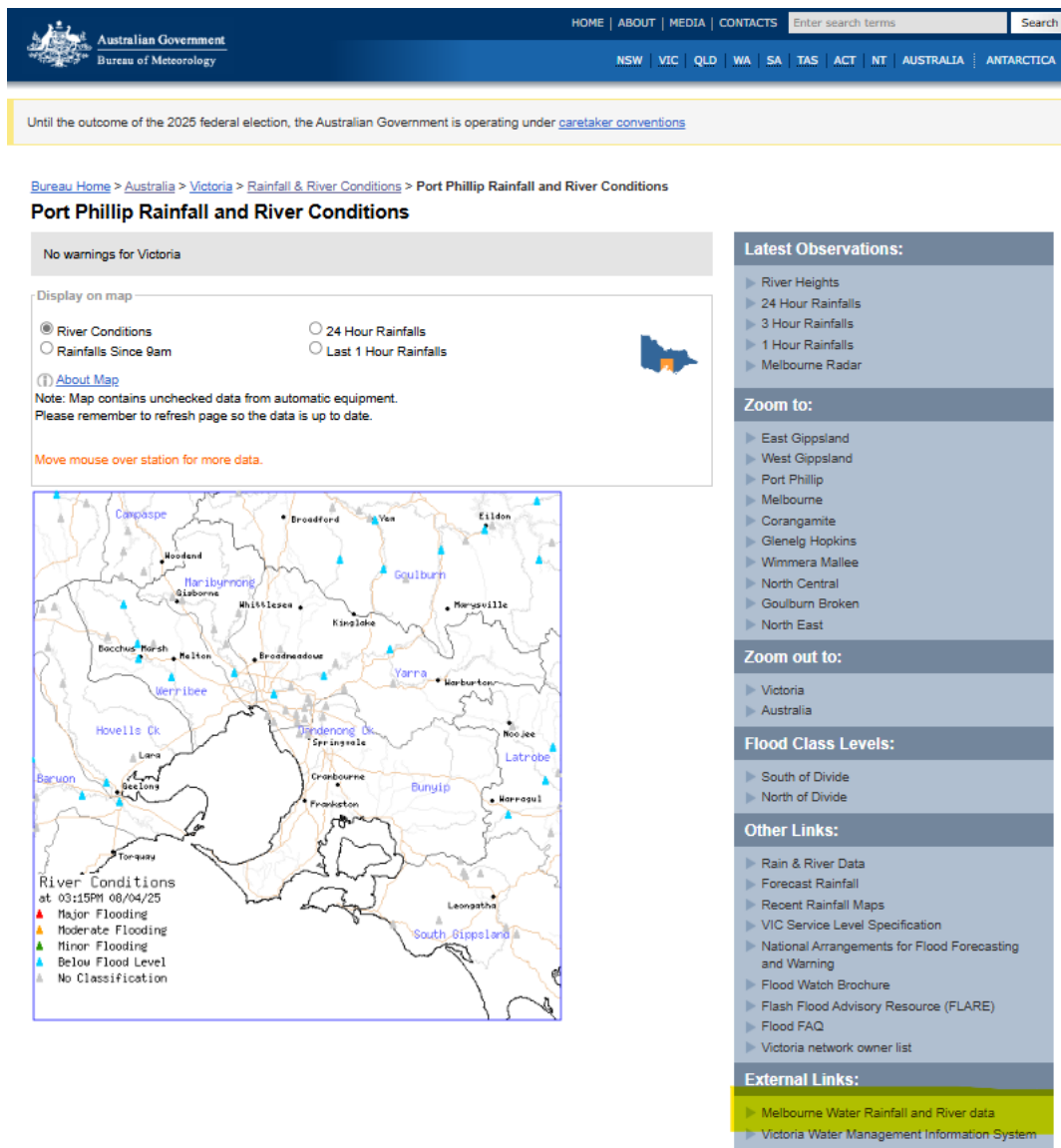
Insurance companies conduct their own independent risk assessments and may raise premiums based on perceived flood risk – even before our models were released.

BOM website

The Bureau of Meteorology web page ([Port Phillip Rainfall and River Conditions](#)) publishes real time data received by the Bureau from the Melbourne Water monitoring network, including the River Level Station at Chifley Drive, Maribyrnong River. We are aware that the data for this site, and other sites, is not currently being displayed.

We understand the importance of this information to the community, and have raised this issue with the Bureau of Meteorology and are awaiting a response.

Real-time river level data is also available via the Melbourne Water website ([Rainfall and river levels | Melbourne Water](#)), and a link is provided on the Bureau web page (highlighted below). At the Melbourne Water website, you may find the relevant monitoring site through the search function (e.g. Maribyrnong River) or selecting a location on the interactive map.



Flood modelling timing, Flood outlooks, Flood wall, Melbourne Water suitability

Why were flood modelling maps not updated for so long? How soon could we expect to see flood outlooks for the periods between 2024 and 2100?

The Australian Rainfall and Runoff Guidelines (ARR) were updated in 2019 and sets out best practice for flood modelling in Australia – since then we have increased our budget for flood modelling and implemented a program to update all flood models, including the Maribyrnong River flood model.

Melbourne Water acknowledges the flood modelling for the Maribyrnong River was 20 years old. A new model was released in April 2024, and moving forward all flood models across Melbourne will be reviewed every 5 years and updated every 10 years or after a major flood event.

What this means is every 5 years we will assess the area for any significant changes which may trigger an earlier update – such as sea level rise data or major developments. This will help ensure models stay accurate and reflect current conditions, noting that a flood model takes 12 to 18 months to complete.

Will the Flemington Wall be knocked down?

The evidence we have, including the [findings of the Independent Review](#) of the 2022 flood and updated modelling, does not justify removal of the Flemington flood wall. However, as part of this project, we will now incorporate an examination of the mitigations associated with the flood wall into our broader investigation of potential mitigation measures across the catchment.

Flemington Racecourse compensatory works

The Independent Review Panel and the Jacobs report found that the mitigation works put in place to offset the impact of the wall didn't perform as well as expected. We will now incorporate an examination of the flood wall mitigation into our broader investigation of potential mitigation options across the catchment.

Historic planning decisions & approval of the VRC flood wall

The flood wall and associated mitigation works were considered acceptable based on the available flood modelling at the time, which showed that the works would mitigate against any flood impacts of the Racecourse wall.

The flood modelling used at the time of approval of the Flemington flood wall was the most recent and up to date flood modelling available at the time – the flood modelling was completed in 2003 and the flood wall was approved in 2004.

Rivervue

Was Melbourne water involved in the approval of the drainage system at Rivervue

The Victorian Ombudsman is currently investigating matters relating to the flood planning decisions relevant to the Kensington Banks and Rivervue retirement village developments. Melbourne Water is fully committed to supporting the Ombudsman's investigation, including providing relevant documentation and support, as requested.

As Melbourne Water has consistently stated throughout the Maribyrnong River Flood Review and the Parliamentary Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in

Victoria, and in subsequent communications, Melbourne Water was one of many parties involved in the planning and development decisions for Rivervue.

These decisions were made over many years, and Melbourne Water can only access the information in its possession. We welcome the Ombudsman's investigations, including the opportunity for the Ombudsman to potentially access documents and information from other parties to build on what Melbourne Water has provided.

Given that an investigation is currently underway, and a final report detailing the Ombudsman's findings will be published in due course, it is not appropriate for Melbourne Water to comment on the investigation at this time.

Multiple dwellings

Why can't we allow multiple dwellings to build above flood level – I would rather see 2 or 3 dwellings rather than a large house.

In areas of the Maribyrnong township affected by significant flooding, development is typically limited to replacement dwellings and dwelling extensions. This approach acknowledges the historical settlement of the area and provides for the ongoing habitation of existing residents.

In accordance with state planning policy and the state Guidelines for Development in Flood Affected Areas (DELWP, 2019) Melbourne Water seeks to limit further intensification of development within the floodplain (including additional dwellings) and therefore limit associated flood risks and flood event impacts, including the burden on emergency services.

LSIO maps

Is there a plan and/or time frame to reconcile existing maps (LSIO) with the new modelling?

Melbourne Water submitted a planning scheme amendment request to the Minister for Planning in late September 2025 to update flood overlays based on the new modelling.

We are unsure of the Minister's timing to consider the request and update planning schemes, however recently the Victorian Government released its response to the Parliamentary Inquiry into the 2022 floods, which indicated the government would work with floodplain management authorities (like Melbourne Water) and councils to explore options to improve efficiencies to updating planning scheme controls.

The government's new planning strategy, Plan for Victoria, also indicates new flood information will be included in planning schemes through a new streamlined process.

Compensation

Following the review, will residents get compensation for the way the flood zone was announced and increased our insurance premiums?

Melbourne Water does not have authority over insurance premiums or property valuations and are not in a position to compensate residents following the flood zone review. Melbourne Water's role is reducing flood risk, which may help to lower insurance premiums and minimise property value impacts over time.

Insurance companies are responsible for setting the terms and premiums involved in insurance policies. We would advise householders to engage with their insurance companies to understand their own circumstances.

Questions asked in session

Is there a risk that a flood mitigation option, especially options costing hundreds of millions of dollars and require land acquisition and major infrastructure, won't be implemented because it's not in the interests of the rest of the state and becomes a political discussion, rather than a modelling discussion?

There is a risk that large-scale flood mitigation options, such as those requiring land acquisition or major infrastructure, could become politicised due to high cost, potentially in the hundreds of millions, which far exceeds Melbourne Water's current five-yearly flood mitigation budget of \$70 million.

Funding for large scale mitigation projects would likely require significant support beyond Melbourne Waters regular sources of funding, which may require state or federal government support. Any such need will be considered within the broader suite of similar opportunities at a state and national level.

The study aims to build a strong case through robust and transparent technical investigation, community input and detailed analysis to give any proposed mitigation options the best possible chance of securing funding for implementation.

With so many agencies, political parties and private interests involved along the Maribyrnong River, who is actually leading this study and how can there be any real transparency or authority to get things done?

While the landscape is complex, the study is being led by Melbourne Water with strong alignment and support from relevant local councils, the State Government and engagement at the federal level. Although coordination is challenging, we are committed to a process that is open and transparent and considers community and representative involvement throughout. This collaborative approach is key to navigating competing interests and making progress towards finding mitigation options.

If the stop valves are closed to prevent floodwaters from backing up, where does the water coming down from higher ground, like Rivervue go? Won't it just flood homes anyway?

It depends on the pressure balance across the one-way stop valves. If water pressure from upstream river is greater, stormwater from higher ground will be collected and eventually be forced back up through drains and into properties. To prevent this, other infrastructure such as high-level overflow or

pump systems, is needed to redirect the water away from the impacted area. Without such measures, one-way stop valves alone won't be effective in preventing localised flooding.

Why are you asking the community to solve problems that should be handled by technical experts?

Melbourne Water has Jacobs as the technical experts to help deliver this important study. We're not asking the community to solve the problem alone - we're asking you to be part of the process to help deliver a study that reflects what the community wants or values. Engineers bring technical expertise, but these options may not reflect what the community wants or values. Community input is essential to finding balanced, practical and liveable outcomes that go beyond purely technical options.

Why was the original plan to build a sewer bridge across the river at Rivervue changed, and how does it relate to flood risk?

The original sewer pipeline bridge design was based on flood models that were current at that point in time, which is now outdated. With the new flood model that was released in April 2024, it was identified that the proposed bridge design may cause a future increased flood level in the vicinity of the structure.

This is in consideration to anticipated climate change related increased flood risk, which is also known as 'afflux'. As a result, Melbourne Water is currently reassessing the design of the sewer pipeline bridge, including considering alternative options, such as to relocate the sewer pipeline under the river.

Melbourne Water expect to confirm shortly what changes to the original design will be undertaken accordingly prior to works commencing on that particular section.

Has the cost of the 2022 Maribyrnong flood to the local community been considered when weighing up the investment in flood mitigation?

Yes, understanding the true cost to the community is critical in justifying investment in mitigation. This study will use a widely accepted and industry best-practice metric called the Average Annual Damages (AAD) to quantitatively estimate the average damage per year associated with flooding over a long period of time as part of the cost-benefit analysis. As part of this study, we are working to improve the AAD by including the broader cost to the community that are often difficult to quantify and overlooked.

Factoring real community costs into the cost-benefit analysis reinforces the importance of weighing these real, lived costs against the price of future mitigation.

Questions taken on notice

Has there been progress on the government taking responsibility of flood mitigation?

Managing flood risk in the Port Phillip and Westernport region is a shared responsibility between many organisations, including Melbourne Water, councils, state government and emergency management services.

At this stage, we will work alongside our partner organisations to consider funding models for any flood mitigation options that may emerge as we continue our study in the Maribyrnong catchment.

Would dredging the river help water run off faster?

In 2023 we published the results of Water4Good's report, Maribyrnong Flood Mitigation Options Evaluation. The evaluation investigated channel modification as an option and you can find the results on page 4 of the report on our [Let's Talk page](#).

Our flood mitigation study will consider all options and identify the most feasible flood mitigation options that prioritise the safety and resilience of the communities within the catchment, and have the greatest impact on reducing the flood risk, both now and anticipated by the year 2100 and beyond.

Dredging/channel modification such as widening and deepening will be considered as part of the study, along with other options identified in the 'long-list', which will be reviewed and narrowed into a 'short-list' of mitigation options.