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#### SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 42.02 VEGETATION PROTECTION OVERLAY

Shown on the planning scheme map as **VPO2**.

#### **REMNANT VEGETATION**

### 1.0

### Statement of nature and significance of vegetation to be protected

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Patches of native remnant vegetation occur in the form of Riparian Woodland (Ecological Vegetation Classifications - EVC 641) fringing Werribee River and Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55) along the road reserves of Geelong-Ballan Road and Old Melbourne Road.

The EVC 641 and EVC 55 have an "endangered" bioregional conservation status.

These patches of remnant vegetation provide potential habitat for significant flora and fauna species listed under the *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act).

Remnant large, scattered trees provide potential habitat for native fauna species listed under the EPBC and FFG Acts.

Retaining vegetation is also critical to catchment management in terms of both surface and ground water quality, the control of salinisation, acidity and waterlogging and prevention of erosion.

## 2.0

### Vegetation protection objectives to be achieved

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To ensure that there is no net loss to biodiversity as a result of the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation.

To protect native flora and fauna including species listed under the EPBC Act and the FFG Act.

#### 3.0

#### Permit requirement

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A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation.

# 4.0 Application requirements

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The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.02, in addition to those specified elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- A plan showing the vegetation to be removed, lopped or destroyed.
- An Arboricultural Report assessing the health and quality of the vegetation.
- An Ecological Report outlining the contribution to biodiversity made by the vegetation, including any species listed in the EPBC Act and the FFG Act.
- A description of any efforts to avoid and minimise the removal of vegetation.
- A description of offsets to compensate for native vegetation removal.

#### 5.0 Decision guidelines

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The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 42.02, in addition to those specified in Clause 42.02 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The impact of native vegetation removal on the biodiversity values and habitat for any species listed in the EPBC Act and the FFG Act.
- The effect of the vegetation removal on the biodiversity of the local environment, including the Werribee River corridor.