



Leon Yates:

Leon is an urban designer with the Department of Planning and Community Development at the Victorian government in Melbourne Australia. He is the author of the (draft) walking strategy for the City of Melbourne, and provides insights into the pedestrian environment and what makes a great Australian street.

Notes from the podcast interview by Andrew Stuck: Interviewed in July using Internet telephony and published in August, 2008 on <http://talkingwalking.net> Notes revised May 2012

Leon presently leads on urban design for the City of Port Philip and is masterminding the renaissance of the iconic Melbourne coastline.

Leon has worked on the development of transit cities, as part of the greater Melbourne 2030 strategy, that includes the consolidation of expansion in 13 such transit centres in an around Melbourne.

Melbourne 2030 <http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/dse/nrenpl.nsf/FID/-F2FD04FADE156B3ACA256D480003CEF9?OpenDocument>

Transit cities <http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/DSE/nrenpl.nsf/childdocs/-3AFDBF77580D7A93CA256D19002583CC-CB3A095B12F1DCC1CA256D190029AA6B?open>

The population densities of most areas across Melbourne are between 10-40 people per hectare (69%) - areas with densities of 100 or more people per hectare are not in the transit cities. Most areas including the transit cities have 5-15 per hectare. The policy is seeking to build up transit cities and activity centres as a focus for high quality residential development that offer good access to services and transport. Much of Leon's work is part of the strategy to change the pattern of development on the fringe and to reduce the inward commute to Melbourne's central business district (CBD).

Vic Roads <http://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/Home>

City of Melbourne <http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/info.cfm?top=23&pg=966>
Pedestrian counts provide an accurate view of just who uses the City of Melbourne
<http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/info.cfm?top=91&pg=2297>

Inclusive Design <http://www.designcouncil.info/inclusivedesignresource/>

Leon's recommendation for a great Australian street: Collins Street, Melbourne
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Collins_Street,_Melbourne

Leon's favourite walk is along the banks of the Yarra
<http://www.thatsmelbourne.com.au/Documents/Walks/3-OntheWaterfront.pdf>