

Australia Urban Observatory

20-Minute Neighbourhood Scorecard

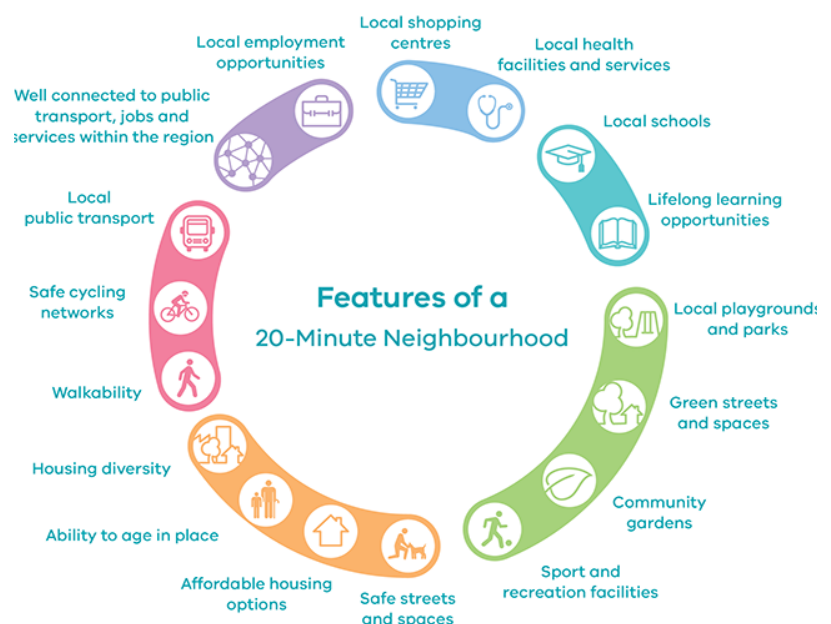
A key principle of [Plan Melbourne 2017–2050](#) is planning for local liveable places through 20-minute neighbourhoods. Approximation to a 20-minute neighbourhood can be measured through 800m distances that are equivalent to a 10 minute walk (one-way).

The [Australian Urban Observatory](#) has developed this 20-Minute Neighbourhood Scorecard to assist local planners to understand **area-based strengths and weaknesses** as they plan for more locally connected and liveable suburbs and neighbourhoods across their municipalities. This scorecard is based on liveability indicators currently available in the AUO.

The 20-minute neighbourhood is all about ‘living locally’, giving people the ability to meet most of their daily needs within a 20-minute walk from home, with safe cycling and local transport options.















The Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning has identified the following hallmarks of a 20-minute neighbourhood. They must:

- be **safe, accessible and well connected** for pedestrians and cyclists to optimise active transport
- offer high-quality **public realm** and open spaces
- provide **services and destinations** that support local living
- facilitate access to quality public transport that **connects people to jobs and higher-order services**
- deliver housing/population at **densities that make local services and transport viable**
- facilitate **thriving local economies**



Further information is also available in the informal [20-Minute Neighbourhood Checklist Tool](#) produced by the Victorian Government Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

AUO 20-Minute Neighbourhood Scorecard

20 Minute Neighbourhoods features	AUO Domain		Indicator/s	Value	
Safe, accessible and well connected for pedestrians and cyclists to optimise active transport*					
Walkability	Walkability		Walkability for Transport Index	score	
			Average number of street intersections within 1600m	intersections	
Provide services and destinations that support local living*					
Local Shopping Centres	Walkability		Average distance to closest activity centre	metres	
			Average number of daily living destinations (0-3) within 1600m (supermarkets, public transport stops, convenience stores)	destinations	
	Food Environment		Average distance to closest healthy food outlet (supermarket or greengrocer)	metres	
Local Health Facilities and Services	Social Infrastructure		Social Infrastructure Index	destinations	
				Average distance to closest GP clinic	metres
				Health Infrastructure (residential aged care facilities, dentists, general practitioners, and maternal child and family health centres, all within 1000m, max score 4)	destinations
Lifelong Learning	Social Infrastructure		Education Infrastructure (childcare within 800m and government primary and secondary schools 1600m, max score 4)	destinations	
Local Playgrounds and Parks	Public Open Space		Average distance to closest public open space	metres	
				Average distance to closest public open space larger than 1.5ha	metres
				Average distance to closest playground	metres
Sport and Recreational Facilities	Social Infrastructure		Community and Sport Infrastructure (community centres and sports facilities within 1000m, public swimming pools within 1200m, max score 3)	destinations	
	Public Open Space		Percentage of dwellings within 400m of public open space larger than 1.5ha	percent	
Facilitate access to quality public transport that connects people to jobs and higher-order services*					
Local Public Transport	Public Transport		Average distance to closest public transport stop	metres	
Well Connected to Public Transport, Jobs and Services	Public Transport		Percentage of dwellings within 400m of public transport with a regular 30 minute weekday service	metres	
				Average distance to closest bus-stop with a regular 15 minute weekday service	metres
Deliver housing/population at densities that make local services and transport viable* (Linked to services & destinations indicators)					
Affordable Housing	Housing Affordability		Percentage of households in the bottom 40% of household incomes spending more than 30% of income on housing costs	percent	
				Percentage of dwellings that are government owned or community housing	percent
	Walkability		Average number of dwellings within 1600m (housing density)	dwellings	
Facilitate thriving local economies* (Linked to services and destinations indicators)					
	Employment		Percentage of employed persons living and working in the same local area	percent	

Citation: Davern, M. & Murray, K. (2022): Australian Urban Observatory 20-Minute Scorecard. RMIT University. Educational resource. v1

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