



Lalor is named after Peter Lalor, an activist turned Victorian state politician who led the 1854 Eureka Stockade rebellion and went on to become the only outlaw to become a Member of Parliament.

Lalor was a part of Thomastown until 1945 when Leo Purcell, a patient at a military hospital on the Atherton Tablelands, devised a scheme to provide low cost homes for ex-servicemen. In February 1947 he formed the Peter Lalor Home Building Co-operative Society with a group of ex-servicemen and a program of house building began. This continued until 1954 when it was taken over by the War Service Homes Commission. Heritage listing of parts of the Peter Lalor Estate commemorate this important social history.

The Lalor post office opened in 1949 followed by the first primary school in 1954.

Planning and development

This is an established residential area of approximately nine square kilometres. Settlement of the area dates from the 1850s when German migrants established the township of Westgarthtown, with the land mainly used for dairy farming.

It is mainly a residential area, although there are businesses and services in the area. These include the Lalor Shopping Centre on Station Street and May Road, which consists of approximately 100 businesses and services.

Council adopted the master plan for Thomastown and Lalor shopping centres in December 2011. The plan includes street improvements to shopping areas, improved landscaping, seats, shelters and bike facilities.

More information

All planning and development plans can be viewed at Council's website.

Population

In 2015, it is estimated 23,000 people live in Lalor and the population is forecast to increase by 18 per cent to 27,200 by 2036.

The median age of residents is expected to stay the same, 38 years, until 2036.



Births

In 2015, it is estimated there will be 336 births (average six births per week) with an increase by 2036 to 396 births per year (average seven births per week).

Diversity

Almost half the population were born overseas and 65 per cent of residents speak a language other than English at home.

The most commonly spoken languages are Arabic, Italian, and Macedonian.



Families and households

In 2015 there were approximately 8,200 dwellings and this is expected to increase to around 9,700 dwellings by 2036.

The average household size in Lalor is expected to remain at three people to 2036 with 36 per cent of households made up of couples with children and 16 per cent being one-parent households.

Employment

Labourers (17 per cent) and machinery operators/ drivers (13 per cent) are the most common occupations and the most common industries of employment are manufacturing (18 per cent), retail trade (12 per cent), and health care and social assistance (10 per cent).

Education

More children attend primary school (7 per cent), compared with secondary school (6 per cent) and kindergarten (1 per cent).

Travelling in and out

Half of all households in Lalor have access to two or more motor vehicles, with 60 per cent of residents drive a car to work.









Advocacy priorities

A Road infrastructure – traffic lights

Installation of traffic lights, corner Childs Road and Dalton Road, Lalor. The intersection has been identified as a black spot and traffic lights are needed to improve road safety and ease traffic congestion.

B Childs Road duplication

Childs Road is the major east-west arterial road linking Mill Park and Epping. It is a duplicated four-lane divided road from Plenty Road to Dalton Road, except for the section across the E6 reservation and the Darebin Creek. This part of the road becomes a two-lane road. As a result of the current intersection design and narrow bridge, traffic flow is unpredictable during peak periods.

Duplicating the 850 metre section of Childs Road and providing a new bridge across the Darebin Creek will provide a continuous four-lane divided road between Plenty Road in Mill Park and Dalton Road in Epping and remove the current unsafe footpath and the traffic bottleneck.

c Rail extension from Lalor to Epping North and Wollert

Council will continue to advocate for the train line to be extended from Lalor Station to Epping North and Wollert to allow the rapidly increasing population to have the choice to use public transport and ease traffic congestion.

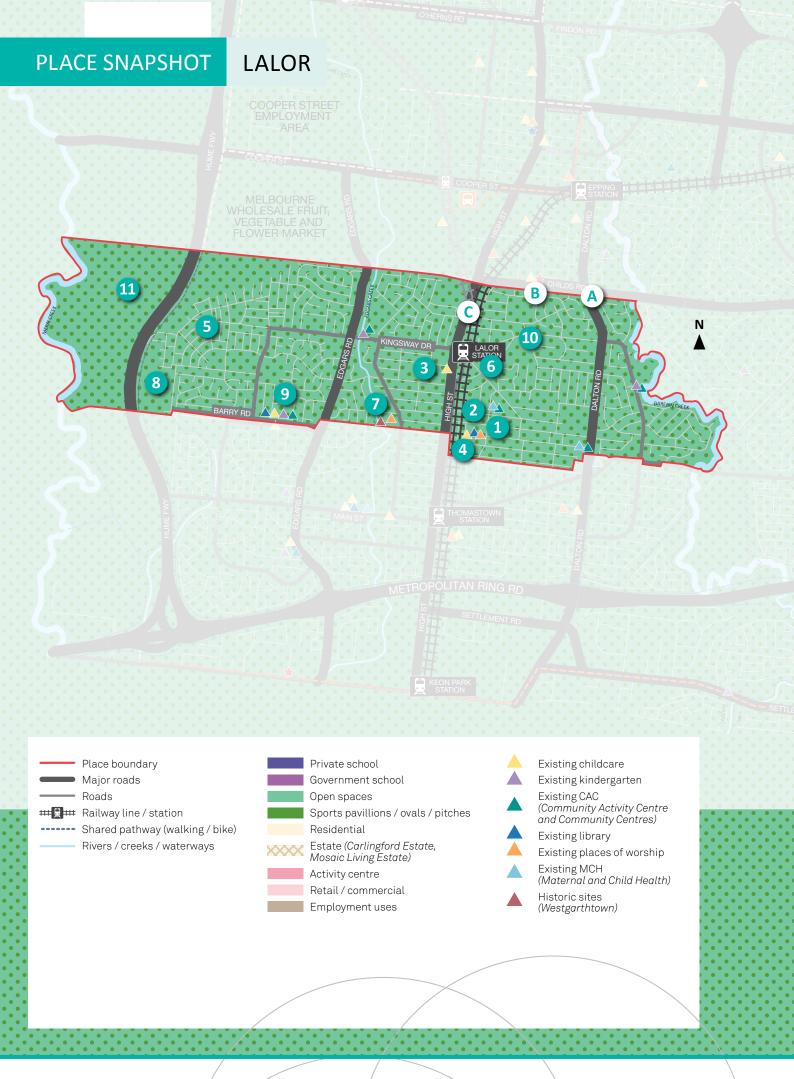
Municipality-wide

Bus services for the municipality

Council is seeking state government funding to improve bus services across the municipality.

Northern Hospital expansion

There is a critical need to expand the Northern Hospital to adequately service the growing population in the City of Whittlesea and Melbourne's north. The Northern is the only public hospital in the northern growth corridor. Council is advocating for additional beds and Royal Children's Hospital paediatric services.



1 French Street Hall

The hall currently includes the Lalor Living and Learning Centre. It provides courses, workshops and activities for residents. The hall is not available for private functions but is suitable for community-based activities and classes.

2 Lalor Library

The library offers a conference room (seats up to 50, with kitchen facilities). The room is not available for private functions but suitable for general meeting purposes and community-based activities.

3 Education and Community Hub

Outer Northern Trade Training Centre

This \$6.4 million centre provides training facilities in building, construction and automotive trades.

Peter Lalor Vocational College and Community Hub

In addition to providing Vocational Education and Training (VET), this site is home to many community assets such as the Lalor Community Garden, Community Kitchen and Men's shed.

4 Lalor shops, Station Street and May Road

Improvements to streets and public areas such as seating, shelters and bike facilities are planned for the Lalor shops in Station Street and May Road. The redevelopment of Peter Lalor Walkway in Lalor, was one of the key suggestions of the Thomastown and Lalor Shops Master Plan, that Council adopted in December 2011. Stage 1 of the Peter Lalor Walkway completed in 2014, involved the redevelopment of the walk from Station Street to the north-south laneway, halfway to the May Road car park. Stage 2 of the redevelopment plan, where works will be completed on the remaining section of the laneway between Station Street and May Road is expected to be completed late 2015.

This area is home to the May Road Senior Citizens Centre. This large hall is only available to senior citizens groups, and not available for private functions.

5 Mosaic Living Housing Estate and Carlingford Housing Estate

This housing area will eventually include shops, cafés and the Mosaic Recreation Reserve.

This proposed development will include water harvesting to maintain the two Australian Football League/cricket ovals and a pavilion.

6 Stockade Park

Marks the location of the stockade area used to store the tools and materials used to build houses in the Peter Lalor Co-operative Housing Estate.

Westgarthtown

Located within Thomastown and Lalor, Westgarthtown is an historic former dairy farming settlement established in 1850 by German and Wendish immigrants. Many of the bluestone heritage buildings and structures remain including:

- Victoria's oldest German immigrant building;
 Ziebell's original farmhouse, barn and other
 buildings have been restored by the City of
 Whittlesea. They represent the heart of Ziebell's
 original 102 acre farm, named The Pines, the
 largest at Westgarthtown. Built between 1851
 and 1856, with 61cm thick stone walls, the
 house is a typical German farmhouse design
- a Lutheran cemetery and Australia's oldest operating Lutheran Church (1856).

8 Whittlesea Public Gardens

This park has an area of 14.7 hectares. Its facilities include a playground, barbecue, basketball ring, walking and bike tracks, public toilets with accessible toilets, car parking, lake and wetlands, access to Craigieburn Bypass shared path. In March, it is also the location of the City of Whittlesea's annual Community Festival.

Barry Road Community Hub

This Hub includes the Barry Road Community
Activity Centre (includes maternal and child health
centre, kindergarten and activities/services for
older adults) and tennis club. A redevelopment of
the centre is planned to expand the hall, upgrade
the kitchen and increase the number of activity
rooms and flexible meeting spaces.

Lalor Recreation Reserve

This includes one Australian Football League/cricket oval, a pavilion, tennis club, lawn bowls, playground, barbecue, public toilets and shelter.

Cooper Street employment area (south-west)

Development in the northern part of precinct has recently commenced as part of the Biodiversity Business Park which will provide for industrial, warehouse and office uses. It also includes the Alex Fraser Group's recycling facility. The southern portion of this precinct which extends south into Lalor will be accessed from Cooper Street and will be developed for employment uses in the future