



**Maribyrnong City Council**

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday 16 November, 2021  
6.30pm**

**Council Chamber  
Level 1  
Maribyrnong Council Offices  
Corner Hyde and Napier Streets, Footscray**

**MEMBERSHIP**

Councillor Anthony Tran (Chair)  
Councillor Sarah Carter  
Councillor Michael Clarke  
Councillor Simon Crawford  
Councillor Jorge Jorquera  
Councillor Cuc Lam  
Councillor Bernadette Thomas

To be confirmed at the Council Meeting  
to be held on 7 December, 2021

## 1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING AND WELCOME

The meeting commenced at 6.33pm.

The Chair, Cr Anthony Tran made the following acknowledgement statement:

*"We acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Kulin Nation. We offer our respect to the Elders of these traditional lands, and through them to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, past and present".*

### PRESENT

Councillor Anthony Tran (Chair)  
Councillor Sarah Carter  
Councillor Michael Clarke  
Councillor Simon Crawford  
Councillor Jorge Jorquera  
Councillor Cuc Lam  
Councillor Bernadette Thomas

### IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Executive Officer, Celia Haddock  
Director Community Services, Clem Gillings  
Acting Director Infrastructure Services, Patrick Jess  
Acting Director Corporate Services, Lisa King  
Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services, Danny Bilaver  
Governance Officer, Adele Woolcock

## 2. APOLOGIES

Nil.

## 3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

## 4. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

## 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

*Question*

Billy Daly asked the following questions:

Expenditure on legal fees are not visible within the published audited financial statements. Could Council please:

1. Provide advise on expenditure on external legal fees for the financial years 2020-21, 2019-20, 2018-19.
2. Explain where these expenses are accounted for within the published financial statements.

*Response*

The Chair, Mayor Cr Anthony Tran, confirmed that the amounts for financial year 2018-19 was \$775,000; 2019-20 was \$371,000 and 2020-21 was \$282,000.

The Chief Executive Officer, Ms Celia Haddock, confirmed that legal expenses are grouped up and included in Materials and Services within the contracts line item. Ms Haddock advised that this line item can be located in the Annual Report on page 145 for both financial years 2019-20 and 2020-21, note 4.2 Materials and Services, line item Contracts.

*Question*

Christopher Xuerub asked the following questions:

According to the 2020 Annual Community Survey only 15.6% of respondents were aware of the Footscray University Town project. After almost 8 years of Footscray University Town project why does Council think awareness of this vital project is so low and how is council planning to ensure that it has a bigger impact to the community heading into the future?

*Response*

The Director Community Services, Ms Clem Gillings, noted that the Council partnership with Victoria University, known as Footscray University Town has achieved a number of valuable outcomes, including developing the free Wi-Fi network for central Footscray, planning for improved amenity and pedestrian friendly walking routes between the university campuses and central Footscray. Ms Gillings noted that in addition to these initiatives Council was also involved in the partnership to deliver the bi-annual Footscray Art Prize along with Footscray Community Arts and Footscray Rotary.

Ms Gillings further noted that Covid-19 has prevented a number of initiatives involving students, however Council did achieve a great activation of Maddern Square for children, designed by childcare students in between lockdowns. Council will focus on increasing the communications and engagement to better inform the community of these partnership initiatives into the future.

## 6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The purpose of this report was to present for confirmation, the minutes of the Council Meetings held on 19 October 2021 and 9 November 2021.

### Council Resolution

*That Council confirms the minutes of the Council Meetings held on 19 October 2021 and 9 November 2021.*

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam  
Seconded: Cr Simon Crawford

**CARRIED**

## 7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

### 7.1. Noting of the Confirmed Minutes of Delegated Committees

The purpose of this report was to present for noting the confirmed minutes of the Council's Delegated Committees established under section 63 and 64 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

### Council Resolution

*That Council notes the confirmed minutes of the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee held on 6 July 2021 and the City Development Delegated Committee held on 21 September 2021.*

Moved: Cr Michael Clarke  
Seconded: Cr Bernadette Thomas

**CARRIED**

## 8. PETITIONS

Nil.

## 9. OFFICER REPORTS

### 9.1. Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025

The purpose of this report was to brief Council on the Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025.

### Council Resolution

*That Council:*

*1. Endorses the Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025 and*

*releases it for public consultation.*

2. *Notes the recommendation in the draft policy, that Council request the Alliance for Gambling Reform to undertake a survey of its Leadership Councils, to determine the relationship between gaming venues, sports clubs and community organisations. This includes sponsorships, grants and subsidised venue hire.*
3. *Notes that Council will continue to develop the Gambling Alternatives Program as part of the implementation of the Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy.*

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas  
Seconded: Cr Simon Crawford

**CARRIED**

### **9.2. Community Grants Program Recommendations Report 2021-2022**

The purpose of this report was to present to Council the 2021-22 Community Grants Funding recommendations.

#### **Council Resolution**

*That Council endorse the 2021-22 Community Grants report and the funding recommendations it outlines.*

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam  
Seconded: Cr Simon Crawford

**CARRIED**

### **9.3. A Smart City for Smart Communities - Smart City Strategic Framework**

The purpose of this report was to present the draft Smart City for Smart Communities – Smart City Strategic Framework to Council for endorsement for public consultation.

#### **Council Resolution**

*That Council:*

1. *Endorse the draft Smart City for Smart Communities – Strategic Framework for public consultation for a period of four (4) weeks.*
2. *Note that a report on the outcome of the public consultation and a final version of the Smart City for Smart Communities – Strategic Framework will be provided to Council for consideration by March 2022.*

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas  
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

**CARRIED**

#### **9.4. Submission on Sustainability Victoria's Draft Strategy**

The purpose of this report was to submit feedback to Sustainability Victoria on its draft organisational strategy SV2030: A Decade of Action.

##### **Council Resolution**

*That Council approve the submission to Sustainability Victoria on its draft organisational strategy SV2030: A Decade of Action.*

Moved: Cr Simon Crawford  
Seconded: Cr Bernadette Thomas

**CARRIED**

#### **9.5. Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025**

The purpose of this report was to seek Council endorsement of the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021 – 2025 and its submission to the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR).

##### **Council Resolution**

*That Council endorse the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021 – 2025 and submit the plan to the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Region.*

Moved: Cr Sarah Carter  
Seconded: Cr Michael Clarke

**CARRIED**

#### **9.6. LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group**

The purpose of this report was to present the draft Terms of Reference for establishing the Maribyrnong LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group for consideration.

##### **Council Resolution**

*That Council:*

- 1. Endorse the draft Terms of Reference for the Maribyrnong LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group;*
- 2. Endorse an Expression of Interest process seeking candidates for the Maribyrnong LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group.*

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas  
Seconded: Cr Sarah Carter

**CARRIED**

Cr Crawford left the meeting at 7.27pm and returned at 7.29pm.

### **9.7. Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy**

The purpose of this report was to adopt the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy developed in accordance with section 45 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) and endorse the Terms of Reference of the Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Committee (*the Committee*).

#### **Council Resolution**

*That Council:*

- 1. In accordance with Section 45(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, adopts the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy at Attachment 1 of this report.*
- 2. Pursuant to the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy, endorses the Terms of Reference for the Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Advisory Committee at Attachment 2 of this report.*

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam  
Seconded: Cr Michael Clarke

**CARRIED**

Cr Lam left the meeting at 7.36pm.

### **9.8. Quarter 1 Performance And Financial Report - September 2021**

The purpose of this report was to present the First Quarter Performance Report on the Annual Council Action Plan 2021/2022 along with Council's financial operations and the Capital and Asset Improvement Program.

#### **Council Resolution**

*That Council notes the 2021/2022 First Quarter Performance and Financial report.*

Moved: Cr Simon Crawford  
Seconded: Cr Bernadette Thomas

**CARRIED**

Cr Lam returned to the meeting at 7.37pm.

### **9.9. Resident Permit Zone on Admiral Street and Bilston Street, Footscray**

The purpose of this report was to report the outcome of investigation in response to the petition submitted to Council to alter the existing parking restrictions to 'Permit Zone' parking restrictions in Admiral Street, Bilston Street and Buckley

Street, Footscray.

### **Council Resolution**

*That Council:*

1. *Requests the Chief Executive Officer delegate the authority to responsible officer to inform the leading petitioner of the outcome of the consultation.*
2. *Note the proposed review of Council's Parking Management Policy 2017 and Residential Parking Permit Policy 2014.*

Moved: Cr Simon Crawford  
Seconded: Cr Sarah Carter

**CARRIED**

Cr Thomas left the meeting at 7.43pm.

### **9.10. Councillor Appointments to Committees 2022**

The purpose of this report was to appoint Councillor Representatives to Council Advisory Committees and other external bodies for 2022.

### **Council Resolution**

*That Council approves the following Councillor appointments for 2022:*

- a) *Councillor Clarke as representative to the Brooklyn Community Reference Group.*
- b) *The Mayor, Councillor Crawford, Councillor Lam and Councillor Clarke as representatives to the Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Advisory Committee.*
- c) *The Mayor (ex-officio) and Councillor Carter from the River Ward, Councillor Lam from the Stony Creek Ward and Councillor Clarke from the Yarraville Ward as members of the Civic Awards Judging Panel.*
- d) *Councillor Clarke as representative to the Heritage Advisory Committee and Councillor Crawford as substitute.*
- e) *Councillor Thomas, Councillor Carter and Councillor Lam as representative to the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee.*
- f) *The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer as representatives, and Cr Crawford as proxy to the M9 Committee.*
- g) *Councillor Thomas as representative to the Maribyrnong Active Transport Advisory Committee and Councillor Crawford as substitute.*
- h) *Councillor Thomas and Councillor Carter as representative to the Maribyrnong Arts Ambassadors Committee.*
- i) *Councillor Clarke as representative to the Metropolitan Local Government Waste Forum, Councillor Lam as substitute and the Senior Coordinator Environmental Services as the staff representative.*
- j) *Councillor Crawford as representatives to the Metropolitan Transport Forum, Councillor Tran as substitute and Director Infrastructure Services*



- as the staff representative.*
- k) Councillor Clarke as representative to the Municipal Association of Victoria and Councillor Lam as substitute.*
  - l) Councillor Carter as representative to the Western Melbourne's Tourism Board and Councillor Lam as substitute.*
  - m) Councillor Lam as representative to the Victorian Local Governance Association and Councillor Carter as substitute.*
  - n) Councillor Jorquera and Councillor Tran as representative to the Youth Advisory Committee.*
  - o) Councillor Thomas and Councillor Carter as the Gender Equity Ambassadors.*

Moved: Cr Simon Crawford  
Seconded: Cr Michael Clarke

**CARRIED**

Cr Thomas returned to the meeting at 7.45pm.

### **9.11. Council and Delegated Committee Meeting Dates 2022**

The purpose of this report was to present the proposed schedule of dates for the 2022 calendar year for Council Meetings (including a Meeting of Council to elect the Mayor to be held in November), the City Development Delegated Committee, the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee and the LeadWest Joint Delegated Committees.

#### **Council Resolution**

*That Council:*

- 1. Approve the Meeting Schedule for the 2022 Council and Delegated Committee meetings as attached to this report.*
- 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to amend the 2022 Meeting Schedule as required, to cover for workload or other special circumstances.*
- 3. Request the Chief Executive Officer to ensure that the Schedule of Council Meetings and any meeting date changes are appropriately advertised in the local newspapers and Council's website.*

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam  
Seconded: Cr Michael Clarke

**CARRIED**

### **9.12. Governance Report - October 2021**

The purpose of this report was to receive and note the record of informal meetings of Councillors and Councillor delegates' for the period October 2021 as well as other statutory compliance and governance matters as they arise.

#### **Council Resolution**

*That Council notes the Governance Report containing the record of informal meetings of Councillors and Councillor Delegates' Reports for October 2021 which will be made available on Council's website for the term of the current Council.*

Moved: Cr Sarah Carter  
Seconded: Cr Michael Clarke

**CARRIED**

## **10. NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **10.1. Notice Of Motion: Afghan Refugees**

#### **Council Resolution**

*That Council writes to Senator the Hon Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs, calling on the Australian Government to:*

- a. Increase Australia's capacity and speed to evacuate as many people as possible at risk within Afghanistan due to the fact they have worked for, or assisted, the Australian Government and Australian organisations, as well as human rights defenders and women and girls who are now under threat.*
- b. Urge neighbouring governments in the region to keep their borders open for those fleeing Afghanistan.*
- c. Increase Australia's resettlement places for Afghan refugees by matching Canada's offer of 20,000 additional places. This would also send a strong message to the rest of the world, that ensuring the safety of Afghan people is a shared responsibility.*
- d. Immediately increase Australian aid to the region to support organisations within Afghanistan and in neighbouring countries assisting those who have fled.*
- e. Ensure that people whose asylum claims in Australia have been previously rejected be supported to submit new claims in the light of the changed circumstances in Afghanistan.*
- f. Provide much needed certainty to 4,300 Afghans currently on temporary protection visas by granting them permanent protection, given the situation in Afghanistan will remain volatile for years to come.*
- g. Assist Afghan Australians, including people with temporary and permanent visas, with urgent family reunion applications for relatives who are at particular risk. There is considerable national interest and support for Australia to take a leading role in responding to the crisis.*

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas  
Seconded: Cr Michael Clarke

**CARRIED**

### **10.2. Notice Of Motion: Nesting Box Program**

## **Council Resolution**

*That Council:*

- 1. Requests the Chief Executive Officer investigate the potential for council to support the preservation of native bird life through the development of a Nesting Box Program*
- 2. Receives a report in March 2022 outlining how such a program could be implemented, indicative costs, opportunities for "Friends of Groups" and the community to participate and the potential to engage in an advocacy program with other western region Council's to implement a regional wide program*

Moved: Cr Michael Clarke

Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

**CARRIED**

## **10.3. Notice Of Motion: Student Placement Program**

### **Council Resolution**

*That Council:*

- 1. Consider the inclusion of opportunities for local tertiary students who want to consider a career in local government to gain experience through a student placement program at Council.*
- 2. Work with Victoria University through the Footscray University Town partnership to advance student placements*
- 3. Request the Chief Executive Officer to formalise these opportunities in the Council workforce plan currently in preparation.*

Moved: Cr Anthony Tran

Seconded: Cr Michael Clarke

**CARRIED**

## **10.4. Notice Of Motion: Support for Early Childhood Vietnamese Bilingual Program and Advocacy**

### **Council Resolution**

*That Council:*

- 1. In acknowledgement of its December 2020 motion supporting 'community languages' and their importance for cultural literacy and multiculturalism, recognises the importance of concrete advocacy in this regard.*
- 2. Acknowledges that in the context of the loss of the Vietnamese bilingual program at Footscray Primary School, and the significant numbers of people of Vietnamese heritage in our LGA, Maribyrnong Council has a special responsibility to advocate in support of the Vietnamese community's language preservation.*

3. *Supports the efforts by the local community to develop Vietnamese-English bilingual language programs in educational settings in the City of Maribyrnong.*
4. *Will lend concrete support to the community not-for-profit organisation ViêtSpeak in its current objective of developing a Vietnamese-English bilingual language program in an early childhood setting in Braybrook, where 30 percent of the population speak Vietnamese at home.*
5. *Acknowledges the importance of these efforts to preserve community (heritage) languages as part of its #racismNOTwelcome campaign, adopted June 2021.*

Moved: Cr Jorge Jorquera  
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

**CARRIED**

**11. COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME**

Nil.

**12. URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil.

**13. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

Nil.

**14. MEETING CLOSURE**

The Chair, Mayor Cr Anthony Tran, declared the meeting closed at 8.37pm.



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To be confirmed at the Council Meeting  
to be held on 7 December, 2021.

Chair, Cr Anthony Tran