



Maribyrnong  
CITY COUNCIL

MARIBYRNONG

# MESSENGER

Spring 2020

[www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](http://www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)

USING STORYTELLING  
TO TEACH THE NEXT  
GENERATION ABOUT  
THE WORLD'S OLDEST  
CULTURE

2020/21  
ANNUAL  
BUDGET  
HIGHLIGHTS

EXPANDED  
COMMUNITY  
AND BUSINESS  
COVID-19  
SUPPORT

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



I would like to thank all Maribyrnong residents and businesses for your dedicated community spirit and cooperation during the COVID-19 restrictions over the past few months. It is heart-warming to see our community band together during this challenging time.

Council listened to community feedback on the 2020/21 Budget and resolved to set a rate increase of zero per cent. We have provided \$11 million in resources and assistance to the community since April 2020 – through the initial COVID-19 relief packages, a zero rate increase, in-kind support and our expanded COVID-19 Business and Community Support packages. If you have been financially impacted by the pandemic, Council has a range of business and community support available. See pages 4 and 5 for more details about the Budget, and visit pages 6 and 7 for further information about our COVID-19 support packages.

We are proud to be providing a range of online services via our libraries and community centres, youth and arts and culture teams, many of these initiatives are featured on pages 12-13.

For parents, particularly those with young children, Maternal and Child Health services are still available via phone consultation and immunisation sessions will continue to run by appointment.

We have minimal staff still working during this time, and you may see many of our dedicated workers planting trees, cleaning the streets, fixing pathway/drainage issues or tending to our parks and gardens.

Our customer service team is also available should you have an enquiry, please email: [email@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:email@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au) or call 9688 0200.

In October this year, Victoria's local government elections will be held and seven Councillors will be elected to govern our City over the next four years. I encourage you get involved, learn about the candidates and cast your vote.

Council will enter an election caretaker period from Tuesday 22 September until Saturday 24 October. The Election Period Policy ensures that Council business continues throughout this period in a responsible and transparent manner. The Policy is available on Council's website.

Please stay safe and healthy.

**Cr Sarah Carter**  
**Mayor of the City of Maribyrnong**

## COVID-19 UPDATES

To stay up to date with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) advice regarding COVID-19, visit [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus). For further information about Council's response to COVID-19, visit [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/COVID](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/COVID)

## INSIDE THIS EDITION

- 3 **Keep in touch with Council**
- 4 **2020/21 Annual Budget highlights**
- 6 **COVID-19 support packages**
- 8 **Activities & recipes**
- 9 **Keeping kids safe around pools**
- 10 **Teaching the next generation about the oldest culture in the world**
- 12 **Council programs during COVID-19**
- 14 **2019/2020 Capital Works highlights**
- 16 **Local Government Elections**

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

Meetings can be livestreamed via Council's YouTube channel and community members can submit questions for public question time by emailing [governance@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:governance@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au) by 4pm on the day of the meeting.

### SEPTEMBER:

Tuesday 1, 4.30pm Enterprise Maribyrnong Special Committee

Tuesday 8, 6.30pm Ordinary Council

Thursday 10, 6.30pm Special Council Meeting

Tuesday 15, 6.30pm City Development Special Committee.

### OCTOBER:

Tuesday 6, 4.30pm Enterprise Maribyrnong Special Committee

Tuesday 20, 6.30pm Ordinary Council

Tuesday 27, 6.30pm City Development Special Committee.

### NOVEMBER:

Tuesday 10, 6.30pm Special Council Meeting

Tuesday 17, 6.30pm Ordinary Council

Tuesday 24, 6.30pm City Development Special Committee

Wednesday 25, 3.30pm LeadWest

Friday 27, 8.00am Inner Melbourne Action Plan Meeting.

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



# KEEP IN TOUCH

There are different ways residents can keep in touch with Council, there's so much to share about new projects, success stories and ways residents can connect with Council and their wider community. We've listed some of the ways we can keep connected below.

## CUSTOMER SERVICE

Residents can contact our friendly Customer Service team by phone on 9688 0200 or send us an email to [email@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:email@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)

Residents can also create an account to log requests like reporting graffiti, requesting a bin or alerting Council to fallen branches. The Customer Request Management System allows users to track their request online from start to finish.

For more information and to create an account head to [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/request](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/request)

## FACEBOOK

Follow us on Facebook to find out the latest about online and upcoming events, opportunities for community consultations, emergency announcements, available grants and nominations for awards.

[facebook.com/Maribyrnong](https://facebook.com/Maribyrnong)



## TWITTER

Follow us on Twitter to find out about Council projects and emergency information.

[twitter.com/MaribyrnongCC](https://twitter.com/MaribyrnongCC)



## INSTAGRAM

To share artistic and insightful photos of our City while taking a walk or visiting one of our destination locations use #marimoments @cityofmaribyrnong

Follow us on Instagram to share your images of the City.

## LIVE STREAM COUNCIL MEETINGS

Watch our Ordinary Council and City Development Special Committee Meetings, which are live streamed and later uploaded to our website, to know about projects Council is undertaking. [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/livestream](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/livestream)

## YOUR CITY YOUR VOICE CONSULTATIONS

Give us your feedback on community consultations by taking part in online surveys on our consultation platform Your City Your Voice. The surveys ask for feedback on the direction Council should take on various projects and consultations take place throughout the year, with everyone encouraged to participate. You can register to be advised of upcoming opportunities. [yourcityyourvoice.com.au](http://yourcityyourvoice.com.au)

## WEBSITE

Visit our website to find out about the services and programs that are currently on offer. You can also view the 'latest news' section on our home page, as well as information about library services, arts and culture, and upcoming events.

[maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)

## SUBSCRIBE

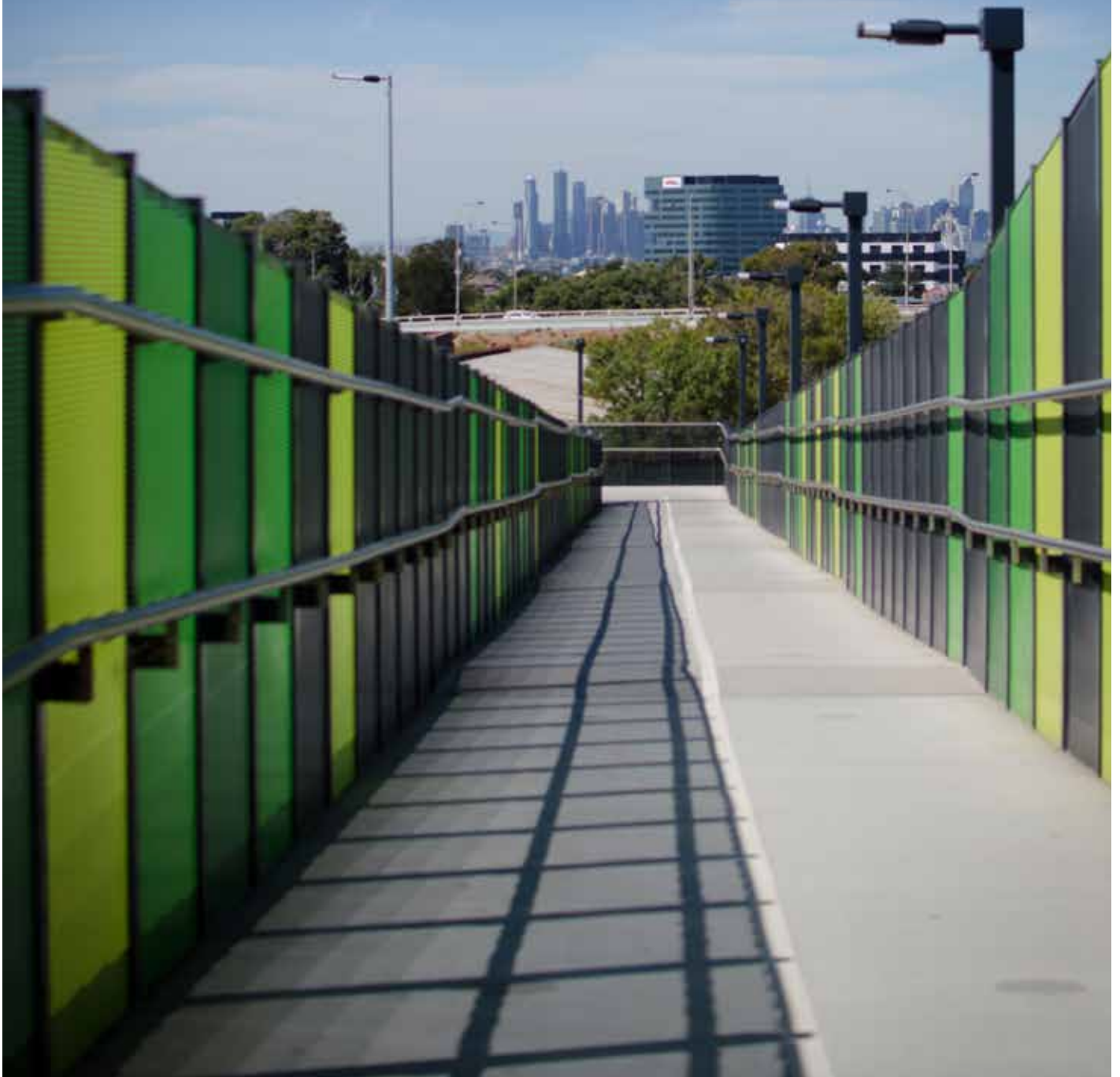
Residents can also subscribe to our 'latest news' email list by heading to [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/news](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/news) and following the prompts.

There's also a community engagement email list that residents can subscribe to by visiting Your City Your Voice.



# PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND **CONTINUING TO DELIVER IMPORTANT COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

---



**The 2020-21 Annual Budget of \$149.7 million, will continue to deliver over 60 services for the community, while also committing to a robust capital program valued at \$52.241 million.**

**A**fter a comprehensive community consultation process, Council set a zero per cent rate increase for the 2020-21 financial year with the adoption of the Annual Budget and Strategic Resource Plan on Tuesday 21 July.

Council had the opportunity to take up a two per cent increase to rates (in line with the rate cap set by the government), however given the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the community, the decision was made to implement a zero per cent increase.

Council has provided \$6.5 million in COVID-19 support since April 2020 and is now expanding Community and Business Relief packages to provide an additional \$2.5 million in support to vulnerable members of the community and businesses.

COVID-19 relief packages include:

- > A COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy which will allow all ratepayers experiencing financial hardship to apply for an interest free payment plan or to defer their rates without penalty interest for a period up until 30 June 2021.
- > Deferral of quarterly rate payments (May and September 2020) for businesses and residents. Additionally for businesses, the May 2020 quarterly payment was discounted by 50 per cent and eligible business can receive a 25 per cent rebate on the September 2020 quarterly payment. Commercial tenants of Council owned properties affected by COVID-19 received a 50 per cent discount on rent, and lease payments can be deferred until 31 December 2020.
- > Waiving a range of planning application fees for small businesses starting up, extended to 30 June 2021.
- > Not-for-profit community rental payments have been waived, extended to December 2020.
- > Kinder central enrolment fees have been waived until the end of 2020.
- > Pet registration fees will also be waived/reimbursed for affected residents.

- > To support our local arts community, we have introduced a number of initiatives, including grants (upon application) for not-for-profit community arts organisations and Maribyrnong based arts practitioners, along with rental subsidies.
- > To support not-for-profit community sporting clubs, all lease, licence and ground fees will be waived and utility and water fees will be waived, extended to 30 June 2021.

The robust capital program will ensure the community has access to safe and sustainable infrastructure that meets the needs of the growing population.

Some of the key capital projects for 2020-21 include:

- > \$12.535 million for parks, open space and streetscapes in capital and improvement works including the planting of trees in streets, boulevards, and parks across the City
- > \$12.721 million to improve Council-owned roads across the City
- > \$3.060 million to build and improve footpath and cycle ways
- > \$1.791 million for recreational, leisure and community facilities
- > \$650,000 for off street carparks and other infrastructure
- > \$639,000 in waste management
- > \$320,000 for city amenity
- > \$80,000 for an update to the Footscray City Edge Masterplan
- > \$100,000 in street furniture repair and replacement
- > \$120,000 for additional drainage maintenance
- > \$100,000 for the installation of green street lights

In addition to the capital works projects, a new Community Arts Grants Program will be delivered for projects run by arts organisations within the City, totalling \$300,000. The Sons and Daughters of the West initiative will receive \$70,000; Youth after School Initiative Braybrook will receive \$33,000 and the Leaders of the Pack initiative will receive \$12,000.

For more information visit [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/budget](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/budget)

## COMMUNITY CONNECTORS

We have set up relief and recovery response teams that are available to support the community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

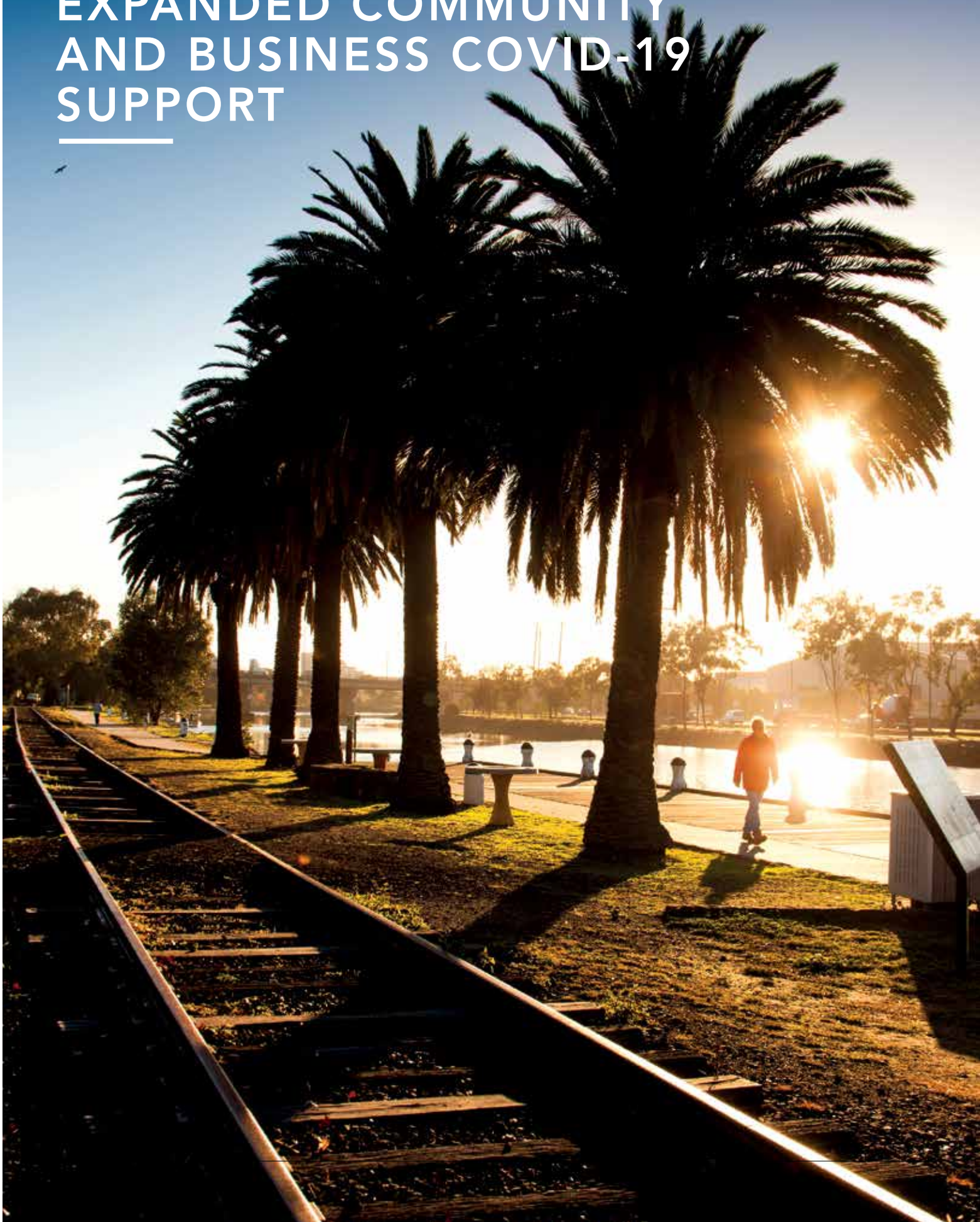
These teams can provide information and advice about services that are available to those affected by COVID-19, including financial resources, food resources, and health resources.

They can also coordinate service responses for individuals and families including emergency food hampers, and can assist with general and specialised service referrals.

If you, your family or someone you know has been impacted by COVID-19 and is in need of support, please call our dedicated number on 9688 0434 from 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday.



# EXPANDED COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS COVID-19 SUPPORT



**We know that many people in our community are feeling the strain of the COVID-19 pandemic, and we want to support residents and local businesses to get through this crisis and give everyone the best chance at recovery.**

In order to provide further support to our community, we have expanded the COVID-19 Community and Business Relief packages to provide an additional \$2.5 million in support to vulnerable members of the community and businesses. This follows \$6.5 million in support since April 2020 and a zero rate rise – totalling \$11 million in support.

At the Ordinary Council meeting on Tuesday 18 August 2020, Council made a decision to expand its current relief program by a further \$2.5 million, including \$1,934,185 to extend a range of existing support initiatives such as rate relief/deferrals; lease and license and fee reductions; fee waivers. This also includes a 25% discount on the September rates payment for eligible businesses affected by COVID-19. Visit our website for a detailed list of the expanded relief program.

Council also resolved to provide targeted relief packages for Families and Young People (\$350,000), and a Business Relief Package (\$271,000). The packages aim to support those most vulnerable in the community and include the following:

- > **Material and Financial Aid (\$150,000):** In partnership with local agencies, this program will focus on material and financial aid for young people and families experiencing extreme hardship in the City of Maribyrnong. The aim of the program is to support those people in greatest need and provide additional support beyond the current capacity of other local agencies.
- > **Family Violence and Mental Health (\$150,000) Support and Pathways Program:** The funding will enable prompt access to local mental health support services to address the needs of families and young people living in the City of Maribyrnong. This funding would particularly focus on young people experiencing family breakdown and family violence as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- > **Skills Development and Employment Pathway Program (\$50k):** The program will develop a skills pathways and mentoring network that will provide career and employment advice and skill building to support a vulnerable young people; also link participants to Federal and State Government skills and employment programs. The program aims to support people on JobSeeker benefits and other low income households to navigate future employment opportunities in the current and post COVID-19 environment.
- > **Local Shopping Centre – ‘Buy local’ & ‘Activation’ Campaign (\$150,000):** Council’s ongoing support to our local traders and business community is vital, through promoting ‘buy local’ and ‘activation’ initiatives through a marketing campaign as well as other activation initiatives for our traders and business community.
- > **Business Improvement District (BID) program (\$100,000):** This program aims to address the impact of COVID-19 on traders including the provision of Personal and Protective Equipment, and developing digital initiatives to support Maribyrnong traders.
- > **Activating local shopping centres through COVID safe outdoor dining:** COVID-19 significantly impacts the way people work, live, shop and travel, posing challenges for an effective community response to social distancing requirements. Parklets are repurposed parking bays designed to create spaces for pedestrian activity and include seating, dining areas, greenery and bike parking.
- > **Improve access to local shopping centres through investment in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure:** delivered from capital, grants and Government funding.
- > **Trader Association Fees Support (\$21,000).**

For further information about the expanded support packages, visit [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/COVID](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/COVID)

## SUPPORT LOCAL!

Let’s remember to Shop Local to help boost our small business community. Many of our retailers live locally and choosing to buy directly from

those that have online shopping, safe pick up or delivery and other measures that support physical distancing means that we’re helping

a neighbour. Visit our website for a list of businesses that operate in our community at [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/keepmarikind](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/keepmarikind)



GET THE KIDS IN THE KITCHEN AND TEST OUT A  
MACARONI SLICE RECIPE, AND TRY TO FIND AS MANY  
WORDS AS YOU CAN USING THE WORD 'MARIBYRNONG'  
IN THE WORD JUMBLE.

# MACARONI SLICE



Courtesy of Maribyrnong Community Centre's Mini Chefs program.

## INGREDIENTS

1 cup macaroni, uncooked (makes about 2.5 cups cooked)  
250g tub ricotta  
2 eggs  
10 baby spinach leaves, roughly chopped  
1 cup grated sweet potato  
1 rasher bacon, finely diced (omit for a vegetarian option)  
2 sprigs continental parsley, chopped  
1 small sprig oregano, finely chopped  
1 cup shredded tasty cheese  
3 tbsp grated parmesan cheese

## METHOD

1. Cook the pasta as per the instructions on the packet
2. Preheat oven to 200 degrees Celsius.
3. In a large mixing bowl, combine all of the ingredients, adding in the order listed above.
4. Pour the mixture into a greased baking tin, and press into the edges of the pan and compact on top.
5. Bake for 30 minutes.
6. Allow to cool for 10 minutes before cutting up and serving.



# WORD JUMBLE

Use the letters within the word  
**'Maribyrnong'** to discover all of  
the words that fit into it!

## MARIBYRNONG

**Eight letter word:**

**Seven letter word:**

**Six letter word:**

**Five letter word:**

**Four letter word:**

## WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO KEEP ALL CHILDREN SAFE AROUND WATER

In a push to keep kids safer around water, the Victorian State Government has introduced new legislation that requires owners of swimming pools and spas in Victoria to register their pool or spa with their local Council by 1 November 2020.

The new laws are in response to more than 27 children drowning in private swimming pools and spas since 2000. In at least 20 of those cases, non-compliance of the safety barrier is likely to have played a role.

Owners should also:

- > ensure the gate is closed whenever someone enters or exits the pool area
- > remove any objects from around the barrier that young children could use to climb over the barrier into the pool or spa area

- > ensure that self-latching devices are installed on the gate and are working properly
- > repair or replace any component of the barrier that isn't working properly
- > ensure there are no gaps in barriers that would allow a young child to access the pool area.

Owners are required to have their pool or spa barrier inspected every four years. Following inspection, residents will need to lodge their compliance certificate with Council.

For more information or to register your pool or spa, visit our website [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au) or the Victorian Building Authority at [vba.vic.gov.au/consumers/swimming-pools](http://vba.vic.gov.au/consumers/swimming-pools)

# WUNYA NGULUM... WELCOME HERE

ABORIGINAL CREATOR  
AND EDUCATOR  
NATHALIE MCLEAN IS  
USING STORYTELLING  
TO TEACH THE NEXT  
GENERATION ABOUT  
THE OLDEST CULTURE  
IN THE WORLD



**A**fter travelling to Paris to start an artistic residency, Nat found herself being evacuated at the start of the global coronavirus pandemic, flying home to Australia on her 30th birthday just 48 hours after arriving, with her plans for 2020 up in the air.

What she didn't know at the time was that the COVID-19 restrictions in Australia would mean her creative practice would need to adapt, which has resulted in Nat reaching more people than she ever expected.

Community is something that Nathalie McLean (Nat) loves most about Melbourne's inner west, which for those who live in Maribyrnong, will come as no surprise.

Originally from Meeanjin (Brisbane), Gubbi Gubbi, Kullali and Wakka Wakka woman Nat moved to Naarm (Melbourne) in 2012, and quickly found herself calling Maribyrnong home.

"I originally decided to move to Melbourne because it has always been seen as an amazing cultural hub. Maribyrnong was the first place that I moved to when I came to Melbourne."

"Living in the west is like a little piece of home right near the heart of the city. There's cafes, delicious food, and of course the beautiful river that winds through this part of country. It really is a home away from home for me."

After starting tertiary degrees in Journalism, Education and Psychology, Nat ended up completing a Bachelor of Creative Arts Industries at Victoria University.

"The thing that always stood out to me about a creative career was the fact that I could use the best of both worlds that I live in. Being Indigenous, but also having my non-Indigenous background [Nat's father is Scottish], I felt like being a creator was going to help me tie a lot of things together in my life."

Another driving force for Nat wanting to pursue a creative career was her mum, who was a curator for the Queensland Art Gallery when Nat was a child.

"I was drawn to performing and visual arts as a child, and my mum was always really encouraging of my creative pursuits as a child and that only grew into adulthood."

A big part of what inspires Nat in her creative pursuits is her family, who have helped fuel her passion for storytelling.

"My family passed down teachings and stories as I was growing up, and we hold roles and responsibilities in our clans and in our tribes. I am learning a lot of the stories and I have, in a way, become a story keeper for my family."

And it is these stories that Nat is now sharing with our youngest people.

"Before I moved to Melbourne, I started studying primary education because I always wanted to be an educator or a teacher of some kind, but I didn't want to be in the education system. During that time, I discovered that there is a huge need for curriculum based information for teachers that can be used as teaching tools that relate to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

By combining her creative skills and her passion for education and storytelling, Nat started her own cultural educating business, Junjurri Workshop, as a way to teach the next generation about the world's oldest culture.

The workshops that Nat runs are interactive art and storytelling workshops developed to teach primary school students all about Indigenous culture and history through dance, art and singing.

"It's been a wonderful experience for me and a great way to stay connected to my culture while living so far away from home. I also saw a need for great educational content related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and culture so I went forward and combined all of my skills and it just took off from there.

"I have continued to learn my language and then put it into the work I am doing, so that my language and the language of my people won't be forgotten."

She hopes that by sharing her stories and her language, she can instil a sense of respect, responsibility and pride in all children.

"It's important for young people in our country to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and culture because we are the caretakers for this land. The more they know about other

cultures and people, the more they can be educated and informed adults."

As a way to expand her workshops so that a larger part of the community could access them, Nat applied for Council's First Nations Creative Projects Initiative, a program designed to give professional Indigenous artists the opportunity to lead the creation and development of a new work anywhere in the municipality. Nat was successful in her application and became the first person to be a recipient of the Initiative.

**“It's been such an amazing experience and a very challenging one because of COVID.”**

"I had originally planned an outdoor event for the end of this year, as well as NAIDOC week events for hundreds of kids but instead I had the opportunity to do something I've wanted to do for a long time which was turn my workshops into an exciting online educational program."

The result is Junjurri TV, a series of online educational videos that teaches children about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

"Because I've managed to adapt and overcome despite the times, I've ended up reaching hundreds more children and educators than I ever would have expected.

Despite moving to an online format, Nat has still been able to involve other First Nations artists and creators in the project, including Sermsah Bin Saad (dancer) and Emily Wurramara (singer/songwriter).

"The feedback has been phenomenal and so incredibly positive across the board so I'm over the moon."

Although Nat's original plans for 2020 didn't quite work out, she's incredibly proud of the work she's doing and the children she's able to reach through Junjurri TV, and hopes to be able to get back to Paris to complete her artist residency and see the Eiffel Tower soon.

To view the series of videos that Nat has created for the Junjurri TV project, and to find out more about Nat's cultural educating business, Junjurri Workshop, visit [nathaliemclean.com](http://nathaliemclean.com)



## SERVICES BEING OFFERED BY COUNCIL

# CREATE, LEARN, MOVE AND READ DURING COVID-19

While we have temporarily closed some Council facilities and suspended their regular programming, we are still here, working to support our entire community by altering our services and taking them online for you to enjoy in the comfort of your own home.

## COMMUNITY CENTRES

Braybrook, Maidstone and Maribyrnong Community Centres are now offering a number of their programs as online activities, and each Centre has a regular newsletter featuring community announcements and updates.

Some of the programs on offer include:

- > **Weekly Guided Meditation and Relaxation Yoga:** Meditate under the guidance of an experienced teacher through visualisation, breath and movement on Wednesdays.
- > **Let's Get Kids Moving:** Join in weekly exercise fun with activities including start jumps, jogging, ball throwing and more. Sessions are suitable for kids 6 – 12 years old and will be available via YouTube so you can link in when you and the kids need a break.
- > **Hatha Yoga:** Be guided through a series of simple physical movements to improve flexibility, build physical strength, promote better breathing, release emotional turmoil, build self-esteem and expand personal power, every Monday and Wednesday.
- > **Music for Hip Toddlers:** Check out Razz's beautiful Music for Hip Toddlers and get your kids ready for a rollicking ride every Thursday and Friday.
- > **Maidstone Community Centre Playgroup:** Every week, playgroup facilitator Janine will create a wonderful art activity with simple, clear instructions to keep your kids inspired and entertained at home.
- > **Tai Chi for Health:** A class for older adults 60+ years, learning Tai Chi



techniques which are simple, elegant and easy movements, taking place on Thursdays at 2pm.

- > **Mini Chefs:** Four weekly sessions where the children will learn to cook some wonderful recipes for all the family to enjoy.

For more information about the classes currently being offered online and to view a range of on-demand resources, head to [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/communitycentres](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/communitycentres)

## LIBRARIES

Following the library closures due to COVID-19, Maribyrnong Libraries have launched many online events as part of the Library At Home program. Highlights include:

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH:

- > **Story Time at Home:** Join Christine, Ali and George for stories, rhymes and songs each Monday and Friday at 11am. Ages 3-5.
- > **Baby Rhyme Time At Home:** Join Christine, Ali and George for Rhyme Time fun for little ones each Tuesday and Thursday at 11am. Ages 0-2.
- > **Vietnamese Story Time:** Join Hang

for stories, songs and rhymes in Vietnamese each Wednesday at 11am. Ages 0-5. **Nghe kể chuyện trực tuyến trong tiếng Việt với Hằng.** Mỗi tuần trên Youtube vào ngày thứ Tư 11 giờ sáng. Cho trẻ từ 0-5 tuổi.

- > **Bilingual Story Time:** Join Huan or Ritu for stories, songs and rhymes in Vietnamese or Hindi each Thursday at 2pm. Ages 0-5.
- > **Kids Online Book Club:** The Kids Online Book Club meets online at 10-10.30am every Tuesday. Email [yarraville.library@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:yarraville.library@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au) for instructions on how to join. Ages 6-12.
- > **Plus plenty more on YouTube:** Subscribe to City of Maribyrnong YouTube channel for more videos, such as Junior Science and Home Coders.

### ADULTS:

- > **Book Groups:** Join one of the many book groups running online, or borrow a book set to start your own book group.
- > **Writers' Groups:** Are you an accomplished or budding author? We currently have two writers' groups meeting monthly online.

- > **Conversation Café:** Conversation Café Online gives you the chance to meet new friends, practice your English conversation skills and participate in intercultural conversations. If you're interested in joining or want more information please send an email with your name to [library@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:library@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au) and we'll be in touch.
- > **Resume Help:** Need help on how to create a professional résumé? Email [library@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:library@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au), and the team can help you with formatting and editing tips.

You can keep in touch with Maribyrnong Libraries through our new Facebook and Instagram accounts! Search "Maribyrnong Libraries" to like and follow.

To view the full list of online library services available and for further information about how to get involved, visit [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/library](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/library). Please note the program schedule is subject to change. Keep your eye out for new events such as online Author Talks.

## ARTS AND CULTURE

To support the local arts sector during COVID-19, Maribyrnong City Council established the Together Apart Rapid Relief Fund. A total of 44 projects were supported, including 18 arts organisations and 26 local practitioners to pivot their work to digital outcomes for the community.

Some upcoming highlights include:

- > Digital classes and artist talks run by The Art Room
- > Troc Talks Online by Trocadero
- > West is Best comedy variety show [double checking new date]
- > Off the Shelf interactive performances by Snuff Puppets
- > Women's Circus Classes
- > Cinespace film competition
- > West Projections Festival online
- > 100 Story Building literacy workshops for kids

- > ISOcollAB artist residency program at Five Walls
- > Western Edge Youth Arts free workshops for young people 13+
- > Makers Window clay classes and mask sewing

For further information, visit [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/arts](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/arts) and subscribe to the ArtBytes eNews to stay up to date with upcoming arts events happening in the municipality.

## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

### MAC AT HOME

Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre is currently offering a collection of online Group Fitness classes through the MAC at Home Series.

There is something for everyone, including high energy choreographed Aerobics, HIIT (High Intensity Interval Training), Zumba dance class, Seniors Strength class, a modified Pump class using weights, Functional Training, Swiss ball core class, Yoga; Body Balance and Pilates.

Send an email to [mac@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:mac@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au) to receive the weekly schedule, webinar links and access to the MAC at Home Series Channel.

## FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

### CHILDREN'S WEEK

Children's Week is a national celebration of children's rights, talents and citizenship, taking place annually in October.

Head to [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/childrensweek](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/childrensweek) for further updates about how we are celebrating during Children's Week.

## PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS

We are offering a range of online parent information sessions to support families during this time. For further information, head to [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)

## MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Maternal and Child Health is limiting face-to-face consultations. Consultations for babies eight weeks and under will be conducted in shortened face-to-face consultations. Families with appointments for older babies and children will be offered phone consultations. Please phone **9688 0501** to make a booking or for more information.

## IMMUNISATIONS

Immunisations will continue with individual appointments. Please call **9688 0501** to make an appointment.

For a comprehensive list of Council initiatives and activities, and other additional resources our community can access while staying at home, please visit [maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/stayengaged](http://maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/stayengaged)

## PHOENIX YOUTH CENTRE

To engage with fellow young people throughout the municipality, Phoenix Youth Centre has launched Isolation Creations, a celebration of local young people and their amazing talents through a collection of videos featuring them performing, creating, skill sharing and moving.

The collection of videos include music performances to keep you entertained, dance tutorials to get you moving, a series of 'Self Love in Social Isolation' videos from local artists Sami and Natana, and embroidery and watercolour workshops.

# 2019/2020 CAPITAL WORKS HIGHLIGHTS

Over the last twelve months there has been an array of construction and improvement works happening around our City, find out what has happened near you!



## STONY CREEK PEDESTRIAN FOOTBRIDGE

Opened to the community in May 2020, the new Stony Creek Pedestrian Footbridge, and connecting ramps and paths, improves community safety and accessibility. It also ensures safe linkages between trails and neighbourhoods on the north and south side of the bridge, and between Cala Street and Beaumont Parade.

The area is complete with new landscaping, and the project is part the Stony Creek Future Directions Plan, which was endorsed by Council on 25 February 2020.



## QUARRY PARK MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL

The Quarry Park Mountain Bike Trail is a destination park, one of a kind in the West, it opened in October 2019 and gives mountain biking enthusiasts of various ages and ability the opportunity to test their skills. It's a family-friendly space with incredible views of the Melbourne skyline. The Trail is part of the Quarry Park Masterplan, which was endorsed by Council in December 2016.

The Quarry Park Mountain Bike Trail project was delivered in a partnership with the Victorian Government through a Community Sports Infrastructure Grant.



## SCOVELL PAVILION

The \$2.8 million Scovell Reserve Pavilion redevelopment project is complete following the demolition of the three existing, no longer fit for purpose pavilions. Construction on the new pavilion was completed in February 2020, and will support the growing memberships of Footscray United Cricket Club and Maidstone United Soccer Club. It features four change rooms with unisex amenities, a commercial kitchen, and a large multi-purpose room for club and community activities.

The Scovell Reserve Pavilion Upgrade was funded in partnership with the Victorian State Government.



## CHURCH STREET CHILDREN'S CENTRE

Construction of the new Church Street Children's Centre, a state of the art education and childcare facility that offers 98 places in the new double storey facility, is complete and the centre opened to the community in early 2020. It provides child care with integrated kindergarten and sessional kindergarten in modern learning spaces.



## COMMUNITY CENTRES AND LIBRARIES

Community Centres and Libraries across the City have welcomed a range of upgrades, including roof repairs at Maidstone Community Centre and Yarraville Library. Further improvement works include a new kitchen and bathroom at Maribyrnong Library and Maribyrnong River Children's Centre; fresh paint, new joinery and floors at Brenbeal Children's Centre; new shade sails at Maribyrnong Children's Centre, and new shade sails and an improved acoustic space at Phoenix Youth Centre.

## 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. Works include upgrades to Kindersmith Reserve with new flooring and roofing for the pavilion, and the construction of new oval LED floodlighting, which help improve usability of the ground for local clubs both day and night. Further improvements include and upgraded playing field and floodlighting at Angliss Reserve; new flooring at Henry Turner North Pavilion; a new ceiling and lighting upgrades to Hanmer Reserve Pavilion; new electronic scoreboards at Yarraville Oval, Henry Turner North Reserve and Hansen Reserve; refurbishment of Footscray Hockey Centre which consisted of new change rooms, amenities, meeting rooms, gym and a commercial kitchen, and the upgrade of numerous playgrounds across the City. The Kindersmith and Angliss Reserve Floodlight Upgrades are supported by the Victorian State Government.

## DID YOU KNOW?

More than 3000 indigenous plants have been planted along Stony Creek, including a section of Cruickshank Park, in the first achievement delivered as part of the Stony Creek Rehabilitation Plan.

These new plants are key actions from Maribyrnong City Council's Stony Creek Future Directions Plan 2020 and Melbourne Water's Stony Creek Rehabilitation Plan 2019-2029.

## REVITALISATION OF FOOTSCRAY WHARF

After extensive community engagement, planning and design, the Footscray Wharf and Promenade Project will commence construction in the coming months. The Wharf and Promenade will be a major revitalisation of the Footscray waterfront, better connecting the community to the river and activating this important public space.

The project will include a 230m long timber wharf/boardwalk (continuation of the Henderson House Landing) with lower landings and a pontoon for small vessels and recreational boats. A wide promenade and shared path will run along the river bank, along with extensive planting, seating, and lighting, and sheltered picnic and barbecue spaces.

Construction is expected to take 18 months, and some pedestrian and cycle detours will be in place at times. Council will endeavour to minimise disruption to nearby residents and businesses.

The \$12 million project has received \$8 million funding from the Victoria Government.

## ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Throughout the year there has been a range of road improvements made to Council-owned streets across the municipality. These improvements include the resurfacing of Dyson Street, West Footscray; Winston Street, Maidstone; Dora Street, Braybrook; and Shackell Street, Kingsville. Further works include intersection improvements, which see new raised intersection, roundabouts and pedestrian

crossings throughout the community. Cyclists across the municipality now have access to a range of new bicycle routes around the City, including a dedicated path from Footscray to Highpoint. Pedestrian accessibility around the City has also been improved with upgrades to a range of pedestrian paths, including the Maribyrnong River Shared User Path and at Cruickshank Park

# 2020 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION

The next Council general election will be held on **Saturday 24 October 2020.**

The 2020 election will be conducted via a postal vote by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC).

Maribyrnong City Council is comprised of seven Councillors elected to three wards: River Ward (2 Councillors), Stony Creek Ward (2 Councillors) and Yarraville Ward (3 Councillors).

Information about the eligibility and mandatory training to become a candidate can be found on the VEC website:

**vec.vic.gov.au**

Maribyrnong City Council will enter an election caretaker period from Tuesday 22 September until Saturday 24 October. The Election Period Policy ensures that Council business continues throughout this period in a responsible and transparent manner. The Policy is available on Council's website.

For information regarding voting timeframes and other matters relating to the election process please visit the VEC website: **vec.vic.gov.au** or phone the VEC on **131 832**.

## KEY DATES

**22 September:** Close of nominations  
Election (Caretaker) Period begins

**23 October:** Close of postal voting

**24 October:** Election day  
Election (Caretaker) Period ends

**November:** Declaration of election results

## HOW TO CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLOR



### RIVER WARD

**CR SARAH CARTER  
MAYOR**

E: [cr.carter@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:cr.carter@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)  
Ph: 0432 139 612



### CR GINA HUYNH

E: [cr.huynh@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:cr.huynh@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)  
Ph: 0429 324 484



### STONY CREEK WARD

**CR MEGAN BRIDGER-DARLING  
DEPUTY MAYOR**

E: [cr.bridger-darling@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:cr.bridger-darling@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)  
Ph: 0429 181 326



### CR CUC LAM

E: [cr.lam@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:cr.lam@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)  
Ph: 0429 383 099



### YARRAVILLE WARD

**CR SIMON CRAWFORD**

E: [cr.crawford@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:cr.crawford@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)  
Ph: 0429 388 196



### CR MIA MCGREGOR

E: [cr.mcgregor@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:cr.mcgregor@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)  
Ph: 0429 236 044



### CR MARTIN ZAKHAROV

E: [cr.zakharov@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:cr.zakharov@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)  
Ph: 0432 139 613

You can also write to your Ward Councillor:  
c/- Maribyrnong City Council, PO Box 58, Footscray 3011.  
If you don't know who your Ward Councillor is, please contact Customer Service on 9688 0200 or fax 9687 7793.

For requests, comments and questions about Council services and programs, go to [www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](http://www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au) or call Customer Service on 9688 0200.

Disclaimer: Although all due care has been taken in the preparation of the Maribyrnong Messenger and its contents, Maribyrnong City Council does not accept any liability for any statement, opinions, errors or omissions contained herein. Fees quoted are subject to change without notice. Event details are subject to change without notice. All information has been collected according to privacy information guidelines.



<http://twitter.com/MaribyrnongCC> / [www.facebook.com/Maribyrnong](http://www.facebook.com/Maribyrnong)

## MARIBYRNONG CITY COUNCIL

Street Address: Cnr. Hyde and Napier Streets, Footscray

Postal Address: PO Box 58, Footscray, Victoria 3011

Phone: 9688 0200 Fax: 9687 7793

After Hours/Emergency: 9688 0200

Email: [email@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](mailto:email@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)

[www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au](http://www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au)



TIS: 131 450



NRS: 133 677 OR 1300 555 727  
[www.relayservice.com.au](http://www.relayservice.com.au)



Maribyrnong  
CITY COUNCIL