

MARIBYRNONG Maribyrnong

Spring 2021

www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

SPLASH PARK AND WATER SLIDES FOR MARIBYRNONG AQUATIC CENTRE

TAKE A WALK ON THE ART SIDE

BUDGET AND COUNCIL PLAN ENDORSED

MOHAMED SEMRA EMPOWERING HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I would like to thank everyone who provided feedback on the Council Plan 2021-25, Annual Budget 2021-25, and Revenue and Rating Plan which were endorsed at the June Ordinary Council Meeting on Tuesday 15 June, following months of community engagement. More than 7,500 comments were generated on the Council Plan alone, contributing to the development of this important strategic document.

The Council Plan, Annual Budget and Revenue and Rating Plan are three key strategic documents that will guide the planning, development, resourcing and provision of services to the community. They can be viewed on Council's website.

To support longer-term planning, Council is also developing the Long-Term Financial Plan that looks at challenges and opportunities for the municipality into the future. This 10-year plan will help Council implement the Community Vision and support delivery of the projects, initiatives and programs needed for a growing community. We recently sought the community's input on spending and revenue and capital works priorities to support the development of this document, which will be shared with the community later this year.

You will find a postcard in this edition of Maribyrnong Messenger seeking your feedback to find out what you think of the broadsheet as a way of sharing information and if there is anything else you would like to see included in future issues. Please fill out the postcard and return to us free of charge via Australia Post.

Finally, a reminder to keep up your social distancing, wear a mask where needed and wash hands. Now is not the

time to become complacent. Get a COVID test if you're not feeling well, and get vaccinated where possible.

Cr Michael Clarke Mayor of the City of Maribyrnong

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COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are held at Maribyrnong Council Offices, corner Hyde and Napier Streets, Footscray.

AUGUST

Tuesday 17, 6.30pm: Council Meeting Tuesday 24, 6.30pm: City Development Delegated Committee

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 14, 6.30pm: Council Meeting Tuesday 21, 6.30pm: City Development Delegated Committee

OCTOBER

Tuesday 19, 6.30pm: Council Meeting Tuesday 26, 6.30pm: City Development Delegated Committee

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 9, 6.30pm: Council Meeting (Election of Mayor) Tuesday 16, 6.30pm: Council Meeting

In line with the advice from the Department of Health, Council meetings will be closed to the public until further notice.

Meetings are livestreamed via Council's YouTube channel and community members can submit questions for public question time by emailing **governance@maribyrnong.vic. gov.au** by midday on the day of the meeting.

Please note the meeting process and schedule is current at the time of printing. Visit **maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/meetings** or phone **9688 0200** for more information.

MAKING A SPLASH: SPLASH PARK AND WATER SLIDES FOR MARIBYRNONG AQUATIC CENTRE



Maribyrnong's much loved Aquatic Centre will soon be home to two new water slides and an interactive aquatic leisure area in an \$8 million redevelopment, jointly funded by Council and the State Government.

S tage one of the Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre (MAC) redevelopment masterplan will provide waterslides zoned to cater for different age groups and capabilities, and will feature a 400m² interactive aquatic leisure park. Additional change rooms will also be incorporated in a new change village with wet, dry and accessible change rooms.

Works will commence in December 2021 and are scheduled to take nine months to complete, with minimal impact on current centre operations. Access to water slides and interactive leisure water areas at MAC were among the top improvements recommended following community consultation undertaken as part of a feasibility study in 2019.

The study identified the need to upgrade the MAC facility to meet community needs, address market gaps, and accommodate the predicted growth in population of the City of Maribyrnong by 68% by 2041. Upgrading MAC also featured in feedback on the Council Plan 2021-25. Council has undertaken engagement as part of the planning for the redevelopment, including discussions with Sport and Recreation Victoria, State and Federal members of parliament, local schools, sporting clubs, community groups, associated businesses, facility users, residents, and current staff.

In addition, the design team has met frequently with representatives of community disability and access groups to consult on the various design features of the aquatic centre and seek feedback to ensure the facility is fully accessible to all patrons.

Other recent works at MAC include a \$1.3 million upgrade of the main change rooms and entry foyer.

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE

From debater to sailor and now community leader – at just 22. There've been challenges but Mohammed Semra has faced up to them all – with his brilliant smile. And this young achiever smiles a lot.

Mohamed explains in a matter-of-fact tone, that sometimes this is to make people more comfortable.

"I can't afford to be on a train and not smile... I sit down and the first thing that someone will do is hold onto their bag or make sure their phone is in their pocket."

One of Mohamed's experiences went viral in 2015 when, as one of a group of African students, he was refused entry to a retail store. An employee is heard telling the students in the clip: "These guys [security guards] are just a bit worried about your presence in our store. They're just worried you might steal something."

The incident made headlines around the world and the store issued an apology afterwards. For Mohamed, the incident was the catalyst for his involvement in human rights advocacy and youth leadership.

Six years later (July 2021) he was the recipient of the prestigious Liberty Victoria Young Voltaire Human Rights award. It acknowledges his work with Endeavour Youth Australia, the social enterprise he started with a school friend Mostafa Hussein. The organisation mentors young people and visits schools to discuss racism.

Mohamed talks to teachers and students, helping them identify and address instances of unconscious racism. He encourages students to not 'self-reject', to not limit themselves by the opinions of others or their circumstance. Mohamed, who grew up in Braybrook, lived the experience he continues to see replayed by successive waves of migrant children whose parents don't speak English. He looks forward to Endeavour Youth Australia giving migrant and refugee kids opportunities for change.

"I remember when I was in primary school, I used to sign all my permission slips or I used to translate in the parent/ teacher interviews. I feel like a lot of these kids are going to school, while carrying the luggage of their community because of the discrimination they face, plus also carrying the excess luggage that comes with growing up a lot faster than other kids."

It was his Year 9 English teacher who saw Mohamed's potential as a public speaker. He wonders whether he may have ended up in juvenile detention or met a violent end like some of his friends without her intervention.

She noted he was able to present his insights clearly as a writer though a debilitating stutter prevented him from participating in public speaking. His school, Maribyrnong Secondary College, organised and paid for speech therapy at Latrobe University. A two-week intensive course gave him the tools to manage his stutter and an opportunity to become a debater.

At the time there were no African students on the debating team and it was the first time he realised the need to set a precedent.

66 Not seeing myself represented there, I asked myself then what makes me any different, why should I not join? I was self-rejecting.

Six months after Mohamed signed up the whole team was represented by African students. "All my friends joined in Year 12, we went undefeated for the first time in my school's history. That to me, was the first instance where I saw the results of just taking a step, not self-rejecting."

After high school he was selected as a youth sailor on the STS Young Endeavour, an 11 day voyage from Brisbane to Mackay, part of an African Australian leadership challenge organised by the Federal Government. It opened his mind to possibilities he'd not dreamed of and planted the seed that grew into the Endeavour Youth Australia organisation.

"That was one of the best experiences of my life," Mohamed recalls. "It was my first time on the ocean."

Seeing those broad horizons made him realise his mind set was 'very local'.

"I didn't dream big. When I came back, I remember thinking about how many young people don't get to experience these types of things because of money barriers.

"I wanted to create something in the future to help these young people, especially these disadvantaged young people to be equipped, to have the resources to see things like that, to open their mind to possibilities."

Mohamed's current focus is on completing his politics degree at La Trobe University and meeting the demands of the mentoring program. He welcomes volunteers keen to support the program to enable it to help more young people.

Mohamed is the recipient of Maribyrnong City Council's 2021 Youth Leadership Civic Award. He was also the Humanitarian Affairs Asia Peace Ambassador attending the 2020 Peace Summit of Emerging Leaders at the United Nations Conference Centre in Thailand in 2020, and a community relations intern at the North Melbourne Police Station in 2018, building relationships between young people and the police. BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE, FLOURISHING, PROGRESSIVE CITY THAT CARES FOR BOTH ITS RESIDENTS AND ITS ENVIRONMENT

Spring 2

In June, three key strategic Council documents were endorsed – the Council Plan 2021-25, Annual Budget 2021-22, and Revenue and Rating Plan.

We heard through engagement on these key documents our community wants green, connected lively neighbourhoods; to feel safe, supported, and included; and infrastructure and facilities that support our growing population.

You specifically asked for improved parks and open spaces, better roads, footpaths and cycle ways, and improved recreational, leisure and community facilities.

With this in mind, Council has channelled money into these areas to reflect what the community wants us to focus on.

Of the \$173.9 million budgeted this year, almost one-third (over \$56 million) has been allocated to the capital works budget, which will support ongoing improvements and upgrades to infrastructure across the municipality. The budget also includes:

- > \$12.47 million for parks, open space and streetscapes, including the planting of trees in streets, boulevards, and parks across the City
- > \$9.09 million to improve Councilowned roads across the City
- > \$6.65 million to build and improve footpath and cycle ways, which includes:
 - \$2.767 million as part of the Sunshine Transport Precinct Activation – Walking and Cycling Network
 - > \$1.9 million in bicycle and pedestrian upgrades
 - > \$300,000 for footpaths and pram crossings
 - > \$655,000 in bicycle trail lighting
 - > \$150,000 for mountain bike track feasibility and design
- > \$7.41 million for recreational, leisure and community facilities
- > \$955,000 for off street carparks and other infrastructure
- > \$1.25 million in waste management

\$528,000 is going towards the first year of the Food and Garden Waste Service to enable a 50% subsidy for residents to support a reduction in waste going to landfill, which our community has been asking of us.

Recognising the ongoing challenges from the pandemic, as well as delivering the services and facilities important to our residents, economic and community recovery is also high on our agenda. To support those still affected by the pandemic, we are extending the COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy until 30 June 2022.

The Budget supports a vision for an inclusive, flourishing, progressive city that cares for both its residents and its environment as outlined in our Council Plan 2021-25.

The document commits to: enhancing liveability, being clean and green, responding to the climate emergency, providing open spaces, and building a well maintained city that will meet the needs of our diverse community over the next four years and beyond.

View the Council Plan 2021-25, Annual Budget 2021-22, and Revenue and Rating Plan by visiting Council's website.



FOOTSCRAY CIVIC AND COMMUNITY PRECINCT REDEVELOPMENT



Earlier this year, Council resolved to take the Footscray Civic and Community Precinct redevelopment project, which will see upgrades to the Footscray Town Hall building, to the detailed design phase to allow draft concepts to be prepared to present to the community for feedback.

The decision supports feedback during development of the Council Plan 2021-25 where the community called on Council to take more of a lead in supporting sustainability by ensuring its own facilities are both energy efficient and environmentally secure.

Originally built in 1936 as the Municipal Offices, Court House and Post Office, Footscray Town Hall was extended over several stages, with the last construction works completed in June 1984. Over time, despite some upgrade works, changing legislation and building code standards have rendered the heritage structure no longer fit for purpose.

Recognising it would take a considerable investment just to bring this nationally significant building up to code to support its current use, Council is instead looking to open the doors to the community, moving staff into separate green star rated energy efficient offices.

The redevelopment will improve customer service and community accessibility, with new and renovated spaces

The aim is to liberate the Town Hall from its civic administration function to return it to the public for use as meeting rooms and gathering spaces inside while developing an accessible community park to deliver a new public open space outside – creating a new and exciting civic space for the community and Council to meet and come together.

proposed for the community, along with an environmentally friendly, readily accessible public park area outside the building.

Council wants to be able to share Footscray Town Hall with the people of Maribymong, and by investing in this redevelopment, we will be able to open our doors and provide more opportunities for our community to utilise this space.

We are interested in understanding how the community thinks the re-imagined community spaces could look like – how they might best be used – and by whom.

Early concepts will be shared with the community during the third quarter of 2021 to feed into the design process to ensure we accurately capture community views.

For further information and to have your say, visit **yourcityyourvoice.com.au/civic-precinct**



Spring 2021

WHAT'S ON IN MARIBYRNONG

LOCAL WRITERS IN MARIBYRNONG

Are you a local emerging writer? Maribyrnong libraries have been supporting writers for more than three years. We began at Yarraville Library in response to a number of community enquiries, and the program has grown since then. We currently run two groups for adult writers and are ready to welcome new members. We also launched a Young Writers' Club in April 2021.

The adult Writers' Groups provide a supportive and welcoming avenue for writers to meet, share ideas and information and to receive feedback

LINE DANCING

Time: Easy Step Line Dancing 10-11:30am. Line Dancing 12.30-4pm Date: Wednesdays Where: Maribyrnong Community Centre Cost: Free

Maribyrnong Community Centre now offers two Line Dancing Classes on Wednesdays. The Easy Step Line Dancing is perfect for beginners and provides an opportunity to learn basic line dancing steps in a fun and safe environment. Then Line Dancing is a full afternoon of dancing incorporating choreographed dance with a repeated series of steps suitable for all ages and abilities. It's a fun way to stay fit and keep active. for their writing pieces. Relevant topics and techniques are explored, such as how to write dialogue, the use and abuse of adverbs and character development. The facilitators provide writing prompts as well. Members range from writers who are just starting out to published authors. We also run Writing Workshops that are advertised on the Library website and Facebook page.

The Young Writers' Club is open to anyone aged 10-15 year who loves to write, or wants to write and hang out with others who do too! These

BOLLYWOOD DANCE FITNESS

Time: 6.15-7.15pm Date: Tuesdays, 5 October-14 December Where: Braybrook Community Centre Cost: \$50 / \$30 concession Booking: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/ communitycentres

A vibrant and entertaining dance that is suitable for beginners. It gives a whole body workout while moving to the rhythm of joy with the powerful nature of Bollywood music. Fusing classical Indian steps with folk, Latin and hiphop styles, it offers a fast-moving and vivacious dancing workout that is great for enjoyable group exercise. budding authors are currently working through Tristan Bancks' Storyschool online and learning about plot and character development. They chat and share what they are working on, and aim to get a really good piece together to enter the annual Young Writers' Competition, which will run over summer later this year. Bookings are essential for either group with some sessions held in the libraries

with some sessions held in the libraries and others virtually. For all current details, head to **maribyrnong.vic.gov. au/libraries**

CREATIVE WRITING FOR JUNIORS

Time: 4-5pm

Date: Tuesdays, 12 October – 7 December Where: Braybrook Community Centre Cost: \$40

Booking: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/ communitycentres

A writing group designed specifically for children aged 6-12 years to learn the ins and outs of creative writing. With information to help writers understand the inner workings of a story, participants will start to create imaginative and compelling stories of their very own. Kids will start their writing journeys, learning to create compelling characters, craft dynamic dialogue and gripping story narratives, as well as the important tools of the creative writing trade.

WESTERN BULLDOGS AFTER SCHOOL YOUTH PROGRAM

Time: 3.30-6pm Date: Every Wednesday during school term Where: Braybrook Community Centre Cost: Free

A weekly program delivered in collaboration with Western Bulldogs community foundation, open for young people aged between 12-15 years. The program includes activities such as sports, music, arts and cooking. Drop in anytime.

CREATIVE WRITING FOR ADULTS



Time: 1-3pm Date: Tuesdays, 12 October – 7 December Where: Braybrook Community Centre Cost: \$60 / \$50 concession Booking: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/ communitycentres A creative writing group that aims to provide a safe, supportive space to like-minded individuals from all levels that are looking for a creative outlet. Whether you're picking up the pen for the first time or a seasoned writer, these facilitated sessions will help hone your creative writing skills and build confidence.

Informative resources, fun exercises and facilitated chats are just a few ways you will be immersed into the world of creative writing.



SUSTAINABLE PARENTING

Time: 10.15-11.15am Date: 9 September Where: Maidstone Community Centre Cost: Free Register: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/ communitycentres

Having a baby brings with it a whole heap of happiness, sleep deprivation and waste. Kids have tiny feet but huge footprints.

This workshop will discuss some easy-toaction ways to maintain an eco-friendly lifestyle while navigating the big, wild world of parenthood. This will include an intro to cloth nappies as well as a bundle of tips and tricks for reducing your overall footprint. All are welcome including kids.

NORTH AFRICAN FOOD AFFAIR

Time: 10am-1pm Date: 2 September Where: Maidstone Community Centre Cost: \$15 Register: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/ communitycentres

Come and explore the tantalising, deep, aromatic flavours and spices of Morocco, Tunisia and Libya. Think preserved lemons, olives and turmeric, dried fruits and nuts, cinnamon, dates, nutmeg and succulent fall off the bone chicken. You'll be creating and sitting down to eat beautiful Moroccan Chicken, a fragrant Tunisian Pilaf and mouth-watering Libyan date filled biscuits.

SPRING INTO GARDENING

Time: 11am-1pm Date: 2 September Where: Maidstone Community Centre Cost: Free Register: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/ communitycentres

Discover the joys of edible gardening this spring with Ella Boyen from Compost Community. In this two hour hands-on workshop, she'll cover everything you need to know to plant an edible garden this Spring; from what plants to put in the ground right now, to improving your soil health, managing pests, and companion planting.

HIDDEN FOOTSCRAY

Delve deep enough beneath the cosmopolitan charm of Footscray, you can find hidden stories of lost heritage, unknown traditional cultural practices, forgotten memories and more.

Council is delighted to present Hidden Footscray – the first exhibition (in a series of five annual programs) with the spotlight firmly placed on Footscray. From 2021, the Hidden initiative will explore a different suburb in our municipality through a range of media, themes and creative expression. The goal is to highlight diverse aspects of overlooked culture, heritage and geography within Maribyrnong and deliver an engaging audience program. Footscray Community Arts Centre on 3 September 2021 and run until 2 October 2021. The free exhibition features artworks by six artists; David Hourigan, Deb Bain-King, Jody Haines, Kerrie Poliness, Jason Waterhouse and Felicity Watson, and an essay by local author/ academic John Weldon, each of whom have interpreted this thriving urban centre through their own individual creative prism.

Using a range of media including photography, installation, sculpture, model making, sound and text these artists hope to reveal new stories about Footscray and weave a new layer of history into the architectural, social and cultural fabric of Footscray.

Hidden Footscray will be launched at

CREATE WITH ME

Time: 6-7pm Date: Fortnightly on Thursdays Where: Online via Zoom Cost: Free Register: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/phoenix

A fortnightly arts program for young people aged 12-25 years to explore their creative side from home. With a series of quest presenters, young people will get to try out

side from home. With a series of guest presenters, young people will get to try out new styles of art and learn new skills. With no prior experience needed young people can log in from home to get creative and connect with others.

CHILDREN'S WEEK 23-29 OCTOBER 2021

Children's Week will be celebrated in Maribyrnong with a range of activities that will connect children and families. Activities will be available in different neighbourhoods across the municipality over the week. Families can choose to attend one of more of the activities on offer.

RAZZBERRY JAMZ: PRE SCHOOL MUSIC EXPLOSION

Time: 10.30-11am and 11.30am-12pm Date: Monday 25 October Where: Maribyrnong Community Centre

STORY WALK

Time: 10-10.30am and 11-11.30am Date: Tuesday 26 October Where: Cruickshank Park

DREAMER PUPPET SHOW

Time: 10-10.45am and 11.30am-12.15pm Date: Wednesday 27 October Where: Bluestone Church Art Space

RAZZBERRY JAMZ: PRE SCHOOL MUSIC EXPLOSION

Time: 10.30-11am, 11.30am-12pm Date: Thursday 28 October Where: Braybrook Community Centre

To register for Children's Week events and for more information please visit: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/childrensweek

FESTIVAL CITY

They don't call us Festival City for nothing – we have a jam packed program for you in the next few months. So clear that schedule and invite your friends!

Ready to break out some moves after all that time in lockdown? West Set has you covered! The eleven-day music festival is taking over the inner west from 19-29 August, supporting the recovery of live music and local traders. Our culturally diverse artists will bring you indie; hip hop; alt country; glam rock; grunge; Irish fiddle; Gypsy swing; jazz, folk; pop post punk; guitar heavy blues; traditional African drumming and contemporary music. More information at westsetfestival.com follow announcements @westsetfest for program

Is food more your thing? Check out Eat Drink Westside from 1-10 October. It will once again shine a light on the west's culinary gems and enviable food community by offering some of the most delicious and diverse events. For details and bookings visit mfwf.com.au/ eatdrinkwestside

We're sure the whole family will love 'Kidstruments' as part of Fringe Westside running from 30 September

- 17 October. Held at Bluestone Church Arts Space, and delivered in collaboration between Melbourne Fringe, Melbourne International Jazz Festival and Council, Kidstruments will see instruments designed by local children and played by some of the finest musicians. For details and bookings visit melbournefringe. com.au

Jazz hounds, this is for you! Jazz Westside is back on 16 October, forming part of Melbourne International Jazz Festival, with a program of outdoor performances in Footscray and Yarraville. Don't miss the opportunity to experience internationally renowned jazz music right on your doorstep. For details and bookings visit **melbournejazz.com**



More into the thrills and spills of action sports? Braybrook Action Festival is back at Rampfest this year from 2-3 October. This event will attract participants from all around Victoria and Australia in the unique and diverse sports of Freestyle BMX, Skateboarding, MTB Racing, and Freestyle Scootering. For details and bookings visit rampfest.com.au

Ever wanted to get acquainted with Macedonian food and culture without the 30 to 40+ hour flight time? Well you're in luck with the Macedonian Food and Cultural Festival landing in Footscray Park on Sunday 31 October. The festival will feature a broad range of stalls selling traditional Macedonian foods, both sweet and savoury – as well as traditional singing and dancing. For details and bookings visit **maco.org.au**



Start your engines, Drag Race Maribyrnong will take off on Melbourne Cup Day! Experience the incredible spectacle of a field of Drag Queens and Drag Kings as they shimmy and sashay around Footscray, performing lots of entertaining challenges to win the race. There will be entertainment all day from the opening show at 11am till the closing Drag. There will be dancing, music, food, drink and fun for the whole family.

For details and bookings visit **facebook.com/PrideofourFootscray**

ENVIRONMENT



SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

100 percent renewable electricity for Council

Maribyrnong City Council is among 46 Victorian Councils to participate in Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO) – the largest ever emissions reduction project by local government in Australia.

Providing these Councils with 100 percent renewable electricity from wind power, the VECO partnership will avoid 260,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions annually, while saving money at the same time.

Through VECO, Council will use renewable electricity to power 100 percent of its electricity use including the Footscray Town Hall, Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre, streetlights, libraries, community centres and all other Council sites.

With electricity use responsible for approximately 75 percent of Council's greenhouse emissions, sourcing renewable electricity for council sites is a critical step for Council in responding to the climate emergency.

FOOD WASTE RECYCLING IS COMING

From October 2021, residents who live in stand-alone (detached and semidetached) houses within the City of Maribyrnong will be provided a designated green food and garden waste bin as part of their standard bin service.

This new service makes it easy for residents to recycle food and garden waste – which it is hoped will dramatically reduce the volumes sent to landfill as well as greenhouse emissions.

Food and garden waste currently makes up almost half (48%) of the material in the typical household landfill bin.

Resident's food and garden waste bin, or green bin, will be collected fortnightly from kerbsides, on the alternate week to recycling bins. In addition to garden waste (like grass, ivy, leaves and weeds), the new bin will be used to recycle all types of food waste, including fruit and vegetable scraps, meat, bones, dairy products, and leftovers.

Instead of going to landfill it will be able to be recycled into compost to be used on farms, parks and gardens across Victoria.

For more information visit maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/foodwaste

While composting food waste is great, it's a good idea to try to reduce your food waste first. For some great tips and tricks, head to our website to read more and sign up to one of our four free workshops this August:

maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/SustainableLiving

SOLAR PANELS AND STORAGE BATTERIES PROGRAM FOR RESIDENTS

Residents in the City of Maribyrnong can now access affordable and high quality solar panels and/or storage battery installations through Council's Solar Savers program.

The program offers an easy way to reduce energy bills and future proof against increasing energy costs, while reducing the climate impact at the same time.

Through Solar Savers, residents can receive a free home energy assessment to identify their home's energy needs and tailor a design for solar panels and/ or storage batteries.

Solar Savers only uses accredited and trusted installers. Residents who install solar panels will start saving on their energy bills immediately. Program experts can also help those eligible with options to help with the upfront costs of installing the system, including Victorian Solar Rebates.

For more information, visit **maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/SolarSavers**



Reminder: Dispose of batteries safely Please remember batteries must be kept out of waste and recycling bins as they cannot be disposed of through kerbside collection. All batteries – including rechargeable batteries and lithium ion – can cause fires in trucks or at the recycling facility, which can then mean the entire truckload is sent to landfill.

To safely and correctly dispose of batteries/products containing batteries, please visit a local drop-off point near you, or recycle your batteries at Aldi, Officeworks or Bunnings.

For more information or to find your closest drop-off point, visit Council's website and click on the 'Where to Recycle' map at **maribyrnong.vic.gov. au/waste**

CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE

During the last twelve months there has been an array of construction and improvement works happening around our City. Here's a snapshot of what has happened near you.

HENDERSON HOUSE HERITAGE RENEWAL WORKS

Council undertook renewal works to rejuvenate and preserve the rich history of the iconic bluestone Henderson House building, which overlooks the Maribyrnong River, and is part of Footscray Community Arts Centre.

Works on the two-storey building included the renewal of the external twin staircases and structural posts on the eastern verandah, an upgrade of the handrails and balustrading on the eastern verandah, and the replacement of external window lintels, along with a range of internal improvements such as fresh painting, flooring and structural improvements.



McIVOR RESERVE HOCKEY PITCH UPGRADE

The eastern hockey pitch at Footscray Hockey Club, located at McIvor Reserve, Yarraville was reconstructed as part of a \$1.7 million upgrade.

The new pitch replaced the old structurally failed eastern pitch and now meets International Hockey Federation certification, providing locals with a world class playing surface players will be able to enjoy for many years to come. Further upgrades include the installation of an in-situ shock pad – a rubber layer underneath the surface that supports players by reducing the impact on their joints while playing – drainage, footpaths and spectator amenities.



KINGSVILLE TENNIS CLUB COURT UPGRADES

Two tennis courts at Kingsville Tennis Club were reconstructed to enhance and support the local tennis community, including local competitions and tournaments, social activities and community programs.

The new courts have been completely reconstructed and resurfaced with brand new synthetic grass. New boundary fencing and a pedestrian path was also installed.

FOOTSCRAY WHARF PROMENADE

The long awaited Footscray Wharf redevelopment began in the 2020/2021 financial year, with construction on the new promenade between Hopkins Street and Footscray Road in Footscray.

Works will continue for another seven months with further landscaping works also along the new path to enhance the look and feel of the space.

The State Government committed \$6 million to the project in 2018 as part of the West Gate Tunnel project. Council has matched that funding to support the project completion by mid-2022.



PARKS AND RESERVES

A range of parks and open spaces throughout the City were upgraded, including new shared path lighting upgrades along Cruickshank Park and Burndap Park as part of the Maribyrnong Shared Use Path Lighting upgrade. Further improvements include the installation of a new 330 metre long shared used path at Cranwell Reserve, providing safe user access to the Maribyrnong River Trail for locals; a brand new \$800,000 playground at Pipemakers Park, and a range of upgrades to existing playgrounds such as the Village Green Playground and the Pritchard Reserve Playground.

ROADS

Throughout the year there has been a range of road improvements made to Council-owned roads across the municipality. These include the reconstruction of Jerrold Street, Footscray and Dudley Street, West Footscray, and the rehabilitation of Austin Crescent West, Yarraville.

Further works include intersection improvements: new raised intersections, roundabouts and pedestrian crossings throughout Maribyrnong, such as the new intersection installed at Webb and Wales Street, Kingsville.

Cyclists now have access to safer bicycle routes around the City, including a dedicated cycling lane along the Geelong Road Service Lane. Pedestrian accessibility around the City has also been improved with upgrades to a range of pedestrian paths.

SPORTING FACILITIES AND OUTDOOR SPACES

Public outdoor spaces and community sporting facilities across the municipality have received ongoing upgrades to improve community accessibility and usability.

Angliss Reserve, Yarraville received \$1.4 million worth of new infrastructure, including over 23,000 metres of new turf along with new lighting and drainage improvements to improve accessibility and safety for local competitions, social activities and general usage all year round.

Further improvements include the installation of new electronic scoreboards to support local sporting clubs and competitions, including at Yarraville Oval, Pennell Reserve and Hansen Reserve.

HENRY TURNER PRECINCT UPGRADES

Henry Turner Precinct in Footscray is also undergoing a revamp.

Construction starts in early 2022 on a new pavilion at the South Reserve. Expected to take twelve months to complete, the new pavilion will service the needs of local sporting clubs who call the Reserve home with new change rooms, a large multipurpose room, public toilets and incorporated spectator seating.

Next door at Henry Turner North Reserve, local football players are settling into their newly upgraded femalefriendly change rooms and amenities servicing the fastgrowing number of local female players. Made possible with funding from the Victorian Government and AFL Victoria's Key Community Facilities Fund, the facilities are more inclusive for female participation with lockable cubicle showers and toilets, meeting modern AFL and Cricket standards.

Henry Turner North Reserve also recently received a floodlighting upgrade with energy efficient LED fittings, to provide a safe environment to facilitate current female and junior sport participation and future growth. The floodlights, also funded in partnership with the Victorian Government, will meet relevant standards for community football training and night competition.

Other recent works at the North Reserve include the installation of an electronic scoreboard in 2020.

IMPROVING CONNECTIVITY AND AMENITY FOR THE LOWER MARIBYRNONG RIVER

Melbourne Water is building a new wastewater pipe in Maidstone to provide an improved sewage system to manage future flows. As part of this project, they will open up a section of land between Medway Golf Course and the Maribyrnong River for the community to enjoy continuous views with a shared path along the river. The works on the pathway are expected to be undertaken in 2023 after engagement with the community.

The pipe works will begin in October this year starting at the Moonee Valley side of the Maribyrnong River near Canning Street. A new bridge – for cyclists and pedestrians – will be built across the Maribyrnong River, with the sewer pipe running underneath. The pipe will be laid along an underground alignment between Medway Golf Course and the River, with tunnel boring works to continue beneath Williamson Road. Although there may be some detours, there is not expected to be much interruption to traffic over the course of the project. Access to households and businesses will be maintained throughout the works.

For more information visit: **melbournewater.com. au/MRM-NWS-Connection** Spring 2021



SUPER COOL Súperchido!

Joining the fun and bright strip of shops along Charles Street, Seddon, Súperchido (meaning "super cool" in Mexican Spanish) has opened its bright blue doors, serving up authentic cuisine from different regions of Mexico.

Owners Daniel and Sarah Pineda and Beatrice Nacor had been cooking up Mexican dishes for their friends and family for many years and thought it was high time they shared their love of Mexican food with the inner west.

Walk through the doors of Súperchido and you'll be greeted by a vibrant bar where cocktails, mocktails and Mexican beers are available to accompany your Mexican feast. The restaurant consists of two indoor eating areas including the "Cuban Room", which leads through to the cosy enclosed courtyard. The restaurant's interior is bright, energetic and colourful with a huge mural painted on the courtyard wall. The vibe is light and fun – a perfect place to meet with friends.

On the menu, Daniel is particularly fond of the Carne Asada tacos from Northern Mexico, where flour and beef are staples. With the flour tortillas made by-hand specifically for this taco, it provides a truly authentic touch.

The Birria De Res is also a crowd favourite. Originating from Jalisco in Mexico, a beef bone broth with spices and roasted vegetables is simmered for eight hours to really coax out the rich beef flavour. The broth is then served with warm supple tortillas, slow cooked beef, salsa and other condiments.

Súperchido is open from Wednesday to Sunday for dinner and for lunch on Saturday and Sunday. You'll find them at **82 Charles Street, Seddon.**

For requests, comments and questions about Council services and programs, go to www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au or call Customer Service on 9688 0200.

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