

Application of updated flood information

This fact sheet outlines when and how updated flood information, as part of the Greater Melbourne Flood Information Program, will be used for planning and building decision making and related information services.

Greater Melbourne Flood Information Program

Melbourne Water is working with local councils to update flood information across Greater Melbourne. This helps us better understand the risk of current and future flooding, so we can build a safe and resilient city for today, tomorrow and for generations to come.

Improving flood information, through sophisticated flood modelling, is a significant program for Melbourne Water being rolled out over the next few years.

Flood information helps us understand how best to prepare for flooding and minimise its impacts. It is used by the state government, local councils, developers and businesses, as well as the community.

It ensures new houses and developments are built in safer locations and designed to withstand floods. It also helps us prioritise flood infrastructure upgrades in areas of highest risk to the community.

The rolling program of updating flood models means periodic release of updated flood information as each model is finalised.

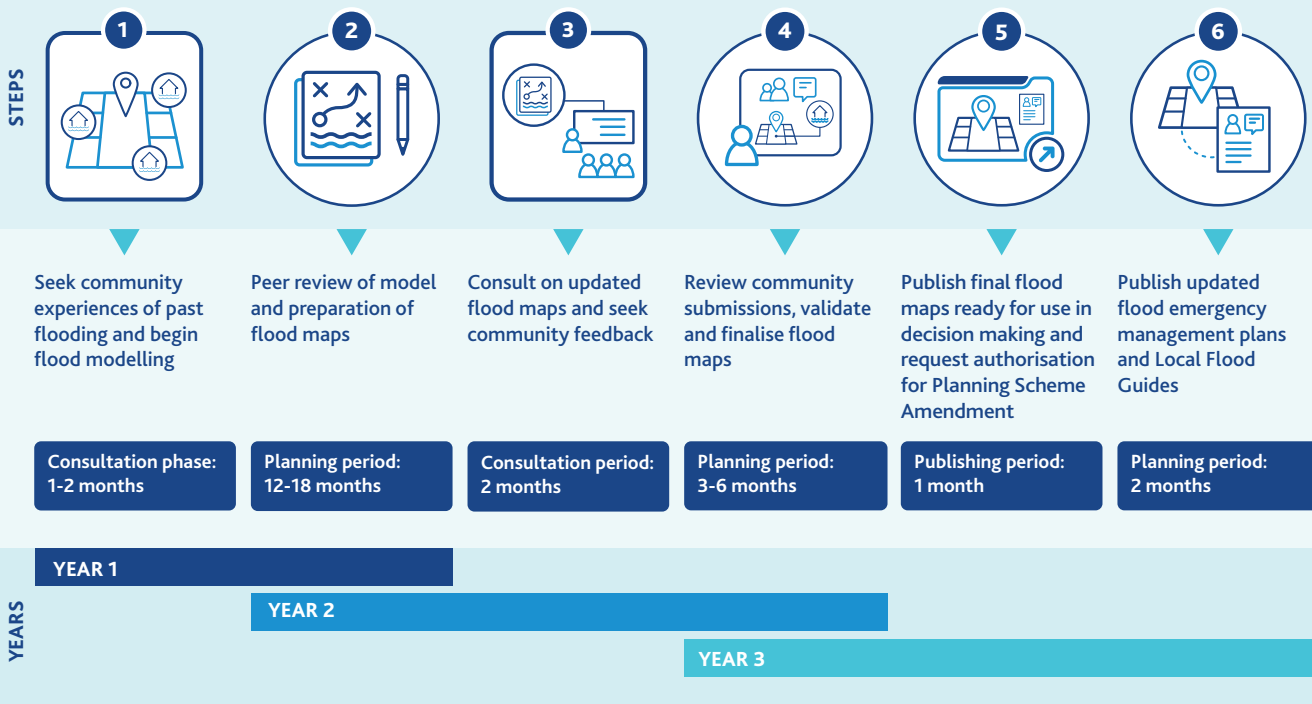
Community engagement, validation and review phases

Melbourne Water has developed a comprehensive engagement strategy to support the Greater Melbourne Flood Information Program and associated steps of the program.

When updated flood maps are available for release (Step 3), they will be available on Melbourne Water's engagement website Let's Talk, which allow customers to view property specific flood information. Melbourne Water will raise community awareness of updated flood maps and contact landowners and occupiers where updated flood information is available for their property. There will be an opportunity to provide feedback through lodging an online submission.

Any proposed changes to flood extents as an outcome of the public engagement and validation process will be considered by a Melbourne Water Technical Committee before the data is finalised for publication.

Program steps and timeline



Final publication of flood information

Once finalised, the updated flood information will be published on an Online Map on the Melbourne Water website and included on Melbourne Water internal systems for use in decision making. The final information will also be provided to the water retailers to update property information statements and to Government for the Flood Zoom and Digital Twin platforms.

Planning Scheme Amendments to introduce flood overlays into the planning scheme will be pursued separately following the final publication of updated flood information.

What will the updated flood information include?

- 2100 1% AEP flood levels
- 2100 1% AEP flood extent maps
- Current Day 1% AEP flood levels
- Current Day 1% AEP flood extent maps
- Flood hazard maps

Application of the updated flood information in planning and building decision making

Melbourne Water will use the updated 2100 1% AEP flood information as the applicable design flood level for decision making once final publication has occurred.

The updated flood 2100 1% AEP flood information once published will be applied for the assessment of the following planning and building application types:

- Planning applications affected by existing flood controls (referred under Section 55 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987);
- Building Regulation 153 Report and Consent for Land Liable to flooding;
- Planning applications not affected by existing flood controls but are located in the new mapped area of the 2100 1% AEP (referred under Section 52 of the Act)
- Planning scheme amendments
- Non works and works offers
- Pre-development advice and other general customer enquiries
- Flood velocity requests

Ahead of publication, new information may be considered in an advisory capacity.

The updated flood 2100 1% AEP and current day 1% AEP flood information will be provided for the following information services:

- Flood level certificates (*provided through Landata, Dye & Durham or via the Melbourne Water website*)
- Property information statements (*via the Water Retailers for inclusion on Property Statements - Section 32*) to inform the sale of land process

Building regulations

Once Melbourne Water has published the flood information, we recommend that councils designate the updated flood extent as land liable to flooding for the purposes of the Building Regulations. A designation will trigger the report and consent for building in areas liable to flooding (Regulation 153).

What does this mean for existing planning and building approvals or live applications?

Melbourne Water will assess planning permit and building referrals based on the flood level information applicable at the time of the referral. Updated flood information will not be relied upon until after the final publication date for each flood model.

Existing approvals will not be retrospectively impacted by updated flood information, however any new or amended applications, including building permits, will be assessed against the updated information.



Definitions

Reference	Definition
Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP)	The likelihood of a flood occurring in any one year.
1% AEP Flood Event	A flood which has a 1% chance of occurring in any year.
2100 1% AEP Flood Level	The estimated 1% AEP flood level by 2100, which includes including consideration of increased rainfall intensity resulting from high emissions scenario climate conditions.
2100 1% AEP flood extent	The estimated 1% AEP flood extent (or floodplain area) by 2100.
Australian Rainfall & Runoff 2019 (ARR2019)	Australian Rainfall and Runoff 2019 (ARR) is a national guideline document (and data suite) that is used for the estimation of design flood characteristics in Australia.
Design Flood Level	The flood level selected for design and planning purposes.
Flood Hazard Maps	Flood model outputs include flood hazard mapping within the flood extent. The hazard categories are defined in ARR2019 based on depth and velocity and relate to the vulnerability of the community when interacting with floodwaters.

For more information contact **131722** or visit
www.melbournewater.com.au/building-and-works