

**Maribyrnong City Council** 

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES** 

Tuesday 20 June, 2023 6.30pm

Community Hall Braybrook Community Hub 107–139 Churchill Avenue Braybrook

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

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

> To be confirmed at the Council Meeting to be held on 18 July, 2023

> > .

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# 1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING AND WELCOME

The meeting commenced at 6.39pm.

The Chair, Cr Sarah Carter 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".

Councillor Tran arrived at 6.41pm.

# PRESENT

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

# IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Executive Officer, Celia Haddock Director Community Services, Lucas Gosling Director Corporate Services, Lisa King Director Planning and Environment, Laura Jo Mellan Manager Governance and Commercial Services, Phil McQue Manager Assets and Capital, Steve Tierney Manager City Places, Ashley Minniti Acting Manager Community Development Positive Ageing and Inclusion, Craig Rogers Manager Finance, Mark Connor Governance Officer, Jessica Abela

# 2. APOLOGIES

Nil.

# 3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

# 4. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Jorquera disclosed a General Conflict of Interest in Item 9.1 Adoption of 2023/2024 Budget, due to a family member being associated with the 2023/2024 budget submission process.

Cr Crawford disclosed a Material Conflict of Interest in Item 9.2 West Footscray Inter-War and Post-war Heritage Precinct Study - Planning Scheme Amendment C172, due to owning a property within this precinct.

# 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Public Question Time commenced at 6.42pm and Council received 15 questions.

#### Bernie O'Connor

 My home in West Footscray is set to be affected by the proposed heritage overlay. But the reality is that my house does not reflect any long-standing heritage. The house has updated cladding, no chimney, and new glass features. It feels like my home is being swallowed up by a large overlay without any consideration of whether it is actually significant.

With examples like my home, how can Council say that this overlay is being applied carefully, and isn't just making it unfairly expensive for people to keep control of their own homes?

# **Response**

Council engaged professional expert heritage consultants to review each property individually during 2021. The expert and independent Planning Panel heard from submitters and Council as part of the public hearing process and found that the Amendment was strategically justified.

# <u>Han Thai</u>

- I have sent a video of 13 residents objecting the Heritage Overlay C172 to Cr Carter, Cr Lam, Cr Tran, Cr Clarke, Cr Jorquera & Cr Thomas. Did all the Councillors watch the short video to understand the concerns from the residents? If yes, which concerns raised by the residents in this video is the most memorable and why? If no, why did the Councillor not listen to the concerns of the people they are representing before the deciding vote today?
- 2. Is Council aware that this Heritage Overlay is likely in breach of the Planning & Environment Act 1987? This Act states that any amendments need to be "fair, orderly, economic and sustainable". There is definitely nothing fair, economic or sustainable in this Amendment C172. This Act also states "to balance the present and future interests of all Victorians" where is the balance?
  - Nothing was done to understand the "present interests" of the community.
  - No real evidence to prove this Heritage Overlay is in the best interest of the future. No Evidence. Just personal opinions from 2 consultants.

3. Are Council and Councillors aware that the affected homeowners in this Heritage Overlay have been suffering mentally, emotionally and financially in the past 18 months since the Interim Heritage Overlay was introduced? So why didn't the Council abandon this Heritage Overlay C172 in April 2022 after receiving a strong 75% Objections and only 16% supports? Why is Council so determined to force this Heritage Overlay on the 923 families?

# <u>Response</u>

The Heritage Overlay is one of many overlays which can be applied to properties in Victoria as part of the Victoria Planning Provisions. It is a lawful tool which both State and Local Governments can apply to individual properties or precincts. Through the Amendment process Council received submissions from residents both for and against the Amendment. Council as Planning Authority has a statutory obligation under s4(d) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 "to conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest."

As mentioned previously, Council has a statutory obligations to conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest.

The role of Council is to balance the present and future needs of its community to ensure net community benefit.

Council acknowledges that Amendment C172 has had an impact on the community, with those for and against the Amendment spending their own time in putting their positions forward. Council thanks the community for their input.

# Brian Sanderson

- 1. There has been quite a lot of commentary from those claiming to represent the community regarding Amendment C172. I and my neighbours support C172 as it will retain the character and charm of the area which we love. If C172 fails, what will Council do to preserve the area?
- 2. Given most of the negative commentary about C172 is from select precincts only, will Councillors consider only removing certain precincts?
- 3. Given Councils professional planning officers and a Planning Panel of experts have largely given the green light to C172, how can Councillors who do not have any professional qualifications in Town Planning even consider voting against C172?

# <u>Response</u>

Council will shortly be reviewing its Housing Strategy with a view to ensure it is based on contemporary data, state and local policy and fit for purpose. Part of

this review will include a review of Neighbourhood Character Strategy, as well as planning zones and overlays.

As this matter will be considered by Councillor tonight this question is not able to be answered as it may pre-empt an outcome.

Council Officers and the independent Planning Panel appointed by the Minister for Planning consider the merits of the amendment and provide a recommendation to Councillors. It is the role of Council pursuant to s28 and s29 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to consider this advice and resolve whether to adopt, adopt with changes or abandon the amendment.

# Con Constantinou

- 1. How much has Council spent in Total, to date, on the West Footscray Inter-war and Post-war Heritage - Planning Scheme Amendment C172? Can we please have a dollar value on Total Cost to Date (including Heritage Consultancy Costs for Heritage Reports and amendments to reports, Heritage Consultant and Legal Costs for Representation at Panel Hearing as well as any internal labour costs from Strategic Planning employees etc.) If unable to calculate internal costs please provide the value of third party costs for Heritage Consultancy and Legal Representation.
- 2. In relation to Amendment C172. Are Councillors aware that West Footscray only has 2,708 standalone houses (In accordance with the ABS 2021 Census) and that Heritage Listing around 900 of these means almost 34% of freestanding homes in West Footscray are proposed to be Heritage Listed?

# <u>Response</u>

The overall cost (excluding GST) of Amendment C172 legal and specialist heritage consultant fees is \$127,097 with a further \$81,528 paid to the State Government Planning Panels Victoria for conducting the hearing. Council officer time is separate to this and is not included in these figures.

Amendment C172 relates to land within West Footscray, as well as Footscray and Maidstone. As noted in a response to a previous question, C172 does not prohibit any type of development. The implementation of the Heritage Overlay allows Council to consider the impact a development may have on the streetscape and precinct.

Couples, families with children and lone person households are forecast to remain the dominant household type required for our growing population. It is important to ensure that the future needs of the community are met and no one cohort of the community is excluded from an area.

Newer development, such as townhouses and apartments are generally more compact and on smaller lots with 1-3 bedrooms. Preserving single family homes

that can be upgraded and extended will assist in ensuring a range of housing types and densities are provided within our municipality.

# Aman Gaur

 This question focuses on one key section of the Heritage Design Guidelines, which applies across precincts: "Residential rooftop solar energy facilities should not be located on the façade or roofs that are street facing." Also, solar panels not on street-facing elements of the building will require an additional permit, creating another expensive barrier for the community to implement more sustainable energy.

The Council has described this new Heritage Overlay as "strategically justified". How does the Council justify discouraging meaningful environmental action by its citizens during a climate crisis, for the sake of conserving aesthetics?

- 2. Heritage Alliance, the consultancy behind the proposed overlay, has a single priority: heritage. It is in their financial and ideological interest that this overlay be implemented. However, it is Council's responsibility to consider all effects this overlay will have. By turning more than 800 homes into a government-sanctioned museum exhibit, C172 will have ongoing effects on the ability for families to grow, and for people to move into the area for decades to come. This will reduce housing supply and push families out of Maribyrnong. During a housing crisis, how can Council justify implementing this overlay?
- 3. As Council is footing the bill for this whole process, you are already aware that heritage costs money. But those costs are not limited to just this process. If implemented, this new overlay will create administrative overhead as you are forced to consider additional permit applications, and will also place a financial burden on your constituents who want to make even minor alterations to their properties. What strategic justification does Council have for making it more expensive for their constituents to exercise agency over their own homes?

# <u>Response</u>

Council supports the installation and use of solar power to reduce reliance on the grid for electricity. If your solar panels are not be visible from the street or Public Park you do not need a planning permit, even if your property is located in a Heritage Overlay.

Where a planning permit is required for the installation of solar panels Council officers will work with property owners to find an appropriate location which balances heritage and environmentally sustainable design outcomes.

Council has published a list of frequently asked questions regarding Amendment C172 on its website which shows the efficiency of solar panels at various orientations and angles. Solar panels will have similar outputs at north, northeast, northwest and west, providing a range of options for installation.

C172 does not prohibit any type of development. The implementation of the Heritage Overlay allows Council to consider the impact a development may have on the streetscape and precinct. Many areas of the municipality, including parts of Footscray, Yarraville, Kingsville and Seddon, have Heritage Overlays and are able to be upgraded to meet the needs of occupants without unduly restricting improvements.

Council has a duty to implement the Planning and Environment Act 1987, which governs how all land in Victoria can be used and developed for the benefit of current and future communities. The Act specifies that council has a duty to protect and conserve heritage.

Couples, families with children and lone person households are forecast to remain the dominant household type required for our growing population. It is important to ensure that the future needs of the community are met and no one cohort of the community is excluded from an area.

Newer development, such as townhouses and apartments are generally more compact and on smaller lots with 1-3 bedrooms. Preserving single homes that can be upgraded and extended will assist in ensuring a range of housing types and densities are provided within our municipality.

The Planning and Environment Act 1987 is the primary piece of legislation in Victoria which guides land use and development. The purpose of the Act is to establish a framework for planning the use, development and protection of land in Victoria in the present and long-term interests of all Victorians.

The role of Council is to balance the present and future needs of its community to ensure net community benefit

# EXTENSION OF PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

#### That Council extend Public Question Time for a further 15 minutes.

| Moved:    | Cr Anthony Tran   |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Seconded: | Cr Michael Clarke |

CARRIED

Public Question Time was extended at 6.57pm.

#### Vas Banschikov

1. Why would Council not support removing all of the Summerhill Rd precinct? Money better spent on fixing this road. Drivers along the road a focusing on avoiding the abundance of road defects, traffic and pedestrians, rather than viewing the houses with perceived heritage value.

- 2. Why would Council not support the removal of Laughton's Post-war Residential Precinct, given the modern developments in the vicinity and the houses recommended to be listed as heritage, lack the chimney and other detail, as well as not being part of the original foundry subdivision?
- 3. Why does Council support retaining the heritage of shopfronts on Sunshine Road Tottenham, given they are opposite the brutalist - style train station, which fragments the road scape and does not keep the consistency the perceived heritage?

# <u>Response</u>

Council officers support the Panel recommendation to retain the heritage overlay on the eastern side of Summerhill Road and Coral Avenue as they are relatively intact, good examples of inter-war housing. The panel recommended that the properties on the western side of Summerhill Road should be removed as the precinct appears to have limited intactness and fragmented. Council officers support the Panel's recommendation.

The upgrading and maintenance of Summerhill Road is a separate matter and will be considered as part of Council's renewal works.

Submitters in this precinct had the opportunity to raise concerns during the Amendment process and could present if they chose to the independent planning panel.

The Panel found that the precinct meets the threshold of local significant and that all the housing to be intact.

The group of shops make a key contribution to the overall significance of the Tottenham Precinct and depict an important part of the City's cultural history. The shops and public open space areas represent important elements of the urban design and settlement pattern of the original masterplan for the precinct.

The shops present an intact example of a period of community development close to workplaces in the western suburbs of Melbourne.

Public Question Time closed at 7.02pm.

# 6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

# 6. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Council Meeting - 16 May 2023

The purpose of this report was to present for confirmation, the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16 May 2023.

# **Council Resolution**

That Council confirms the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16 May 2023.

Moved: Cr Anthony Tran Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

# 7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Nil.

# 8. PETITIONS

Nil.

#### 9. OFFICER REPORTS

Councillor Jorquera left the meeting at 7.04pm.

#### 9.1. Adoption of the 2023/2024 Annual Budget

The purpose of this report was to Council to adopt the 2023/2024 Annual Budget and Striking of the Rate.

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council:

- 1. a) Note the submissions received in response to the Proposed Budget 2023/2024 and resolve to include the following in the 2023/2024 Budget;
  - \$6,000 for West Footscray Neighbourhood House once of single year additional funding, to support the works of Maribyrnong Toy Library; and
  - \$30,000 for Australian Multicultural Community Services (AMCS) once of funding for the delivery of the Community Wellbeing Ambassadors Hub, in recognition of the proposed program offering a significant increase to the service offering in Maribyrnong, currently not being offered.
  - b) Thank and notify submitters in writing of the outcomes of the Proposed Budget 2023/2024 submission process.

| Moved:    | Cr Michael Clarke    |
|-----------|----------------------|
| Seconded: | Cr Bernadette Thomas |

#### CARRIED

Councillor Jorquera returned to the meeting at 7.08pm.

#### **Council Resolution**

#### That Council:

- 2. Adopts the Annual Budget 2023/2024 and the subsequent three years, including adjustments, as set out in Attachment 1 in accordance with Sections 94 and 96 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and as defined by the Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2020;
- 3. In accordance with Section 158 and 161 of the *Local Government Act* 1989 declares:
  - a. \$110,459,396 as the amount which Council intends to raise by

general rates and charges.

- b. The general rate be raised by the application of differential rates.
- c. The following differential rates for the rating period commencing 1 July 2023 and ending 30 June 2024:
  - General rate for rateable residential properties (100%) 0.00251733 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value (CIV).
  - General rate for rateable commercial properties (135%) 0.00339800 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value (CIV).
  - General rate for rateable industrial properties (160%) 0.00402800 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value (CIV).
  - General rate for rateable vacant land residential (200%) 0.00503500 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value (CIV).
  - General rate for rateable vacant land commercial (300%) 0.00755200 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value (CIV).
  - General rate for rateable vacant land industrial (300%) 0.00755200 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value (CIV).
  - General rate for rateable cultural and recreational properties (60%) – 0.00151000 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value (CIV).
- 4. In accordance with Section 159 of the *Local Government Act 1989* declare a Municipal Charge of \$20.00 for each rateable property for the rating period commencing 1 July 2023 and ending 30 June 2024.
- 5. In accordance with Section 162 of the *Local Government Act 1989* declare a waste management service charge for waste collection and disposal on each rateable property and non-rateable properties, where the service is provided for the period commencing 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.
  - a. Waste Management charge 1 2 services \$292.30
  - b. Waste Management charge 2 3 services \$352.30
- 6. Grants a rebate in relation to rates to all City of Maribyrnong residents eligible to receive a concession through the State Government Municipal Rates Concession Scheme, with \$211 being the maximum.
- 7. In accordance with Section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989* grants a rebate of 50% on the vacant residential land rate, upon application, on condition that the Certificate of Occupancy Permit is issued within 18 months of the completed building demolition and allow a further six month extension to pandemic related delays.

- 8. In accordance with Section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, grants a rebate of 50% on the vacant residential land rate, upon application, for a development impacted by a construction company being placed into administration on condition that the Certificate of Occupancy Permit is issued within 48 months of the completed building demolition.
- 9. In accordance with Section 169 of the Local Government Act 1989;
  - a. grants a rebate of 50% on the first and second quarter Rates and Municipal Charges (excluding the State Government Fire Service Levy), upon application, for identified flood affected properties; and
  - b. grants a rebate of 50% on the vacant residential land rate, upon application, for identified flood affected properties, on condition the Certificate of Occupancy Permit is issued within 24 months of the completed building demolition.
- 10. Notes that interest on unpaid rates will be charged in accordance with section 172 of the *Local Government Act* 1989 (currently 10%).

| Moved:    | Cr Michael Clarke |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Seconded: | Cr Anthony Tran   |

Cr Crawford left the meeting at 7:24 pm.

# 9.2. West Footscray Inter-war and Post-war Heritage Precinct Study -Planning Scheme Amendment C172

The purpose of this report was to present the West Footscray and Surrounds Heritage Precincts Planning Panel Report (Amendment C172), and to recommend Amendment C172 to the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme be adopted with changes and submitted to the Minister for Planning for approval.

# **Council Resolution**

#### That Council:

- 1. Consider the Amendment C172 Panel Report (as detailed in Attachment 1) and resolves to abandon Amendment C172 pursuant to Section 27 of the *Planning and Environment Act* 1987 for the following reasons:
  - Financial impacts on property owners outweigh the benefits associated with heritage protection in this instance.
- 2. Notify the Minister for Planning in writing of Council's decision and reasons for abandoning Amendment C172 pursuant to Section 28(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act* 1987.
- 3. Request the Minister for Planning prepare and approve an amendment to the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme under Section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act* 1987 to remove the interim Heritage Overlay that was applied to precincts via Amendment C173.

Moved: Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam Cr Jorge Jorquera

CARRIED

Cr Crawford returned to the meeting at 07:46 pm.

#### Cr Thomas left the meeting at 07:46 pm.

#### 9.3. Intercultural Maribyrnong Strategy

The purpose of this report was to present the draft Intercultural Maribyrnong Strategy to Council for consideration and seek approval to release the document for public consultation.

Cr Thomas returned to the meeting at 07:48 pm.

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council:

- 1. Note the progress to date on the development of the draft Intercultural Maribyrnong Strategy;
- 2. Approve the release of the draft Intercultural Maribyrnong Strategy for public consultation; and
- 3. Note that officers intend to present the final version of the document to Council for adoption by October 2023.

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam Seconded: Cr Jorge Jorquera

# 9.4. Medicinal Cannabis Feasibility Report

The purpose of this report was to report on the findings of the Medicinal Cannabis potential project feasibility, inclusive of commercial and legal due diligence and a preliminary assessment of Council's risk exposure, as per the Notice of Motion resolved at the 14 September 2021 Council Meeting and subsequent report resolved at the 15 March 2022 Council Meeting.

# **Council Resolution**

That Council:

- 1. Note the findings of the Medicinal Cannabis Feasibility and Risk Assessment research;
- 2. Resolve to not proceed with the establishment of an enterprise with the objective of cultivating, producing and manufacturing medicinal cannabis, or any other involvement in the medicinal cannabis industry; and
- 3. Note that the 14 September 2021 Notice of Motion 'Alternative Revenue Generation Proposal' has now been investigated and closed.

Moved: Seconded: Cr Michael Clarke Cr Anthony Tran

# 9.5. Saltriver Place Carpark, Footscray

The purpose of this report was to update Council of findings and community feedback received during the recent engagement on the proposal to convert the existing unsealed carpark in Saltriver Place to grassed open space.

# **Council Resolution**

That Council:

- 1. Note the feedback received from the community on the option to transform the existing unsealed carpark into open space; and
- 2. Endorse the transformation of the unsealed public carpark next to 2 Saltriver Place, Footscray to grassed open space

| Moved:    | Cr Simon Crawford |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Seconded: | Cr Anthony Tran   |

# 9.6. Bike Sports Infrastructure and Development Plan - Community Feedback on Draft and Recommendations for Implementation

The purpose of this report was to Council to consider adoption of the draft Bike Sports Infrastructure Development Plan following community feedback on the draft plan.

# **Council Resolution**

That Council:

- 1. Note the community feedback received on the draft Bike Sports Infrastructure Development Plan;
- 2. Endorse the Bike Sports Infrastructure Development Plan; and
- 3. Refer the actions in the Bike Sports Infrastructure Development Plan for future budget consideration and due diligence consideration.

Moved: Seconded: Cr Michael Clarke Cr Anthony Tran

# 9.7. Proposed Lease for Randall Street Kindergarten, Maribyrnong

The purpose of this report was to seek Council's approval to commence the statutory procedures under the *Local Government Act 2020* (Act) for the proposed lease of Randall Street Kindergarten, Maribyrnong Community Centre, 9 Randall Street, Maribyrnong to Try Australia Children's Services (trading as Sparkways Early Learning).

# **Council Resolution**

- 1. That Council, under section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (Act):
  - a. authorises the Chief Executive Officer or their delegate to commence the required statutory procedures to consider entering into the lease;
  - authorise the community engagement process in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy, pursuant to section 115 of the Act, involve public notice of the proposed lease in a local newspaper, on Council's website and sent to surrounding properties;
  - c. notes that the public notice will state the following proposed lease terms:
    - (i) Tenant: Try Australia Children's Services (trading as Sparkways Early Learning)
    - (ii) Premises: Randall Street Kindergarten, Maribyrnong Community Centre, 9 Randall Street, Maribyrnong
    - (iii) Term: 5 years
    - (i) Rental: \$199 per year
    - (ii) Rental Increases: 3% increase per annum.
    - (iii) Permitted Use: Three (3) and Four (4) year old Kindergarten and any other early years' service or community activities approved in writing by Council and in accordance with the Service Agreement and any applicable town planning permit.
  - d. authorises the Chief Executive Officer or their delegate to undertake the administrative procedures necessary to enable Council to carry out its functions required under section 115 of the Act in relation to this matter; and
  - e. notes that the public notice is for a minimum period of 28 days and provides the option for any submitters to request as part of their written submission to be heard by a Committee consisting of the whole of Council on Tuesday 29 of August, 2023 at 6:30pm, if required.
- 2. Notes that once all submissions forming part of the community engagement process pursuant to section 115 of the Act have been considered, a further report will be presented to Council to decide whether or not to enter into the proposed lease.

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam Seconded: Cr Simon Crawford

# 9.8. Governance Report - May 2023

The purpose of this report was to receive and note the record of informal meetings of Councillors and Councillor delegates' for May 2023, as well as other statutory compliance and governance matters.

# **Council Resolution**

That Council notes the May 2023 Governance Report containing the record of informal meetings of Councillors and Councillor Delegates' Reports, to be made available on Council's website for the term of the current Council.

Moved: Seconded: Cr Bernadette Thomas Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

# 10. NOTICES OF MOTION

# 10.1. Notice Of Motion: 2023/05: Mental Health in the City of Maribyrnong

That Council:

- 1. Acknowledges the current and emerging mental health crisis, particularly amongst younger and vulnerable Victorians;
- 2. Notes that the impacts of COVID-19, along with cost of living impacts has added significant psychological distress to some members of the community;
- 3. Recognises the current and planned investments in mental health support and services by the Victorian Government that have resulted from the Royal Commission into mental health, but nonetheless;
- 4. Calls on the Victorian Government to conduct an enquiry into the psycho-social impacts of COVID-19, and in particular, the effects that necessary lockdown measures undertaken have impacted on community; and
- 5. Asks the Victorian Government to consider additional measures and funding to invest in community resilience, psychological and material support to mitigate identified impacts.

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council:

- 1. Acknowledges the current and emerging mental health crisis, particularly amongst younger and vulnerable Victorians;
- 2. Notes that the impacts of COVID-19, along with cost of living impacts has added significant psychological distress to some members of the community;
- 3. Recognises the current and planned investments in mental health support and services by the Victorian Government that have resulted from the Royal Commission into mental health, but nonetheless;
- 4. Calls on the Victorian Government to conduct an enquiry into the psychosocial impacts of COVID-19, and in particular, the effects that necessary lockdown measures undertaken have impacted on community; and
- 5. Asks the Victorian Government to consider additional measures and funding to invest in community resilience, psychological and material support to mitigate identified impacts.

| Moved:    | Cr Michael Clarke |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Seconded: | Cr Anthony Tran   |

CARRIED

# 11. COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Councillor Question Time opened at 8.38pm

Cr Bernadette Thomas requested the Mayor to provide an overview of Council's meeting with Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, Hon Ged Kearney MP.

The Mayor advised that the Chief Executive Officer, Director Planning and Environment met with the Assistant Minister to provide a briefing on air quality in Maribyrnong, and particularly respiratory diseases and rates of asthma that are 117% above the national average for young people.

The Mayor advised that Minister Kearney referred Maribyrnong City Council to a climate piece of work as to what we can be doing to achieve better industry standards and reduce submissions through different types of fuel. This fits in very closely with what we are doing with the health emergency in Maribyrnong and trying to reduce those presentations at hospital and the respiratory rates.

Minister Kearney also advised that there was potential to work with the Hon Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development in the future to look at industry standards and potential trial given the intersection of climate and health.

Councillor Question Time closed at 8.43pm.

#### 12. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

# 13. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

**13.1 Chief Executive Officer – Interim Performance Review** 

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council resolve to close the meeting to the public pursuant to Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020 to discuss Item 13.1 Chief Executive Officer Interim Performance Review.

Moved: Cr Anthony Tran Seconded: Cr Bernadette Thomas

#### CARRIED

The meeting was closed to the public at 8.45pm.

#### **Council Resolution**

#### That Council re-open the meeting to the public.

| Moved:    | Cr Simon Crawford |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Seconded: | Cr Anthony Tran   |

#### CARRIED

The meeting was re-opened to the public at 8.49pm.

#### 14. MEETING CLOSURE

The Chair, Cr Sarah Carter, declared the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

To be confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 18 July, 2023. Chair, Cr Sarah Carter