



The suburb of Epping is split across two precincts: Epping and Epping North.

Epping North a precinct in Epping includes parts of the suburbs of Epping and Wollert within its boundaries.

European settlement of Epping dates from 1839, with land used mainly for farming until the late 1900s.

Originally named Darebin Creek, the area changed to Epping in 1853, reportedly after the Epping Forest in Essex, England.



Planning and development

This is a rapidly developing residential area of 15.5 square kilometres. Significant development occurred around 2004 and growth is expected to continue; largely in the Aurora precinct.

A number of different plans guide development within the Epping North precinct:

- Epping North Strategic Plan
- Epping North Local Structure Plan
- Harvest Home Local Structure Plan
- Aurora Comprehensive Development Plan
- Epping North East Local Structure Plan.

More information

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

Population

By 2036 the number of people estimated to be living in Epping North will be about 51,500 – an increase of about 34,500 over the 2015 figure of about 20,000 with the median age increasing over the same period from 29 years to 36 years.

There will be considerably more residents aged 60 plus with an increase of 5,938 residents between 2015 and 2036.



Births

In 2015, there will be an estimated 484 births (nine births per week on average) – a figure estimated to almost double by 2036 to 16 births per week on average (868 births for the year).

Diversity

About 57 per cent of the population speak a language other than English.

In 2015 the most common country-of-birth other than Australia includes India, Republic of North Macedonia and Sri Lanka while the most common languages spoken other than English are Macedonian, Italian, Punjabi, and Arabic.



Families and households

In 2015, there are approximately 6,600 dwellings, which is expected to increase to 17,700 dwellings by 2036.

Just over half of the households consist of couples with children.

Employment

There are more professionals (17 per cent) and clerical/administrative (16 per cent) workers than any other occupations.

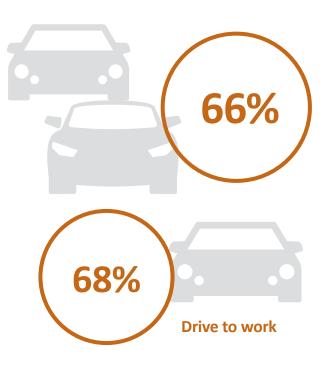
The most common industries of employment are manufacturing (15 per cent) and health care and social assistance (12 per cent).

Education

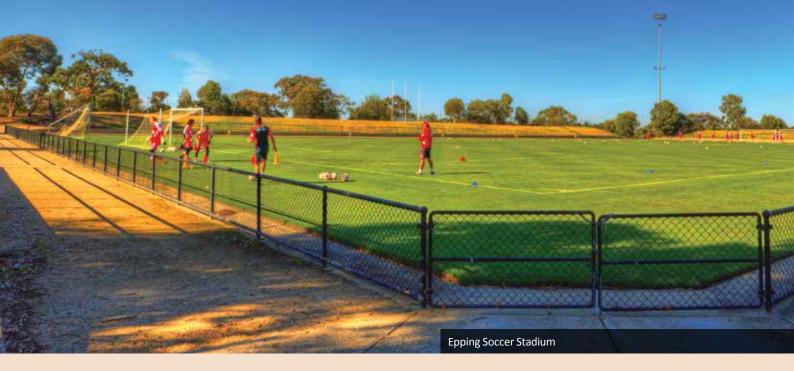
There are slightly more children attending kindergarten (2.2 per cent) and primary school (9 per cent) compared with the population of Greater Melbourne (1.7 per cent and 7.6 per cent). 48 per cent of residents have a tertiary or vocational qualification.

Travelling in and out

In 2015 about 66 per cent of households have access to two or more motor vehicles and 68 per cent of residents drive a car to their place of work.







Advocacy priorities

Hume Freeway interchange at O'Herns Road and Edgars Road extension

The state labor government has committed \$40.7 million to construct the 'diamond' interchange connecting O'Herns Road with the Hume Freeway in Epping, and duplicate a 1.4 kilometre section of O'Herns Road east of the new interchange. Council will continue to advocate to the federal government to fund the balance of this project.

Rail extension 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 public transport choice.

Duplicate Epping Road

Federal and state government funding is urgently needed to upgrade and widen Epping Road from Memorial Avenue (McDonalds Road), through to Craigieburn Road East. This is the main arterial road servicing the growth corridor of Epping North through to the future growth areas of Wollert and Donnybrook. The road needs to be upgraded from a two-lane rural road to a four-lane divided road.

Municipality-wide

E6 construction from Metropolitan Ring Road to Bridge Inn Road

Council is seeking state and federal government funding to construct the 11 kilometre E6 road to alleviate congestion on Plenty Road and High Street/Epping Road. The new E6 could be capable of carrying more than 60,000 cars per day.

Complete Findon Road

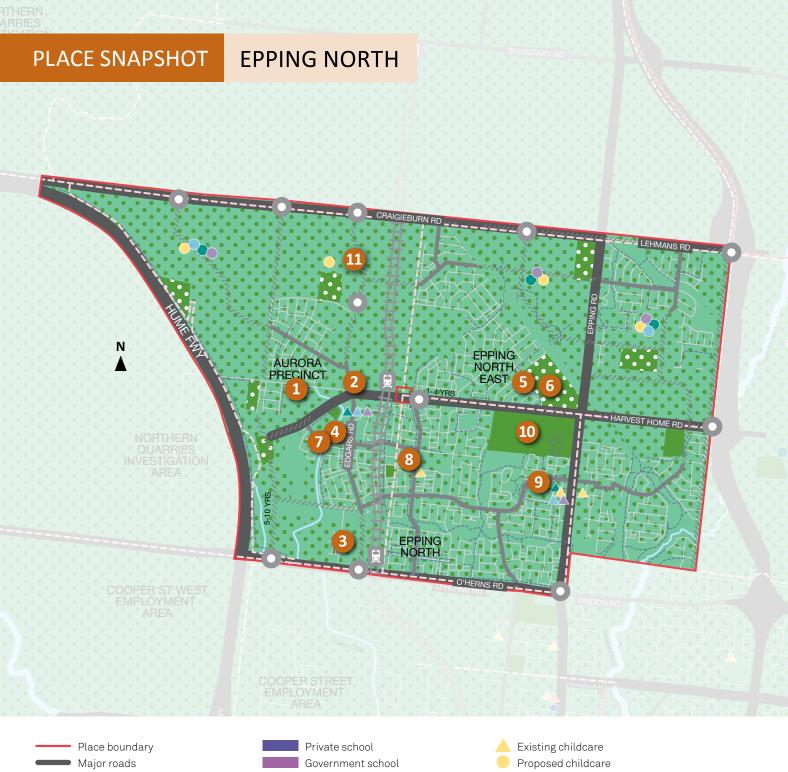
Council is advocating to the state government to fund the completion of Findon Road between Williamsons Road and Gorge Road in order to ease current traffic congestion and dangerous traffic conditions. Findon Road is the only planned main east-west arterial road north of the Metropolitan Ring Road.

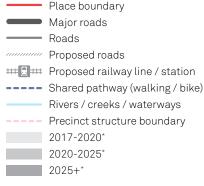
Bus services for the municipality

Council is seeking state government funding to improve bus services across the municipality, particularly between newly developed areas and employment centres.

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.









^{*}These timeframes estimate relate to lot release, they do not relate to housing construction. Lot release is when titles are officially released after a Statement of Compliance is issued for any stage of an estate. Generally, houses are constructed anytime between six to 18 months after a stage is 'released.' Housing construction is dependent on market demand.

Aurora Estate

The estate is expected to be home to around 25,000 people and will include two town centres; Aurora North and Aurora South. Council is advocating for a railway extension to provide two train stations at each of the town centres.

Proposed Town Centre – Aurora North

This town centre will be built towards the centre of the Aurora estate. The Centre is planned to provide main-street based supermarkets, shops and services including community and medical facilities. The basic infrastructure for Aurora North has been constructed and a supermarket is expected to be constructed in the near future. The Galada Community Centre is located in the southern part of this centre.

3 Proposed Town Centre – Aurora South

This town centre will be developed towards the southern part of the Aurora estate, nearest to O'Herns Road. It will also provide at least one supermarket and a number of community facilities. The delivery of this centre is dependent upon the development of Edgars Road, which Council continues to advocate for.

Galada Community Centre

A multi-purpose community centre providing a range of services including:

- · Hall and rooms available for casual or regular hire
- 3 and 4-year-old kindergarten program
- Mobile library operated by Yarra Plenty Regional Library
- · Maternal and child health
- Planned activity groups (for older adults).

5 Korin Korin Child and Family Centre, Wollert

A multi-purpose community centre providing a range of services including:

- 3 and 4 year old kindergarten program
- A variety of programs and activities.

6 Proposed Epping North East Regional Recreation Reserve

Corner of Epping Road and Harvest Home Road, Wollert. The recreation reserve will be located opposite the four existing soccer pitches on Harvest Home Road.

For more information about this Regional Recreation Reserve see Council's website: www.whittlesea.vic.gov.au

7 Future Epping North Primary School

This state government primary school is expected to be completed and opened at the commencement of Term 1 in 2017.

In addition to the provision of primary school teaching areas, this school site will also include the delivery of a not for profit (YMCA) owned and operated long day child care centre.

This site will also include a shared junior school oval/multi-purpose community activity space, which will be used by both the local school students (during school hours) and by local residents (outside normal school hours).

8 Creeds Farm Living and Learning Centre

Provides opportunities for people of all ages to participate in a variety of social, recreational activities, courses and workshops. This centre showcases low energy and water use features, technologies and appliances that can be used in homes.

O Lyndarum Town Centre

This town centre includes Epping Views Family and Community Centre providing a range of services:

- Maternal and child health
- 3 and 4-year-old kindergarten
- Multi-purpose rooms available for casual or regular hire.

Harvest Home Road Soccer Facility

Two natural turf soccer pitches, one synthetic soccer pitch and a pavilion.

Future Edgars Creek Community and Education Precinct

This site has been planned to include:

- A state government primary and secondary school
- · Sports ovals and pavilion
- Community centre.

