

Case Study

Strengthening collaboration with the City of Melbourne

In December 2021, the City of Melbourne and University of Melbourne formalised their enduring collaboration and commitment to the Melbourne community by signing the Melbourne Partnerships Charter.

Under the partnership, the two organisations will collaborate on key projects for city recovery, and for the short, medium and long-term benefit of the people of Melbourne. The partnership focuses on four themes:

- Aboriginal Melbourne
- Economy for the future
- Place and identity
- Climate and biodiversity emergency.

Two projects were initiated in 2021:

- Project to minimise COVID-19 transmission in office buildings by retrofitting ventilation systems. The pilot research project BREATH will trial and evaluate different ventilation systems in a vacant CBD building, in partnership with the University and property company CBUS. The University's Head of Mechanical Engineering, Professor Jason Monty, said that the BREATH project addresses a previously overlooked problem: "This is the first time such a team has come together to solve this massive problem from energy use and infection control perspectives simultaneously."
- Partnering with City of Melbourne and RMIT on the Power Melbourne project, the City of Melbourne's ambitious battery storage and renewable electricity project set to deliver cheaper power for small businesses and residents while reducing emissions and contributing to a more sustainable future. As a research partner in the first stage of this innovative project, the University is bringing world-leading expertise to commercial feasibility modelling through the research of the team being led by Professor Pierluigi Mancarella (Chair of Electrical Power Systems, Electrical and Electronic Engineering).

