

Maribyrnong City Council

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday 20 August, 2024 6.30pm

Community Hall Braybrook Community Hub 107–139 Churchill Avenue Braybrook

MEMBERSHIP

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

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Agenda Item 6.1

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING - 23 JULY 2024

Director:	Lisa King Director Corporate Services
Author:	George Ioannou Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services

PURPOSE

To present for confirmation, the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23 July 2024.

ISSUES SUMMARY

• The Maribyrnong City Council Governance rules requires Council to keep minutes of each meeting of the Council and Delegated Committees, and for minutes to be submitted to the next appropriate meeting for confirmation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Unconfirmed Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 23 July, 2024 😃 🖺

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirms the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23 July 2024.

Agenda Item 6.1

BACKGROUND

The minutes of meetings remain unconfirmed until the next appropriate meeting of Council.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES

1. Key Issues

Council's Governance Rules requires Council to confirm its minutes at the next appropriate meeting.

2. Council Policy/Legislation

Council Plan 2021-2025

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

• Ethical leadership - lead our changing city using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making and well-planned, effective collaboration to support economic growth during the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and beyond.

Legislation

Local Government Act 2020.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.*

3. Engagement

Nil.

4. Resources

Nil.

5. Environment

Nil.

CONCLUSION

The unconfirmed minutes of the Council Meeting held on 23 July 2024 are presented for confirmation.

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES



COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 23 July, 2024 6.30pm

Community Hall Braybrook Community Hub 107–139 Churchill Avenue Braybrook

MEMBERSHIP

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

> To be confirmed at the Council Meeting on 20 August, 2024

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1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING AND WELCOME

The meeting commenced at 6:32pm.

The Chair, Cr Cuc Lam 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 Cuc Lam (Chair) Councillor Sarah Carter Councillor Michael Clarke Councillor Simon Crawford Councillor Jorge Jorquera Councillor Anthony Tran (from 6.40pm onwards) Councillor Bernadette Thomas (online – left meeting at 8.32pm)

IN ATTENDANCE

Acting Chief Executive Officer, Lucas Gosling Director Infrastructure Services, Patrick Jess Director Corporate Services, Lisa King Acting Director Community Services, Melissa Eastwood Acting Director Planning and Environment, Fran O'Brien Manager Governance and Commercial Services, Phil McQue Coordinator Governance, Christopher Southavong Governance Officer, Michelle McCulloch

2. APOLOGIES

Nil.

3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

4. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Public Question Time commenced at 6:34pm and 35 questions were received.

Abu Zaid asked the following questions:

1. I am writing to bring to your attention an issue I have observed as a regular driver on Ballarat Road. The Liberty Petrol station located at 199 Ballarat Rd, Maidstone, often causes traffic congestion on Ballarat Road due to vehicles queuing to enter the petrol station. I spoke with the supervisor at Liberty and inquired why customers are not permitted to use the Whittaker Street entrance. He informed me that the council has not granted permission for this entrance to be used. I am requesting that the council reconsider this decision and allow access to the petrol pump from Whittaker Street. This change would significantly improve safety and traffic flow on Ballarat Road, especially during peak hours. I urge the council to visit the site and assess the situation to make a decision that benefits the safety and convenience of our community. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

<u>Response:</u>

The Director Infrastructure Services advised that access to and from Ballarat Road is under the management of the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) and the decision to allow access on Ballarat Road and to restrict access to the petrol station from Whittaker Street was made through the planning process which was previously endorsed by DTP.

Following the issues you have raised, Council officers will investigate and discuss with the DTP possible remedial actions if appropriate.

Blair Mather asked the following questions:

1. Condition 17 of permit TP322/2020 (Whitten Oval Redevelopment) stipulates that access to Whitten Oval and Spurling Reserve must remain open to the public at all times except for approved match days. It is noted, however, that access to Whitten Oval is provided intermittently and is restricted more that 50% of the time. For example on Sunday 23/06 access was fully restricted. Access is also restricted daily between 18:00 and 07:00.

Could you please confirm that the above condition is still valid and what actions Council is taking to ensure that the condition is upheld?

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<u>Response:</u>

The Acting Director Planning and Environment Services advised that Planning Permit TP322/2020 was issued in January 2021 permitting the redevelopment of Whitten Oval, including the major sports and recreation facility. The redevelopment is almost complete with access to Spurling Reserve now open and unfenced along Barkly Street.

Regarding condition 17, the Western Bulldogs have confirmed that, except for match days, the oval is open to the public from 7.00am daily and closes at 6.00pm, or at 8.00pm during daylight saving. Council officers have advised the Western Bulldogs that this arrangement does not comply with their obligations under the planning permit and are working towards full compliance.

Corey Phillips asked the following questions:

1. Recently, no standing zones were placed in the area of Dickson St, which has resulted in quite a number of residents parking in Queensville St (one street further). This has unfortunately congested an already congested area, and has led to residents letting their frustrations out on each other. Community members have had their car "keyed" and smeared mud over their car because they're unable to park anywhere else. Can the no standing zone placed on Dickson Street be removed?

Response:

The Director Infrastructure Services advised that earlier this year, an investigation of traffic and parking arrangements at this location was undertaken following requests from local residents to improve traffic safety outcomes within the street.

A recommended solution was developed and notification of the proposed parking changes was shared with residents during March 2024. 'No Standing' restrictions were recently installed following broad support from adjacent residents. Council thanks you for providing an update on parking issues in Queensville Street that may have been affected due to the safety improvements implemented in Dickson Street. Council officers would be pleased to meet you on-site to discuss this issue further to seek a solution.

Cr Tran joined the meeting at 6:40 pm.

2. If question one cannot be fulfilled, can parking lines be placed along Queensville Street to ensure ordered parking as some residents space their cars in a fashion that prevents others from parking.

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<u>Response:</u>

The Director Infrastructure Services advised that line marking parking bays within local and residential streets is generally not implemented as it often results in reduced car park numbers. However, Officers will consider this as part of a potential solution.

3. 2P parking signs will most certainly exacerbate the current circumstances, so I ask that this option be omitted. However, is there other methods that have been applied in other areas that may resolve this issue? Thank you for your time and considering my questions.

Response:

The Director Infrastructure Services noted that Council officers would be pleased to discuss this issue further at an on-site meeting.

Jenny Harrison asked the following questions:

1. What was the process the Council took in deciding on Yarraville Gardens toilet block as the site for the City of Maribyrnong's first Changing Places Facility?

Response:

The Acting Director Planning and Environment Services advised the Maribyrnong Public Toilet Plan 2019-2029 sets out Council's priorities for new and upgraded public toilet facilities across the municipality. The Yarraville Gardens public toilet is identified in the Plan as being at the end of its life and requiring renewal.

Council was successful in obtaining a grant from the State Government of \$180,000 towards the cost of construction of a Changing Places facility, with Yarraville Gardens seen as an ideal location for the City's first Changing Places facility given its high utilisation and accessible location.

Cr Tran left the meeting at 06:43 pm.

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2. What consultation was undertaken with the users of Changing Places Facilities?

Response:

The Acting Director Planning and Environment Services noted that Council's Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) received a presentation on the plans for the project in September 2023.

The DAC members were asked to provide feedback on the concept design and their feedback was incorporated into the final design. Council also directly engaged with specialist schools and disability service providers in the area who responded favourably to the project as part of the consultation process.

No concerns were raised with respect to the proposed location, however, some feedback did also emphasise the need for more facilities across Maribyrnong. Council agrees that our municipality requires more changing places facilities, with the one at Yarraville Gardens intended to be the first of several such facilities across the City.

Public consultation was undertaken in October/November 2023 as part of the Yarraville Gardens Precinct Master Plan. Three onsite drop-in sessions were held with Council officers in attendance to answer questions from the community. Feedback was also sought via Council's online feedback tool – Your City Your Voice. Again, no concerns were raised with respect to the proposed location of the Changing Places facility.

3. Are you willing to reconsider the decision and look at other locations for the Changing Places Facility?

Response:

The Acting Director Planning and Environment Services advised the construction contract has been awarded for the Yarraville Gardens project, with construction to commence shortly. Accordingly the location will not be reconsidered.

<u>Lisel Thomas, on behalf of Maribyrnong Truck Action Group, asked the</u> <u>following questions:</u>

1. Why has Council not taken the opportunity include in its submission to the update of the Victorian Freight Plan all freight related advocacy to State Government matters outlined in Council's own Air Quality Improvement Plan, including but not limited to advocacy for a truck ban on Williamstown Road, a call for regular air quality monitoring, and proposed changes to state planning legislation?

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<u>Response:</u>

The Director Infrastructure Services advised Council continues to advocate separately to Government for initiatives identified in Council's Air Quality Improvement Plan.

This submission does not specifically identify individual roads, but promotes a more broader integrated approach to transport and land-use planning to best manage impacts on the general public and businesses. We will continue to work with Freight Victoria to get the best outcomes for Maribyrnong and Melbourne's West in the Government's Update to the Victorian Transport Plan.

Cr Tran returned to the meeting at 6:46 pm.

2. Is Council willing to include in its submission to the Victorian Freight Plan review a statement that Council does not support any increase in the number of High-Productivity Freight Vehicles (HPFVs) on residential streets like Williamstown Road and Moore Street, and a statement that the Plan should roll back previous access approvals to protect these residents from the harmful impacts of freight?

Response:

The Director Infrastructure Services advised Council's submission on the Update to the Victorian Freight Plan provides support for the banning of large freight trucks on six key roads when the West Gate Tunnel opens including use of enforcement cameras and freight industry education on road access arrangements. This will include truck bans, day and night, on Francis Street and Somerville Road in Yarraville, and Buckley Street and Moore Street in Footscray.

This is an initial engagement with Freight Victoria and we will continue to promote further improvements to the transport network as the Update to the Victorian Freight Plan proceeds and Council progresses development of a new Integrated Transport Strategy for the municipality.

EXTENSION OF PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Public Question Time extended at 6:48pm.

A motion was moved by Cr Michael Clarke, seconded by Cr Anthony Tran, That Council extend Pubic Question Time for a further 15 minutes.

CARRIED

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3. Is Council able to provide any further insight into why Council's motion put to the Australian Local Government Association 2024 National General Assembly in relation to the provision of programs and initiatives addressing air pollution was not passed?

Response:

The Director Infrastructure Services noted the majority of the Member Council's did not support Maribyrnong Council's motion calling for action on air pollution as there was a view that a number of the actions and initiatives proposed are already implemented in various parts of Australia.

Clint Lingard asked the following questions:

1. The Lae Street (West Footscray) site showed the first signs of real works commencement in early July 2024. According to Council's last communication, the works were to commence in February 2024 and end before July 2024. Also the map and works description given earlier indicated substantially more improvement works than what appears in current map design information corflute signs hanging at the site. Can Council please confirm all the current works envisaged for the final site works, explain any differences (and reasons) between the original plans and current plans, and provide an explanation for the delays in work commencement/completion?

Response:

The Director Infrastructure Services noted that this project will be delivered in stages. Council has supported the delivery of works at the former Lae Street Nursery site with funding in last years budget and again in this year's budget.

The works have been guided by the Lae Street Nursery Concept Plan that was endorsed by Council at the December 2023 Council Meeting. The Stage 1 works include new turf, irrigation, a gathering circle, new paths and trees and will conclude in September 2024. The community was informed of the works via a letterbox drop and onsite signs that link to a project page on Council's website.

The turf works were delayed by a month due to weather, to enable better establishment. Officers are currently working through the Stage 2 scope of works and have engaged the Bunorong Land Corporation to support the development of the scope. The community will continue to be informed through the project page on Council's website. The Stage 2 scope of works are likely to commence in April 2025.

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2. Cruickshank Park, the Stony Creek park area between Paramount Rd and Roberts Street, and Footscray Cemetery are lovely treed areas with some native shrubs and grasses, but there seems to be limited deliberately planted flowered areas. What plans does Council have in the future to beautify these spaces for greater resident amenity?

Could Council plant more native flowering bushes, shrubs, and native grasses in these specific spaces and perhaps planter boxes of the same in other shop strips and village mall sites?

Response:

The Director Infrastructure Services advised Council's annual program includes planting thousands of plants in the open spaces alongside the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek.

Council coordinated a planting day in Cruikshank Park last weekend and with national tree day this week end we hope to plant over 4000 trees, many of which are understory plantings. The trees, shrubs, grasses and ground covers selected for planting are native and/or preferably indigenous plants to promote biodiversity and withstand both long dry periods and depending on the location, inundation when these waterways flood as Stony Creek often does.

3. In the current economic climate, and considering residents with greater transport access needs and mobility needs, could Council consider operating a limited but free community bus service to allow residents to more easily get to significant Council sites like offices and chambers, libraries and sporting facilities (Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre), as well as shopping strips and village mall centres, and other transport hubs?

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Response:

The Acting Director Community Services advised Council currently provides a Community Transport Service to assist older people and people with disability to remain actively connected with their local communities.

The service aims to assist eligible residents to continue with their usual activities, such as attending social groups, shopping or medical appointments enabling them to stay well, active, and socially connected.

The service is designed to support independence and access to a range of community activities including short trips to shopping centres, community centres and social outings.

Residents currently receive weekly or fortnightly services within the Community Transport Service schedules. These transport arrangements are designed to align with programs, services and community facilities offered by Council.

This service is a fully funded Council program, and we welcome opportunities to improve and strengthen greater access for residents to significant Council sites in the community.

Fletcher Bubb asked the following questions:

- 1. Regarding the Maribyrnong Council Civic Precinct and Community Hub Redevelopment
 - a) What is the current forecast total cost-to-complete this Project (including interest, holding and soft costs)? (Originally reported cost was \$39 million)
 - b) When will this project be fully delivered and opened? (Originally reported completion/opening date was in late 2024)

We would appreciate more information and timely updates on the project completion. It would appear that the council websites has not been updated since early 2023.

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

<u>Response:</u>

The Acting Chief Executive Officer advised the project budget is comprised of the following:

- Construction Contract: \$39.8M
- Contingency: \$3.2M
- Permits/approvals/Consultants/Admin/ Loan Servicing: \$5.5M

Representing a total budget of \$48.5M

The project remains on budget and is on target for completion in late 2024.

The website provides the community with progress reports and was last updated on 10 May 2024.

2. Regarding Macpherson Street North : Tree Planting

This project is now in its 20th month, still without an approved landscape plan. Council officers have previously provided targeted milestone dates that have now long past. Macpherson Street North currently has dead and dying trees, with decades worth of trees having been pulled out and paved over without replacement.

When will the Council approve the Macpherson Street North landscape plan for release to the public? When will works commence on the Tree Planting of Macpherson Street North?

We request hard target dates for project management and task actioning.

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

<u>Response:</u>

The Director Infrastructure Services advised Council will engage with residents of Macpherson Street on a proposed Landscape Plan in August. Providing residents support the plan, the works, including tree removal and tree planting, will commence in September.

Deborah Rouse asked the following questions:

1. In relation to the cat containment/ curfew survey, has the council team considered the findings and recommendations from the Banyule Council researched program on the benefits of free desexing programs?

Response:

The Acting Director Planning and Environment Services advised the current cat containment and curfew survey has recently closed and staff are reviewing the results from this important community engagement program. The Animal Management Team regularly consult with other councils around any insights that may drive improvements to our program at Maribyrnong and are aware of the program at Banyule City Council. We have recently applied for a grant with the Department of Agriculture to implement a subsidised or free cat desexing program. We are awaiting the outcome of this application.

Maribyrnong City Council values the role pets play in the community and our programs reflect caring and responsible management of roaming or stray cats. We seek to work with all stakeholders to ensure that the lessons from Banyule and other council areas where similar policies have been employed inform the program at Maribyrnong. We will continue to employ this approach where we seek to reunite lost cats with their owners and encourage responsible pet ownership and the rehoming of cats while protecting the safety of the community.

Cr Crawford left the meeting at 7:06 pm.

2. Under the Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP), will ongoing support for community cat rescuers who are saving & rehoming pets who have been abandoned (roaming) be established and how will the council ensure cat haters are not incited to deem roaming cats as illegal and therefore open to attack/harm/cruelty? Cat rescuers and the semi owned cats (colonies) deserve to be safe in the community.

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Response:

The Acting Director Planning and Environment Services responded by recognising the opportunity to involve community cat rescue teams and foster providers to add a stronger dimension to our program. This is currently being explored and likely to be formalised in the next Domestic Animal Management Plan. This will further build on our already strong program operated through the Lost Dogs Home which supports and re-homes lost animals in the community, including cats.

As part of any changes made to cat curfew rules, there will be an education program to ensure the community are aware of changes to council laws and our Animal Management Officers will continue to work with the community to ensure a safe environment.

Harrison Nathan asked the following questions:

1. Can Council reconsider the cat curfew - which will kill more wildlife, not less, and instead implement a Community Cat Program? Cat curfews raise costs six-times more to all residents. Scientific evidence shows cat-curfews fail.

<u>Response:</u>

The Acting Director Planning and Environment Services responded as previously noted, the current cat containment and curfew survey has recently closed and staff are reviewing the results from this important community engagement program.

Investigating a cat curfew is an action identified in Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021/25 to ensure that cats in our City remain healthy and safe.

Cr Crawford returned to the meeting at 7:08 pm.

2. What will Maribyrnong Council do to aid/fund feline rescuers? They spend many hours, including out in the early hours, and strive to raise funds, to save, home, and treat animals. Can Council start paying for necessary vet treatments, de-sexing, for the rising number of homeless kittens?

EXTENSION OF PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Public Question Time extended at 7:09pm.

A motion was moved by Cr Sarah Carter, seconded by Cr Michael Clarke, That Council extend Pubic Question Time for a further 15 minutes.

CARRIED

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Response:

The Acting Director Planning and Environment Services responded that as previously noted, Council recognises the opportunity to involve community cat rescue teams and foster providers to add a stronger dimension to our program. This is currently being explored and likely to be formalised in the next Domestic Animal Management Plan. This will further build on our already strong program operated through the Lost Dogs Home which supports and re-homes lost animals in the community.

As part of any changes made to cat curfew rules, there will be an education program to ensure the community are aware of changes to council laws and our Animal Management Officers will continue to work with the community to ensure a safe environment.

2. What is Maribyrnong Council doing to prevent hate-speech and hate-crimes towards felines; as well as females? False names of "feral" and "crazy cat lady" are rising, along with threats of shooting, hunting, maiming, if seen on the street. What is Council doing for equality? Dogs can go shopping, drink in street cafes and pubs, run in parks, and frequent public places. Why are felines, and carers being prevented visibility, and respect? Domestic urban cats are not "feral". Don't the homeless deserve help, not harm and fear?

Response:

The Acting Director Planning and Environment Services advised that implementation of a number of inclusive community actions as part of the Council Plan 2021-25 has ensured that Council is delivering on the strategic outcomes that support wellbeing, healthy and safe living, connection to the community.

Pierre Vairo asked the following questions:

2. How much did Council pay Ratio consultants for the new ITS discussion paper? How much will the new ITS cost?

<u>Response:</u>

The Director Infrastructure Services advised the cost of the Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy discussion paper was approximately \$40,000 and was within budget. We are yet to advertise for the full MITS document and therefore are unable to confirm a cost at this time.

Elena Pereyra asked the following questions:

1. How will the new ITS ensure councils myriad other strategic documents and action plans will be implemented in regard to facilitating a mode shift to active transport?

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<u>Response:</u>

The Director Infrastructure Services advised the development of the new Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy will include consideration of all current Council strategies and policies including the promotion of mode shift to active transport.

2. Despite no limitations within the existing ITS, how will the new ITS ensure active transport and green street projects proceed?

<u>Response:</u>

The Director Infrastructure Services advised it is anticipated that the new Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy when endorsed will provide an adopted set of actions to support active transport and street improvement projects that will deliver on Council's policy objectives.

3. How will the new ITS contribute to a best practice approach regarding participatory democracy, facilitating active transport literacy, and high quality tactical urbanism trials iterated following community feedback?

Response:

The Director Infrastructure Services advised these types of initiatives will be considered in the development of the new Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy.

Martin Wurt asked the following question:

2. How has the declaration of the health emergency in May 2023 impacted on Council operations and decisions and what specific actions have resulted from that declaration to date?

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Response:

This question was taken on notice at the meeting, with the following response provided by the Acting Director Planning and Environment:

Since its adoption in August 2022, Council has continued to implement its Air Quality Improvement Plan. A progress report was presented at the Council Meeting on 18 June 2024 – this report can be viewed on Council's website. Council activities since May 2023 include:

- Working with Victorian Government to:
 - support the enforcement of truck bans via cameras along residential roads within the City.
 - Identify and undertake a range of transport network improvements on traffic speeds, intersection upgrades and the future design of Truck Ban roads
- Working with the WGTP to ensure appropriate connections to Council's transport assets particularly active transport options. This includes the new Veloway for cyclists linking into Yarraville.
- Developing the Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy refresh planned for completion by June 2025. This will address issues including air quality and transport emissions.
- Providing a submission to Freight Victoria on the update to the Victorian Freight Plan and will further engage with them as this progresses.
- Continued advocacy for implementation of a low emission zone in the inner west through engagement with both State and Federal governments.
- Continued advocacy to the Victorian Government to install filtration systems in the West Gate Tunnel ventilation stacks.
- Expanding Council's air quality monitoring sensor network and continuing to investigate new locations.
- Hosting a stakeholder forum regarding air quality focussed on information sharing and identifying opportunities to align efforts
- Increasing community awareness including through a Living Future Expo which discussed air quality issues and provided access to sustainable transport providers and information
- Completing installation of the first public electric vehicle (EV) chargers within the municipality. These two fast chargers are powered by 100% renewable energy.
- 3. Will community engagement on the Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy 2025 Refresh include a direct approach to key community groups such as the Maribyrnong Truck Action Group (MTAG) and Save Willy Road to seek their input and thoughts?

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Response:

The Director Infrastructure Services advised that should Council proceed with the officer recommendation for the Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy 2025 Refresh, A comprehensive stakeholder engagement plan will be developed to support the development of the MITS 2025 refresh and both organisations are welcome to participate in the engagement process.

Council received several further questions relating to the Integrated Transport Strategy. As per Governance Rule 52.9 these questions have been grouped with a single response provided.

Arjun Kumar asked the following questions:

- 1. The road safety section (Australia has had a jump in the road traffic fatalities last year and is no chance to meet the goal of reducing 2021 fatalities by 50% by 2030) says an opportunity for road safety is to align speed limits with the Safe System approach. This means 30kmh for streets where people cycle. Will council implement this?
- 2. The bus analysis makes no statement of how easy or hard it is to get from one part of the municipality to another via bus. Will an analysis like that of the Better Buses for the West campaign be undertaken?
- 3. Why has the discussion paper abandoned the hierarchy of the previous ITS?

John Symons asked the following questions:

1. In the Integrated Transport Strategy Discussion Paper, Section 7. The Strategic directions, recommends a set of strategic directions and clear goals so success can be measured.

How will these clear goals be identified? Will council undertake a community priorities study to help determine the goals e.g. Place Score?

- 2. Why is there only a focus on commuting when half of all trips are under 4.2km and 25% of all trips are under 1.6km? These are the trips 85% of Maribyrnong's population say they will take by bike and include the SSSS trips (schools, shops, stations, social places (some of which are known as the mobility's of care)).
- 3. The ITS Discussion paper expects an additional 28,000 cars to be registered in Maribyrnong by 2041, and road capacity reached by 2031 It also states it is not possible to continue to provide for this traffic growth long term. One suggestion is a diversity of end of trip facilities for bicycle riders despite no evidence this has a significant impact. How important is this issue to council and what other options are council willing to consider to avoid the expected gridlock in seven years? Will Council consider the Downs Thomson paradox in transport planning?

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Pierre Vairo asked the following question:

1. Council's 2020-2030 bicycle strategy echoes research that shows the main barrier to cycling participation is safety, and that protected bike lanes increase the safety of riders.

How many times are the words "protected bike lanes" mentioned in the new Integrated Transport Strategy discussion paper? How many times are the words "bike lane" mentioned in the new ITS discussion paper?

Martin Wurt asked the following question:

1. Why does Council's submission to the update of the Victorian Freight Plan not included mention of Council's May 2023 declaration of a health emergency in our city due to the health impacts of air and noise pollution from heavy trucks using the City's streets?

Response:

The Director Infrastructure Services responded to the above questions by advising the Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy discussion paper has been prepared to commence an initial conversation with the Maribyrnong Community on development of a new Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy.

It introduces a set of 6 draft Strategic Directions that will be refined following this initial engagement process. At this stage in the development of a new Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy it is not intended to provide final solutions for our road, rail and path networks.

Further targeted conversations with the community and State Government to address all the questions raised tonight will form part of the development of the new strategy.

The Chair, Cr Cuc Lam, declared Public Question Time closed at 7:16pm.

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1. Confirmation of Minutes of Council Meeting - 18 June 2024

To present for confirmation, the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18 June 2024.

Council Resolution

That Council confirms the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18 June 2024.

Moved: Cr Anthony Tran Seconded: Cr Michael Clarke

CARRIED

6.2. Confirmation of Confidential Minutes of Council Meeting - 18 June 2024

To present for confirmation, the confidential minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18 June 2024.

Council Resolution

That Council confirms the confidential minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18 June 2024.

Moved: Cr Sarah Carter Seconded: Cr Michael Clarke

CARRIED

6.3. Confirmation of Minutes of Audit and Risk Committee Meeting - 19 March 2024

To present for confirmation, the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 19 March 2024.

Council Resolution

That Council confirms the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 19 March 2024.

Moved:	Cr Sarah Carter
Seconded:	Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Council Meeting Minutes – 23 July 2024

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Nil

8. PETITIONS

8.1. Petition: Maribyrnong: Promote Cat Enclosures and Desexing

The purpose of this report is to table a petition: Maribyrnong: Promote Cat Enclosures and Desexing.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Receives and notes the petition requesting Petition: Maribyrnong: Promote Cat Enclosures and Desexing; and
- 2. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to consider the petition and determine the appropriate response.

Cr Michael Clarke

Moved: Seconded: Cr Sarah Carter

CARRIED

OFFICER REPORTS 9.

9.1. Fair Access Policy

To seek Council endorsement of the Fair Access Policy and Fair Access Policy: Action Plan following community engagement.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Notes the feedback received on the draft Fair Access Policy and Fair Access Policy: Action Plan; and
- 2. Endorses the Fair Access Policy, shown at Attachment 1, and the Fair Access Policy: Action Plan, shown at Attachment 2.

Moved:	Cr Michael Clarke
Seconded:	Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

Council Meeting Minutes - 23 July 2024

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

9.2. Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy 2024

To seek Council endorsement of the draft Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy 2024, following a community engagement process undertaken in May and June 2024.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Note the outcomes of the community engagement process for the draft Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy; and
- 2. Endorse the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy 2024, shown at Attachment 1.

Moved:	Cr Simon Crawford
Seconded:	Cr Michael Clarke

CARRIED

9.3. Council Submission to the State Government's Inquiry into Food Security in Victoria

To seek endorsement of Council's submission to the State Government's Inquiry into Food Security in Victoria.

Council Resolution

That Council endorse the submission to the State Government's Inquiry into Food Security in Victoria, as shown in Attachment 1.

Moved:	Cr Bernadette Thomas
Seconded:	Cr Jorge Jorquera

CARRIED

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

9.4. Council Submission to the Update of the Victorian Freight Plan

To seek endorsement Council's submission in response to the Department of Transport and Planning's update of the Victorian Freight Plan.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the submission to the Department of Transport and Planning's update of the Victorian Freight Plan Discussion Paper, as shown in Attachment 2; and
- 2. Advocate for a ban on trucks on Williamstown Road within the submission.

Moved:	Cr Simon Crawford
Seconded:	Cr Bernadette Thomas

CARRIED

9.5. Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy (MITS) and North-South Cycling Options Study Update

To update Council on the progress of the Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy (MITS) review and the North-South Cycling Options study, including next steps for community engagement.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Note the status of the Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy review and North-South Cycling Options Study; and
- 2. Endorse an initial conversation with the community premised on the Discussion Paper, shown at Attachment 1, to provide important feedback for the Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy 2025 Refresh program.

Moved: Seconded: Cr Sarah Carter Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

Council Meeting Minutes – 23 July 2024

Page 23 of 26

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

9.6. Response to Notice of Motion 2023:11 Supporting Peace in Gaza and Palestine

The purpose of this report is to respond to Notice of Motion 2023:11 Supporting Peace in Gaza and Palestine - Part 9 *"Receives a report exploring options for Council to cancel contracts with companies that support Israel's illegal occupation of Palestine or profit from it, especially companies which supply equipment to the Israeli Defence Force".*

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Note the response to Notice of Motion 2023:11 Supporting Peace in Gaza and Palestine; and
- 2. Consider Notice of Motion 2023:11 Supporting Peace in Gaza and Palestine closed.

Moved:	Cr Jorge Jorquera
Seconded:	Cr Simon Crawford

CARRIED

Cr Thomas retired from the meeting at 8:32pm.

9.7. Audit and Risk Committee Bi-Annual Report May 2024

This report presents the Audit and Risk Committee Bi-Annual Report – May 2024 for noting by Council.

Council Resolution

That Council endorse the Audit and Risk Committee Bi-Annual Report – May 2024.

Moved:	Cr Michael Clarke
Seconded:	Cr Sarah Carter

CARRIED

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

9.8. Governance Report - June 2024

The purpose of this report is to receive and note the record of informal meetings of Councillors and Councillor delegates' for June 2024, as well as other statutory compliance and governance matters as they arise.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Note the update regarding Council's submitted motions to the Australian Local Government Association's 2024 National General Assembly; and
- 2. Note the Governance Report containing the record of informal meetings of Councillors and Councillor Delegates' Reports for June 2024, to be made available on Council's website for the term of the Council.

Moved:	Cr Anthony Tran
Seconded:	Cr Sarah Carter

CARRIED

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

11. COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Councillor Question Time commenced at 8:39pm.

Cr Sarah Carter asked the following question:

Councillors have received a number of emails from residents around the new Footscray Hospital site, regarding changed parking conditions. What plans are underway for parking regulations in and around the new hospital?

Response taken on notice at meeting and provided below:

Council officers have been working on the development of a precinct wide parking management plan with State Government officers delivering the New Footscray Hospital. This plan will take into account both current parking arrangements and anticipated impacts resulting from the opening of the Hospital.

Community engagement will take place once a draft parking management plan is completed. This will enable finalisation of the plan and implementation of parking changes in advance of the Hospital opening in late 2025.

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Cr Jorge Jorguera asked the following question:

Can an update be provided to the community regarding MATAC (Maribyrnong Active Transport Advisory Committee)?

Response taken on notice at meeting and provided below:

The current tenure for members on the Maribyrnong Active Transport Advisory Committee (MATAC) has reached completion.

Council is currently reviewing options to best provide Council with ongoing community input into Council and State Government provisions for transport, infrastructure projects, advocacy and partnership opportunities as we progress the refresh of the Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy.

The Chair, Cr Cuc Lam, declared Councillor Question Time closed at 8:41pm.

12. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

13. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

14. MEETING CLOSURE

The Chair, Cr Cuc Lam, declared the meeting closed at 8:41pm.

To be confirmed at the Council Meeting on 20 August, 2024.

Chair, Cr Cuc Lam

Agenda Item 8.1

PETITION: INSTALLATION OF SPEEDBUMP NEAR LITTLE VIP CHILDCARE CENTRE LOCATED AT 36 BURNS STREET MAIDSTONE

Director:	Lisa King Director Corporate Services
Author:	George Ioannou Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services

PURPOSE

To table a petition: Installation of Speed Bump near Little VIP Childcare Centre located at 36 Burns Street, Maidstone.

ISSUES SUMMARY

• A petition with 23 signatures has been received by Council, summarised below:

This petition is for Council to consider the installation of a speed bump near the Little VIP childcare centre located at 36 Burns Street, Maidstone due to concerns of speeding vehicles within the proximity of the child care centre. A speed bump is requested of Council to effectively reduce vehicle speed, improving safety for pedestrians, especially young children who are particularly vulnerable.

ATTACHMENTS

 Petition: Installation of Speedbump near Little VIP Childcare Centre located at 36 Burns Street Maidstone <u>U</u>

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Receives and notes the Petition: Installation of Speedbump near Little VIP Childcare Centre located at 36 Burns Street Maidstone.
- 2. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to consider the petition and determine the appropriate response.

Dear Maribyrnong City Council,

I am writing to urgently request the installation of a speed bump near the Little VIP Child Care Centre located at **3**6 Burn Street, Maidstone. This request is motivated by recent incidents where my three-year-old child and others have been endangered by speeding vehicles near the childcare center.

On three separate occasions, my toddler was nearly hit by speeding cars while running towards the children's park on the opposite side of the road. This dangerous situation highlights a significant risk to the safety of young children who frequent the area. It is imperative to take preventive measures before a tragic accident occurs.

Young children like mine are often unaware of the dangers posed by vehicles on the road. Given the proximity of the childcare center to a park and other recreational areas, there is a constant flow of children and families crossing the road. A speed bump would effectively reduce vehicle speed, improving safety for pedestrians, especially young children who are particularly vulnerable.

I kindly urge the council to prioritize this matter and expedite the installation of a speed bump on Burn Street near the Little VIP Child Care Centre. By taking swift action, we can mitigate the risk of accidents and create a safer environment for all residents and visitors in the community.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I look forward to your prompt response and action on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

Maidstone Families

Dated: 12/07/2024

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Dear Maribyrnong City Council,

I am writing to urgently request the installation of a speed bump near the Little VIP Child Care Centre located at **3**6 Burn Street, Maidstone. This request is motivated by recent incidents where my three-year-old child and others have been endangered by speeding vehicles near the childcare center.

On three separate occasions, my toddler was nearly hit by speeding cars while running towards the children's park on the opposite side of the road. This dangerous situation highlights a significant risk to the safety of young children who frequent the area. It is imperative to take preventive measures before a tragic accident occurs.

Young children like mine are often unaware of the dangers posed by vehicles on the road. Given the proximity of the childcare center to a park and other recreational areas, there is a constant flow of children and families crossing the road. A speed bump would effectively reduce vehicle speed, improving safety for pedestrians, especially young children who are particularly vulnerable.

I kindly urge the council to prioritize this matter and expedite the installation of a speed bump on Burn Street near the Little VIP Child Care Centre. By taking swift action, we can mitigate the risk of accidents and create a safer environment for all residents and visitors in the community.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I look forward to your prompt response and action on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

Maidstone Families

Dated: 12/07/2024

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Agenda Item 9.1

PROPOSED LEASE AGREEMENT - YARRAVILLE FOOTSCRAY BOWLING CLUB INC.

Director:	Patrick Jess Director Infrastructure Services
Author:	Paul Jane Manager Recreation and Open Space

PURPOSE

To seek Council approval to enter into a Lease Agreement with Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club Inc. for the premises at 339A Francis Street, Yarraville (Proposal) following the completion of the public notice period and hearing of submissions.

ISSUES SUMMARY

Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club Inc. (the Club) has leased the land at 339A Francis Street from Council continuously since 1966.

- The current lease commenced on 1 January 2014 and expired on 31 December 2023.
- From 1 January 2024, the Club continues to occupy the premises in accordance with the over holding provision of the lease agreement.
- As per Council's endorsed Lease and Licence Policy, Council is required to resolve on leases that hold a market value of above \$100,000.
- A rental valuation was completed, with the \$100,000 threshold being surpassed.
- The key terms of the lease meet the requirements of section 115 of the *Act* which require Council to complete a community engagement process in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy.
- As part of the proposed lease the Club have agreed to develop a transition plan to remove gambling from the Bowls club site by the end of 2032 in line with the clubs current entitlements. This transition plan will be developed and delivered within 2 years of the lease execution.
- On 18 June 2024, Council resolved to commence the community engagement process in relation to the Proposal pursuant to section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020 (Act)*.
- Public notice was given on 26 June 2024. The submissions period commenced on 26 June 2024 and closed on 25 July 2024.
- Council officers have received six (6) submissions. All submissions support the Proposal.
- One (1) submitter has requested to be heard with the five (5) submitters requesting that Council consider their submissions as written submissions.
- The Hearing of Submissions occurred on 5 August 2024.
- Having considered all submissions and met its statutory obligations, Council is now in a position to decide whether to enter into the Lease Agreement.

Agenda Item 9.1

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2022-2026 U attachment 2 Proposed Lease Plan U attachment 3 Submissions Redacted U attachment 3 Submissions Redacted U 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Agenda Item 9.1

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Notes all submissions received relating to the proposed lease between Maribyrnong City Council and Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club Inc, as shown in Attachment 3.
- 2. Having considered all submissions pursuant to section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020,* authorises the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a Lease Agreement for the key terms are as set out below:
 - a. Tenant: Yarraville Footscray Bowls Club Inc.
 - b. Premises: 339A Francis Street, Yarraville, as shown in Attachment 2.

Key Lease Terms during the Initial Term:

- c. Term: 8 years
- d. Permitted Use: Lawn bowls, restaurant, café & gaming facility
- e. Rental: \$68,104 per annum plus GST
- f. Rental Increases: 3% increase per annum
- g. Rent Reimbursement: In the event that the Tenant carries out capital works which provide a direct community benefit to support lawn bowls activities, the Tenant will be eligible to apply for a rent reimbursement equal to 10% of the capital expenditure capped at 50% of the total annual rental cost
- h. The requirement for the Club to develop and provide to Council for approval on or before the 2nd anniversary of the Commencement Date, a transition plan to remove gambling from the premises by 2032, and adhere to the transition plan during the term.
- Key Lease Terms during the Further Term, which exclude gaming from the Premises:
 - i. Further Term: 5 years
 - j. Permitted Use: Lawn bowls, restaurant & café
 - k. Rental: Community subsidised rental, to be determined based on criteria within Council's Lease and Licence Policy
 - I. Rental Increases: 3% increase per annum

or such other or alternate terms as determined to be reasonably necessary by Council's Chief Executive Officer to conclude negotiations with the Tenant on the lease.

BACKGROUND

Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club leases the land at 339A Francis Street from Council, pursuant to a lease which commenced on 1 January 2014. The term of this lease expired on 31 December 2023. The starting rent on 1 January 2014 was \$25,000 plus GST and has increased to \$30,183 plus GST.

The Club has a long history within the City of Maribyrnong (formerly City of Footscray) with the land been leased to the Club continuously since 1966.

With a membership of 2067 as of March 2024 comprising bowling (165) and social members (1902), the Club provides lawn bowls at a national, regional, local and social level. The club have developed a sound business plan to support these initiatives and continue to grow their playing membership. The bowling membership includes 15 Men's, Women's and Mixed teams across mid-week and weekend competitions.

Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club offer a number of programs and activities that are accessible for the community including barefoot bowls, come and try sessions, school clinics and involvement in Council's Active Maribyrnong programming. The facilities consist of:

- 100 seat bistro/restaurant
- Three state graded bowling greens
- Two bars and lounges
- Private function area
- 29 electronic gaming machines
- TAB facility

The Club sponsors and provides financial support to a number of Maribyrnong based community sporting clubs equating to an annual value of approximately \$26,000 and actively supports and hosts other local sporting and community organisations for meetings and functions within the premises.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES

The following are key conditions of the proposed lease between the Club and Council:

Submissions Received

On 18 June 2024, Council resolved to commence the community engagement process which included a public notice.

Public notice was given on 26 June 2024. The submissions period commenced on 26 June 2024 and closed 25 July 2024. Council officers have received six (6) submissions.

The following are the key themes of the submissions received:

- Support: all submissions support the Proposal.
- Capital Investment: the lease allows the Club to invest in the premises and improve the services and infrastructure.
- Transition Plan: the lease provides a considered plan to improve facilities and also achieve Council's long term plan to remove gaming from the Council owned premises.
- Community Benefit: submitters have recognised the significant community benefit the Club provides to the local community.

Hearing of Submissions

Hearing of Submissions occurred on 5 August 2024 at 6:30pm. One submitter spoke to their written submission which is identified in Attachment 3 (Written Submission 1) of this report.

Lease Term

Eight years with a further term of five years.

Council's Lease and Licence Policy has a preferred lease term of 5 years with the option to allow for longer terms if significant capital investment is to occur. The Club has proposed a capital works program estimated at \$5,752,500. To support and encourage the Club to deliver the proposed capital works program, a term of 8 years has been recommended with a further term of 5 years noting that the rental will be based on Council's Lease and Licence policy of that time and reflect the removal of gaming.

Rental and Section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020

In accordance with Council's endorsed Lease and Licence Policy a Rental Valuation was obtained on 30 December 2022 which valued the building at \$68,000 plus GST and the external areas at \$38,000 plus GST.

An updated rental valuation was obtained on 22 September 2023 which identified the building valuation at \$72,000 plus GST and external areas (which excluded the car park) at \$25,000 plus GST. Due to the earlier rental offer being presented to the Club, Council officers are recommending proceeding with the rental valuation from 30 December 2022.

The proposed rental fee is calculated using two categories listed in council's Lease and Licence policy: Community Subsidised Rental for the external areas relating to bowls operations where a rent of \$104 is to be charged and Commercial Market Rental for the restaurant, bar and pokies operations where a rent of \$68,000 is to be charged.

The proposed base rental fee is \$68,104 plus GST per annum, with a fixed 3% annual increase due on each anniversary of the commencement date during the term and for any period of over holding.

The club have a significant capital works program planned that includes upgrades to the playing surface and player amenities. Early estimates for the delivery of the full plan are costed at \$5,752,500.

ITEM	PROJECTED COST
Transition of 1 x natural green to synthetic.	\$350,000
Install weather proof dome over synthetic green, inclusive of electronic scoreboard, café and spectator seating.	\$3,500,000
Relocation of floodlights from green 2	\$150,000
Upgrade of change rooms, toilets, lockers, showers	\$1,200,000
New and upgraded office/meeting spaces	\$95,000
Upgrade of club social room – carpets, furniture, lighting, HVAC	\$300,000
Purchase of additional lawn bowls equipment	\$7,500
Provision of new DDA toilet facilities, entry/exit ramps and automatic door	\$150,000
TOTAL	\$5,752,500

To support the significant capital investment the club are seeking a reduction in rent. Officers accordingly propose that a maximum 50 percent rent reimbursement be made available based on evidence of annual capital spend.

Council will provide this reduction equal to 10 percent of the capital expenditure capped at 50 percent of the total annual rental cost. This reimbursement cannot be retrospectively applied but can be forwarded credited in the event of a major capital project.

Community Benefit and Services

Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club is established for the purposes of conducting, promoting and encouraging Bowls throughout the local area, and provides both social and competition bowling opportunities. The Club maintains and conducts a sporting and social Club to build, maintain or otherwise provide facilities for the use and recreation of the members.

The Club will continue to provide direct financial or in-kind support to a number of local sporting clubs and community organisations.

Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy

Consideration of and adherence to Council's Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2022-2030 (Attachment 1) was identified and included in the process of drafting the agreement.

Requirements outlined in the policy are currently being met and will continue to be as part of the draft Lease Agreement.

In addition to addressing the policy the Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club has indicated they will develop a transition plan to remove gambling from the Bowls club premises by the end of 2032. The transition plan will be developed and delivered within 2 years from the lease execution.

Responsible Gaming Commitment

Special conditions consistent with Council's Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2022-2030 and the Club's current Agreement have been established.

The responsible gaming commitment includes a range of key principles, obligations and requirements pertaining to the minimisation of harm from gambling. These requirements are consistent with the *Gambling Regulations Act 2003* and subsequent amendments.

This commitment also includes a limit of no more than the current 29 electronic gaming machines operating from the premises for the duration of the initial term of the lease. This is consistent with Council's Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2022-2030.

Maintenance and Utilities

A revised schedule for day to day maintenance and essential services maintenance including club and Council obligations has been drafted and is detailed in the draft Lease Agreement.

Lease Footprint

Council adopted the McIvor Reserve Masterplan in 2023 which seeks to reduce the exclusively leased rear car parking and delivery area of the Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club Inc.to enable greater utilisation of the space in consideration of the proposed future Indoor Stadium development whilst not interfering with the Club's operations. The proposed lease plan is shown at Attachment 2.

3.Council Policy/Legislation

Council Plan 2021-2025

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objectives
 - Council will partner with its community to provide and advocate for integrated built and natural environments with access to open spaces that are well maintained, engaging, accessible and respectful of the community and neighbourhoods.

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Legislation

Local Government Act 2020 Council Plan 2021-2025 Council Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2022-2030 Council Lease and Licence Policy 2023

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.*

3. Engagement

On 18 June 2024, Council resolved to commence the community engagement process in relation to the Proposal pursuant to section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The community engagement process consisted of a public notice. The public notice period commenced on 26 June 2024 and closed on 25 July 2024.

In addition to the public notice being published in a local newspaper and on Council's website, the public notice was sent to 648 owners and occupiers of surrounding properties.

Council officers have received six (6) submissions. All submissions support the Proposal. One (1) submitter has requested to be heard with the five (5) submitters requesting that Council consider their submissions as written submissions. The Hearing of Submissions occurred on 5 August 2024.

4. Resources

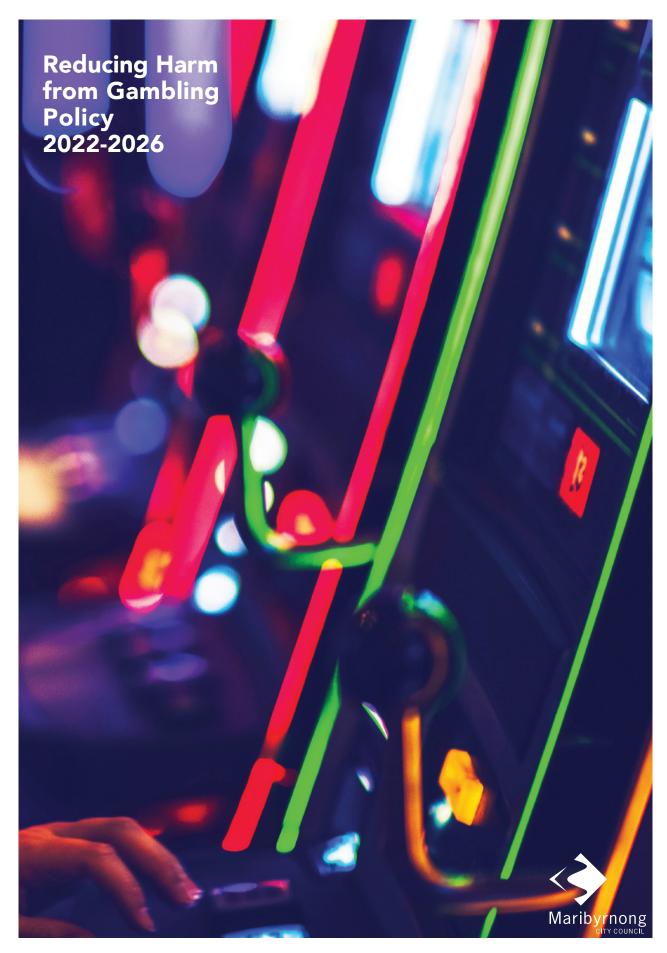
Nil.

5. Environment

Nil.

CONCLUSION

Having considered all submissions and met its statutory obligations, it is recommended that Council enter into a Lease Agreement with Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club Inc.



Acknowledgment

We acknowledge the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this nation. We acknowledge the people of the Kulin nation as traditional custodians of the lands on which Maribyrnong City Council is located and where we conduct our business. We are committed to honouring Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters and seas and their contribution to society.

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Mayor's Message

A Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2022-2026

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Maribyrnong City Council's Role in Managing the Impacts of Gambling



Gambling in Victoria is lawfully provided through electronic gaming machines located in hotels, clubs and the casino, wagering (racing and sports betting), lotteries, keno and bingo, as well as by casino table games.

Gambling can cause significant harm to individuals, families and their communities. The impacts of gambling harm include family violence, physical and mental health impacts, financial hardship, social isolation, and drug and alcohol (Browne Et Al, 2017).

Maribyrnong City Council plays a direct role in assessing the social and economic impacts of electronic gaming machine (EGM) applications through the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* and the Gaming Policy at Clause 22.06 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.

Council also plays an important role in advocating for changes to the regulation and management of all forms of gambling, including EGMs, online gambling/sports betting, racing, keno, lotteries and the Melbourne Casino.

Council's approach to managing the impacts of gambling harm is based on social justice, and harm prevention and minimisation. Social justice is the pursuit of equal rights and equal opportunity for all people in our community. Social justice seeks to redress the impact that social and economic inequalities have on both the people experiencing them and the wider community.

The harm prevention and minimisation approach to managing gambling harm is based on the key determinants of health.

The determinants of health include gender, income and social status, education, physical environment, social support networks and access to health services (World Health Organisation 2021). This model states that the context of people's lives determine their health, and so blaming individuals for having poor health or crediting them for good health is inappropriate. Individuals are unlikely to be able to directly control many of the determinants of health (World Health Organisation 2021).

Council's approach aligns with the Council Plan 2021-2025, which incorporates the Health and Wellbeing Plan.

This framework provides a foundation for Council's commitment and actions to protect human rights and promote social justice in the City of Maribyrnong.

Council's approach further aligns with the Towards Gender Equity Strategy 2030. The vision of the strategy is that all people in Maribyrnong flourish and live free from violence and discrimination and have equal status, rights, opportunities, representation and respect regardless of their gender.

Information about the impact of gambling in the City of Maribyrnong is contained in the Gambling Fact Sheets which are attached to this policy. These fact sheets will be updated annually to reflect changes in electronic gaming machine losses in the City of Maribyrnong.

Scope

The scope of this policy includes the following types of gambling which are legal in Victoria:

- Electronic Gaming Machines
- Online Gambling/Sports Betting
- Keno
- Lotteries
- Racing
- Gambling at Crown Casino.

Purpose

The purpose of this draft policy is to prevent and minimise harm from gambling in the City of Maribyrnong community.

Objectives

- Assess the social and economic impacts of gaming applications in the City of Maribyrnong to reduce harm from EGMs, through the Gambling Regulation Act 2003 and the Gaming Policy at Clause 22.06 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.
- Advocate for a reduction in harm caused by gambling in the City of Maribyrnong community through key partnerships with the Alliance for Gambling Reform, the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and the Victorian Local Government Association (VLGA).
- Encourage alternative activities to gambling through Council-owned facilities including libraries, community centres, open space, and indoor and outdoor sport and recreation facilities.

Legislation

Council's approach to gambling is informed by the following legislation and planning regulations:

- Gambling Regulation Act 2003
- Clause 22.06 Gaming Policy, Maribyrnong
 Planning Scheme
- Gambling Regulations 2015
- Gambling Regulation (Pre-commitment and Loyalty Scheme) Regulations 2014
- Interactive Gambling Act 2001
- Casino Act 1991
- Local Government Act 2020
- Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008
- Victorian Charter for Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006
- Family Violence Protection Act 2008.

Further details of the legislation and regulations are outlined in Appendix 2.

Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2022-2026

Principles and Actions



Principle 1:

Assess the social and economic impacts of gaming applications to reduce harm from electronic gaming machines in the City of Maribyrnong

Actions:

- 1.1 Under the requirements for local government outlined in the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003*, undertake a social impact assessment of applications to the Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission (VGCCC) for an increase in electronic gaming machines at new and existing venues in the City of Maribyrnong.
- 1.2 Assess planning applications for gaming venues under the Gaming Policy outlined in the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.
- 1.3 Support enforcement of gaming venue conditions that reduce gambling harm by referring any breaches to relevant regulators, including signage, accessibility, opening hours or community benefit conditions.
- 1.4 Oppose gaming license applications in neighbouring municipalities if they have a negative impact on City of Maribyrnong residents.



Principle 2:

Partner and advocate

Partnerships:

Council supports the Alliance for Gambling Reform which is a national advocacy organisation that works to prevent and minimise the harm caused from gambling. A total of 21 other Victorian councils are Leadership Councils supporting the Alliance.

Council is also a member of the VLGA Local Government Working Group on Gambling and the MAV Local Government Gambling, Alcohol and Other Drugs Issues Forum.

Actions:

- 2.1 Support Alliance for Gambling Reform campaigns for minimising harm from gambling in Victorian and Australian communities.
- 2.2 Work with MAV and VLGA to develop submissions and advocate to the State Government for gambling industry reform.

Advocacy:

Actions:

Council will undertake advocacy actions directly and through advocacy networks in three key areas:

- Electronic Gaming Machines;
- Sports Betting; and
- Gambling Harm Research.

Electronic Gaming Machines:

2.3 Advocate for the following in relation to the regulation of EGMs:

- Reduce the current cap of 471 EGMs in the City of Maribyrnong.
- Increase the ratio of the number of adults per 10 EGMs, under municipal caps. This will reduce the likelihood of an increase in EGM numbers in capped regions, as the population increases. (The current EGM cap ratio is 10 machines per 1,000 adults in capped municipalities, such as the City of Maribyrnong. Current municipal limits were calculated using the 2017 Victorian adult population).

Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2022-2026

- Reduce the number of EGMs in locations with high levels of social and economic disadvantage including Braybrook and Maidstone.
- Reduce the number of EGMs in venues in convenient locations including shopping centres and shopping strips, and close to public transport.
- Introduce a mandatory 2am to 6am shutdown for all gaming venues in Victoria, in line with the Alliance for Gambling Reform position. (The Alliance is working towards the longer term goal of a mandatory 12am to 10am shutdown period).
- Introduce a ban on incentives to encourage residents to enter gaming venues, such as free or discounted meals for adults and children, give-aways and prizes.
- Introduce \$1 maximum bet per spin on all EGMs in Victoria to reduce the amount of money gamblers can lose each time they press a button and slow the rate of losses.
- Introduce mandatory pre-commitment for players of EGMs, as part of the Your Play Victorian Government's Gambling Precommitment Scheme. (Your Play currently allows for EGM players to voluntarily set limits on time and money spent and track their play across Victoria. An evaluation of Your Play found the program had a low take up with players of EGMs in Victoria (Victorian Department of Justice and Community Safety 2019).
- Change the definition of what is classified as community benefit, under the *Gambling Regulation Act*, to genuine philanthropic organisations or charities as defined by tax deductible status or grass roots activities.

- Introduce a state government fund to support gaming venues that wish to transition away from EGMs.
- Increase the timeframe for councils to respond to gaming applications from 60 days to 90 days to allow appropriate time to assess the social and economic impacts.

Sports Betting:

2.4 Advocate for a ban on sports betting advertising on television and live stream services in Victoria in alignment with the Alliance for Gambling Reform position.

Gambling Harm Research:

- 2.5 Update Gambling Fact Sheets on an annual basis to include new information on local EGM losses, other gambling data and gambling harm research.
- 2.6 Advocate for increased investment in research on the social and economic impacts of gambling on individuals, their families and local communities.
- 2.7 Advocate for increased investment in research on the health and wellbeing impacts of gambling including research into family violence, mental and physical health impacts.



Principle 3:

Council will not encourage or promote gambling through its facilities, program or services

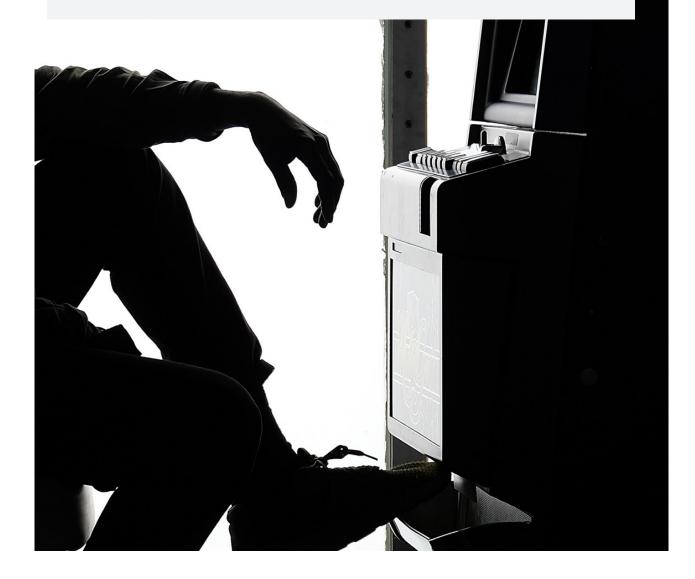
Actions:

- 3.1 Promote local programs and services through Council's Gambling Alternatives Program.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 Work with venue operators to restrict the inclusion of additional EGMs on Council-owned land. (Note: A current lease is in place for the only EGM operator on Council-owned land. This allows for a maximum of 40 EGMs. The venue currently has 29 EGMs and its lease expires in January 2024).
- 3.4 Work with any gaming venue located on Council-owned land to ensure the continued implementation of gambling harm minimisation measures included in lease.
- 3.5 No future leases will be provided to any new gaming operator seeking a facility on Council-owned land.
- 3.6 Do not approve gambling promotional material in Council-owned facilities or on Council's websites (with the exception of any gaming venue located in a Councilowned building).
- 3.7 Council officers and Councillors will not hold meetings, events or activities at gaming venues. This does not apply to events organised by others that are attended by a Council officer or Councillor.
- 3.8 Council will not accept donations or in-kind support from gaming venues. This includes contributions from gaming venues made to Council for distribution to local community or sporting groups.
- 3.9 Continue with Council's endorsed plans for investing and renewing Council-owned community infrastructure.

Reducing Harm from Gambling Action Plan

The Reducing Harm from Gambling Action Plan outlines Council's response to key actions contained in this policy.

This action plan will be reviewed annually over the duration of the policy. A copy of the action plan is attached.



Appendix 1: Glossary

Term	Glossary
Crown Casino	Crown Casino is regulated under separate legislation to clubs and hotels in Victoria under the <i>Casino Act</i> 1991.
EGMs	Electronic Gaming Machines
Keno	A rapid-draw game in which a set of numbers is drawn through a random number generator from a pool of numbers. The numbers are then posted electronically in venues.
LGWGOG	Local Government Working Group on Gambling
Lotteries	A lottery is a rapid draw game where a set of numbers is drawn through a random number generator.
MAV	Municipal Association of Victoria
Online Gambling	Online gambling comprises of a wide range of different forms of gambling that can be provided in an online format i.e. accessed and played via the internet. This can include forms of poker, casinos (blackjack, roulette etc.), sports betting, bingo, lotteries, betting on horse racing.
Sports Betting	Sports betting is a form of gambling that involves placing a bet or wagering on a sporting activity. Bets can be placed in person with a bookmaker or online using an account that accepts debit and credit cards. Popular sports on which Australians can bet include AFL, rugby league, soccer, cricket, tennis, motorbike racing and basketball.
Racing	In Victoria, wagering on horse and greyhound races is offered on- course, by bookmakers at a racetrack, and off-course by Tabcorp Wagering and TAB agencies.
VGCCC	Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission
VLGA	Victorian Local Government Association
Your Play	Your Play is a gambling pre-commitment scheme which allows EGM players to voluntarily set limits of time or money spent and track their gaming machine play across Victoria.

Appendix 2: Legislative and Policy Context

Gambling Regulation Act 2003

The Gambling Regulation Act 2003 regulates the conduct of gambling in Victoria, with the exception of the Melbourne Casino. This includes regulating the management of and distribution of EGMs including the following:

- Caps on the maximum number of EGMs allowed in individual municipalities.
- The operation of gaming venues including the provision of responsible gambling services.
- The lodgement of annual Community Benefit Statements by each venue.

Community Benefit Statements

Under Section 3.6.9 of the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003*, all hotel and club operators are required to lodge an audited community benefit statement with the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation on an annual basis.

A Community Benefit Statement requires hotels and clubs which operate EGMs to provide an indication of what support they are providing to their local community to offset the losses from EGMs.

Community Support Fund

Under section 3.6.6(2) of the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003*, net gaming revenues from hotel venues are subject to an additional tax of 8.33 per cent which is paid into the Community Support Fund. The Community Support Fund, established in 1991, is a trust fund governed by the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* to direct a portion of gaming revenues back into the community.

The Community Support Fund provides funding for the following:

- Addressing problem gambling
- Drug education, treatment and rehabilitation
- Financial counselling support for families in crisis
- Youth programs
- Sport and recreation
- Arts and tourism
- Advancement of the community as determined by the Minister
- Costs associated with administering the Community Support Fund.

Assessment of Gaming Applications under the Gambling Regulation Act

Under the *Gambling Regulation Act*, councils' can assess the social and economic impacts of a gaming application in their municipality and respond to applications in adjoining municipalities.

Under the Act, councils are empowered to make submissions in response to applications for gaming approval. These submissions must address, as relevant:

• The social and economic impact of the proposal for approval on the well-being of the community of the municipal district; and

• Take into account the impact of the proposal on the surrounding municipal districts.

Any submission by Council must be lodged with the Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission (VGCCC) within 60 days after Council receives notice of the application (or a copy of the amended application).

Clause 22.06 Gaming Policy, Maribyrnong Planning Scheme

Under clause 52.28 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme a planning permit is required to install or use EGMs.

To assist decision makers in the exercise of discretion to grant a permit under clause 52.28, Council has developed and implemented clause 22.06, Council's local policy on gaming.

This policy applies to all planning applications to install or use a gaming machine or use of land for gaming.

It sets out appropriate areas and sites where EGMs should be located and where they are discouraged from location together with planning permit application requirements (Maribyrnong Planning Scheme 2021).

However, under the Clause 52.28-4, a permit is only required to install or use an EGM if:

- the EGM is in an approved venue under the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* on 18 October 2006 and
- The maximum number of EGMs for the approved venue on 18 October 2006 is not exceeded.

This means that Clause 22.06 will only apply to new venues in the City of Maribyrnong as the existing venues were approved prior to 2006 (Victorian Planning Provisions, Planning Scheme 2021, p 654).

Gambling Regulations 2015

The Gambling Regulation Act 2015 prescribes detailed regulations on the operation of different forms of gambling, including gaming machines, wagering and betting, trade promotion lotteries, raffles and bingo.

Some of the key areas that the regulations address include the following:

Signage and advertising

This includes the following:

- Prohibiting the use of directional signs to gaming rooms inside venues and outside in carparks
- Specifications for gambling signs outside of venues, which must be plain and not include any corporate logos associated with the gaming venues.

Cashless Gaming

Amendments made to the Gambling Regulations in 2019 introduced cashless gaming for all venues with EGMs in Victoria.

EGM players must now use a cashless gaming card to play. These cards contain information about balances on the card and the time and date of transactions.

Display information on EGMs

This includes the following:

- The time of day must be accurately displayed on the EGM or on a device attached to a gaming machine.
- EGMs must display correct information about games being played by users.

Gambling Regulation (Pre-commitment and Loyalty Scheme) Regulations 2014

The Gambling Regulation (Pre-commitment and Loyalty Scheme) Regulations 2014 prescribe matters in relation to pre-commitment and the conduct of loyalty schemes at gaming machine venues, including the casino.

Under these regulations, the Victorian Government has established Your Play – Victoria's Pre-commitment scheme which allows EGM Players to voluntarily set limits of time or money spent and track their gaming machine play across Victoria.

In 2019, the Victorian Department of Justice and Community Safety commissioned an evaluation of Your Play, which was undertaken by the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies.

The evaluation report found that the usage of Your Play in venues with EGMs, was very low.

The report found that in 2017/18 YourPlay cards were used in sessions amounting to 0.01% of gaming machine turnover in Victorian hotels and clubs (Department of Justice and Community Safety 2019).

Interactive Gambling Act 2001

The Interactive Gambling Act 2001 regulates online sports betting and online wagering in Australia from licensed providers. However, it prohibits the provision of other forms of online gambling such as gaming machines and casino games.

The Act defines online gambling as any gambling that is conducted using digital technology to engage in gambling with a remote provider.

Casino Control Act 1991

Crown Casino is regulated under the *Casino Control Act 1991*. Crown Casino is also regulated under the following Acts and Regulations:

- Gambling Regulation Act 2003
- Casino (Management Agreement) Act 1993
- Gambling Regulation (Pre-commitment and Loyalty Scheme) Regulations 2014
- Gambling Regulations 2015
- Gambling Regulation (Premium Customer)
 Regulations 2011
- Casino Control (Fees) Regulations 2015
- Liquor Control Reform Act 1998.

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Local Government Act 2020

The Local Government Act 2020 outlines overarching governance principles and supporting principles, which are as follows:

- 1. A Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles.
- 2. The following are the overarching governance principles:
 - Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
 - b. priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
 - c. the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
 - d. the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
 - e. innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued;
 - f. collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
 - g. the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;

- regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
- i. the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

Under this Act, the function of a Council is to seek to protect, improve and promote public health and wellbeing within the municipal district and to apply the 'precautionary principle' to preventing and controlling public health risk.

Council Plan 2021-2025 (Incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan)

The Council Plan 2021-2025 guides the planning, development, resourcing and provision of services to the community over a four year period.

Reviewed annually, to consider emerging community needs, this Council Plan aims to ensure the organisation is progressive, dynamic and committed to the City of Maribyrnong.

Strategic Objectives

Safe Climate and Healthy Environment

Council will proactively identify opportunities to support a return to a safe climate and healthy environment and work with our community to respond to climate emergency challenges.

Liveable Neighbourhoods

Council will partner with its community to provide and advocate for integrated built and natural environments with access to open spaces that are well maintained, accessible and respectful of the community and neighbourhoods.

A Place for All

Council will provide well-planned neighbourhoods and a strong local economy, delivering services that are inclusive and accessible to the whole community, and that support wellbeing, healthy and safe living, connection to the community, and cultural interaction.

Future Focussed

Council will plan and advocate for new infrastructure and safe, sustainable and effective transport networks and a smart innovative city that encourages and supports new generations to thrive.

Ethical Leadership

Council will proactively lead our changing City using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making and well-planned and effective collaboration and community engagement to support community and economic growth during the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and beyond.

Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

The Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (the Charter) is a law that sets out the basic rights, freedoms and responsibilities of all people in Victoria. It is about the relationship between government and the people it serves.

The Charter lets the Victorian community know about which rights the Victorian Government will protect, how it intends to do this, and what the consequences are for failing to do so.

It gives public authorities rules and a framework within which to operate, and the community a language and principles with which to engage public authorities.

Public authorities such as councils, police, hospitals and public schools must consider these rights when making decisions, creating laws, setting policies and providing services.

The Charter provides a framework to assess actions by a public authority that may limit human rights.

Towards Gender Equity 2030

The vision of Towards Gender Equity 2030 is that all people in Maribyrnong flourish and live free from violence and discrimination and have equal status, rights, opportunities, representation and respect regardless of their gender.

The strategy has six objectives:

- Ensure that our services are equipped to respond effectively to violence against women and family violence.
- Work alongside the community to prevent gender based violence and normalise gender equality in public and private life.
- 3. Increase women's independence and role in decision making.
- Ensure that the development of policy and programs and services considers the specific impacts of gender inequity on health, wellbeing and safety.
- Increase the number of safe-equitable facilities and public environments to facilitate equal participation in community and civic life.
- 6. Take steps to be a safer and more gender equitable organisation.

Family Violence Protection Act 2008

The Family Violence Protection Act 2008 includes a range of initiatives to better protect those who are subject to family violence, usually women and children, and to make perpetrators accountable for their actions.

Appendix 3: References

Browne, M., Greer, N., Armstrong, T., Doran, C., Kinchin, I., Langham, E., et al. (2017), The Social Cost of Gambling to Victoria. Melbourne: Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation.

Gambling Regulation Act 2003, Victorian Parliament (2021) https://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/in-force/acts/gambling-regulation-act-2003/084

Maribyrnong Planning Scheme (2021) https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/schemes-and-amendments/browse-planning-scheme/ planning-scheme?f.cheme%7CplanningSchemeName=maribyrnong

Victorian Department of Justice and Community Safety (2019), Evaluation of Your Play Final Report, Commissioned by the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies, University of Adelaide.

Victorian Planning Provisions, Planning Scheme 2021 https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/schemes-and-amendments/browse-planning-scheme/ planning-scheme?f.Scheme%7CplanningSchemeName=VPPS

World Health Organisation Key Concepts (2021) https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/social-determinants-of-health-key-concepts



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Maribyrnong City Council

61 Napier Street, Footscray Mail address: Phone: Email: Website:

PO Box 58, West Footscray VIC 3012 9688 0200 email@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au



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cityofmaribyrnong

Attachment 2 – Proposed Lease Plan



Written Submission 1 - Requested to be Heard

From:

Sent: Thursday, 25 July 2024 2:02 PM To: Governance <<u>Governance@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au></u> Subject: Manager Governance and Commercial Services

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to support the proposed lease for the Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club. The lease being considered allows the club to further improve the services they can offer, not just to the bowlers but also the local community that is starved of options within walking distance of their homes.

Although I agree that poker machines on council land is not ideal, the time frame proposed allows the club to engage in improvements that will benefit the local community for not just years but decades to come. An orderly transition out of gaming machines is a responsible and wise proposal.

Being non profit it is great to see that the revenue raised will go back into improving the club and not some private owners pockets.

I think the lease on the table is a considered plan to achieve better facilities and also the council's long term plan to remove gaming.

I would like to be heard before the committee on the 5th August Thank you for your invitation for input.

Regards





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Written Submission 2



Yarraville-Footscray Bowling Club Inc.

339a Francis Street, Yarraville Victoria 3013

TEL: 93144530

26th June 2024

LEASE Submission - Approval

Dear MCC Councillors,

Hello to you all,

Currently our Lease renewal submission is before you for your consideration and approval. We have worked diligently and cooperatively with MCC representatives in preparing and structuring the lease document to hopefully assist in a smooth transition to approval.

Currently our club has 160 financial bowling members and 1900+ social members, these numbers we believe will grow significantly over the coming years and do make us an important element in the social fabric of the area. We also hosted over 2000 people during the summer months through the promotion of our social bowling programs. Many of these people were from local commercial enterprises.

Our club is also a prominent financial sponsor of local sporting clubs and worthy charities, our current level of support is approx. \$26K per annum.

The club has responsibly traded in the area for many years and does have an income stream that has allowed us to be self-sufficient in maintaining and renovating our facilities with little burden put on the MCC for any major funding assistance.

The club being a responsible trader does recognise that societies behaviours and needs are changing, and that we do play an important role in being able to assist individuals that have behavioural issues and concerns.

We are all aware of some of the problems that exist in society today, such as harm from gambling etc and of the onus on us to be aware of the role that we must play in responsible gambling through harm minimisation. We take very seriously the role we play and have put in place a robust gambling harm minimisation plan that is strictly adhered to by management and staff.

We are however cognisant of the fact that the MCC do not want gambling in their facilities, so, to comply with these guidelines our bowls club will work with nominated MCC representatives to formulate a plan to transition away from having gaming machines in our current council owned facility, against a schedule that is acceptable to both parties.

Our plan for the next five years is to invest more than \$5M towards an upgrade of our clubroom facilities and bowling greens, our plan is to create an environment that will entice and retain new members, new social bowlers and hopefully additional females and juniors to our sport.

We are also preparing a plan to create and fund a Junior Bowls Academy.

We will also endeavour to get local schools involved to set up bowling programs as part of their curriculum where our facilities can be used to possibly host inter-school

competitions. We plan to support any participating schools through club backed sponsorship packages.

Our club is a great, friendly place to visit and be a part of. We are a favourite 'go to' place for many local community members to meet, bring the family and enjoy the many facets of social and leisure activities that the club has to offer.

We look forward to your support with our lease submission approval. Yours Sincerely

<u>Chairperson</u> On behalf of - The Yarraville/ Footscray Bowling Club

Board of Management

Written Submission 3

From: Sent: Tuesday, 2 July 2024 4:48 PM To: Governance <<u>Governance@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au</u>> Subject: Support of YFBC extension of leave

To whom it may concern.

I along term resident of Yarraville and the Maribyrnong city council would like to voice my full support of the extension of lease for the Yarraville Footscray Bowling club.

It is a fantastic community venue and I would love to see it standing for the next 100+ years.

Kind regards

Written Submission 4

From:

Sent: Tuesday, 9 July 2024 9:50 AM To: Governance <<u>Governance@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au</u>> Subject: Yarraville Footscray Bowling Club - Lease Renewal

Regarding the renewal of the lease of Council premises at 339a Francis Street, Yarraville.

I would like to submit the following submission/opinion.

I have lived within 500 meters of the YFBC premises for over 40 years and have been a full playing member of the Club for more than 10 years. The club has been a considerable constant in the recreational pursuits of a number of my family members for a very long time.

Local clubs have also used the facilities for functions and as meeting rooms in the past. Many members of these clubs also use facility for private functions or simply to catch up with friends.

Future development of the adjoining Bradmill site will allow the Club to expand social and full player membership and continue to provide a safe and enjoyable meeting/dining space.

I do not want to be identified on council sites.

Written Submission 5

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 3 July 2024 2:20 PM To: Governance <<u>Governance@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au</u>> Subject: Yarraville Footscray Bowls Club

Manager of Governance 'Maribynong'

Being a ratepayer and resident I write to support the Yarraville Footscray Bowls Club new lease

The club has been a familiar venue to visit very friendly to all.

My purpose of utilising the club is dining, relaxing on the deck and the occasional 'without detriment'

Playing their poker machines, all staff, management and patrons are very well behaved. Pls consider the renewal of their lease pursuant to the above

Regards

Written Submission 6

From:

Sent: Saturday, 13 July 2024 4:47 PM

To: Governance <Governance@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au> Subject: Submission regarding Yarraville Bowling club lease

To the manager of governance and commercial services Maribyrnong city Council,

I would like to express my support for the lease arrangements proposed for Yarraville Footscray bowling club.

The club is an important focal point in the community. It is also an extremely important meeting place, and offers important opportunities for outdoor recreation for older members of the community.

It employs many people in the local community. I would like to express my strong support for the lease arrangements that have been proposed.

I would further also request that I not be identified in agendas and minutes and any other public facing site.

Thank you for your time today.

Regards,



SHORTEN & BARRETT RESERVE (INC RECWEST) MASTERPLAN

Director:	Patrick Jess Director Infrastructure Services
Author:	Paul Jane Manager Recreation and Open Space

PURPOSE

_ -

To seek Council endorsement for the proposed updates to the Shorten & Barrett Reserve (inc RecWest) Masterplan to reflect community feedback and further site due diligence.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- Council endorsed the Shorten and Barrett Reserve Master Plan (the Master Plan) on 8 September 2020 (Attachment 1) following extensive community consultation.
- Further planning identified enhancement opportunities to the Master Plan that will better service the site, its users and local area. These include:
 - Relocation of Shorten Reserve Pavilion to the north-west corner of the Reserve to position away from residences and enable expansion of the oval,
 - Realignment of the proposed Market Street cycleable plaza to accommodate for a compliant senior football sized oval, cricket nets with greater capacity and a more meaningful playground and,
 - A second indoor court in the new RecWest Leisure Centre.
- The amended Masterplan 2023 (Attachment 2) was released to the community for comment whilst further geotechnical investigations were undertaken considering neighbourhood impacts and affordability.
- The proposed Masterplan 2024 (Attachment 3) has incorporated community feedback and proposed changes as a consequence of the further site geotechnical due diligence and has incorporated the following changes:
 - Shorten Reserve Pavilion to remain in its current location
 - Reduced size of the oval to meet Senior Cricket and Junior AFL compliance.
- These changes will necessitate Shorten Reserve becoming a junior AFL venue with Dobson Reserve being developed to accommodate the West Footscray Roosters seniors competitions.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. RecWest Shorten Reserve Master Plan 2020 😃 🖾
- 2. RecWest Shorten Reserve Master Plan 2023 Draft 😃 🛣
- 3. RecWest Shorten Reserve Master Plan 2024 for Approval 😃 🛣
- 4. Community Engagement Summary Report 😃 🛣

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OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the updated Master Plan 2024 for Shorten & Barrett Reserves, shown at Attachment 3;
- 2. Refer the Shorten & Barrett Reserves Master Plan for future budget consideration; and
- 3. Request the Chief Executive Officer to conduct a community and stakeholder briefing on the endorsed changes.

BACKGROUND

Shorten and Barrett Reserves (the Reserves) are municipal reserves in West Footscray. The Reserves are bound by Blandford Street to the west, Graham Street to the south, Essex Street to the north and Graham Street intersecting the two sites. The Reserves contain a sporting oval, sporting pavilion, small playground, a community recreation centre (RecWest) with one indoor court, an outdoor court, Scout Hall, Naval Hall and an informal recreation space. Generally these facilities are in poor condition or at the end of their useful life.

The residential population of West Footscray is growing with a significant increase in the vicinity of the Reserves. Improvements to the Reserves' informal recreational facilities to cater for the existing and forecast population were recommended as a very high priority in the Maribyrnong Open Space Strategy, 2014 and its subsequent review in 2020.

In 2020 Council endorsed the Master Plan (West Footscray Community Facilities Plan – Shorten and Barrett Reserves) at its Ordinary Meeting on 8 September 2020, proposing significant upgrades to address ageing assets and problematic ground conditions.

A principle consultant (Architect) was appointed in 2022 to progress plans for the new RecWest Centre and to develop detailed plans for developments at Shorten Reserve. As part of the Architect's scope of works a further site master planning process was undertaken in consultation with key stakeholders, which identified opportunities to further enhance the 2020 Master Plan. Key proposed enhancements include:

- Relocation of the Sports Pavilion to the north-west corner of Shorten Reserve (Cnr Essex and Blandford Street),
 - Realignment of the proposed Market Street cycleable plaza to accommodate for a compliant sized senior AFL oval, cricket nets with greater capacity and a more meaningful playground and,
 - A second indoor court in the new RecWest Centre.

The community and site stakeholders were engaged in the proposed changes whilst further site geotechnical investigations occurred noting that preliminary investigations anticipated significant seismic disturbances to the neighbourhood to achieve compaction of the former quarry site.

During the 2022 State Government election a commitment of \$10m was made to see delivery of the upgrades proposed in the Master Plan.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES

1. Key Issues

2023 Draft Master Plan Engagement

Engagement Approach

The 2023 Draft Master Plan Update was publically advertised over four weeks from 16 August to 17 September 2023. The community was invited to review the proposed changes and provide feedback via an online questionnaire.

An information flyer inviting participation was distributed to surrounding residents (450 total). The flyer included an invitation to attend two in-person events on site and a link to the questionnaire on the Your City Your Voice (YCYV) project page.

The project was further promoted via a media release, video and social media posts.

Responses and Findings

The YCYV project page was visited by over 2,300 people (2,309) with a total of 106 contributions received, which included:

- 103 contributions via the online questionnaire
- three emails to the Recreation and Open Space inbox.

The in-person events provided the opportunity for community members to discuss the proposed Master Plan updates in greater detail, ask any questions and also share their ideas and concerns directly with council officers.

Of the 103 online questionnaires that were completed, almost one third (31.07 percent) were very satisfied (five out of five stars) with the proposed changes and over 70 percent (70.87 percent) indicated three stars or above. 11.65 percent were not satisfied at all (one star).

Respondents who indicated they were a member of a club or group that currently use Shorten Reserve or RecWest (42.8 percent or 42) were most satisfied with the updates with an average rating of 3.76 out of 5, followed by those who exercise at Shorten Reserve with an average rating of 3.44 out of 5.

Those who indicated they do not currently use Shorten Reserve but would benefit from the upgrades (10.7 percent or 11), were the least satisfied with an average of 2.91 out of 5.

Those who use Shorten Reserve for passive recreation had an average score of 3.41 out of 5, compared to residents or neighbours with an average score 3.19 out of 5.

See the full details of the Community Engagement Report (Attachment 4)

Proposed Revisions to Master Plan 2023 (from engagement feedback)

Include notation of public accessible toilets

- The plan presented to the community did not include notation of the intention to include externally accessible public toilets within the footprint of the RecWest Centre and Sports Pavilion.
- The updated plan includes notation of publically accessible toilets included within the RecWest Centre and Sports Pavilion.

Essex Street car parking

- The Master Plan details existing on street parking conditions along Essex Street.
- References to parking along Essex Street has been removed from the updated plan, as changes to parking conditions are not being proposed.

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Include shading over the playground

- The plan presented to the community did not detail any shading infrastructure over the new playground.
- Natural and built shading will be considered during design development.

Create thoroughfare via Graham Street

- There was some suggestions that opening Graham Street would improve traffic flow and access around the sites.
- Altering Graham Street into a thoroughfare can be considered at a later stage following a detailed traffic assessment and community consultation.

At the conclusion of this engagement and further design investigations involving Shorten Reserve, a value management exercise was undertaken to limit increasing costs from the playing field stabilisation works. A cost review of the 2023 Master Plan had the project costed in excess of \$47,000,000.

Ground Stabilisation Issue – Shorten Reserve

The 2023 Draft Master Plan outlined the following scope for Shorten Reserve and oval reconstruction methodology:

- Excavation and increase in playing field size to 135mx110m
- Deep dynamic compaction which involves using a large crane dropping a heavy weight on the surface to flatten the undulating surface

Due to the increasing costs for the dynamic compaction (approximately \$7M) and unknown costs from potential damage to surrounding properties, the costs and risks were determined to be too high to proceed.

In early 2024 Council engaged WSP Golder to provide a peer review of the geotechnical advice regarding options for ground improvement to manage ongoing settlement issues with the aim to:

- Reduce surface level undulation to a level where maintenance/renovation works are not required more frequently than 5 years or more
- Reduce the potential for adverse impact (e.g. due to undermining or vibrations) to the existing buildings and neighbouring residential properties
- Limit the excavation and removal of existing materials

The least destructive and most economical methodology presented by WSP Golder is to regrade the oval and place a temporary surcharge preload for 12 months to induce settlement of the fill materials below the surface.

A temporary surcharge preload would comprise fill that is placed above the design finished surface level (1mt), and left in place for 12 months dependant on the rate of settlement which would be monitored. The approach would involve

- 1. Impact rolling across oval for subgrade preparation
- 2. Placement of engineered fill up to designed finished level (permanent)
- 3. Placement of temporary surcharge preload over engineered fill with survey monitoring of settlement to assess when surcharge can be removed.

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It is envisaged that a 1.5 metre layer of temporary surcharge will settle and compress over a 12 month period by 500mm leaving 1 metre surcharge above the existing surface level. The 1 metre excess would be removed and potentially reused on site.

The methodology proposed seeks to limit maintenance and ground movements that have historically plagued the reserve and will be supported by a maintenance and refurbishment regime to address any minor fluctuations.

2024 Draft Master Plan

Taking into consideration works and cost required to stabilise Shorten Reserve Oval a revised Master Plan has been developed for Council review and adoption. This plan delivers a financially prudent outcome and meets the current and future needs of the sporting groups and broader community within a significantly constrained site.

The 2024 Master Plan (Attachment 3) includes the following scope:

- Realigned oval (135x100m + run-off, fencing and path). Scoreboard and lighting retained where possible. Turf wickets and terraced seating at northern boundary
- Minor internal refurbishment to Shorten pavilion
- New RecWest facility including 2 indoor high-ball courts, Scouts facility, multi-use spaces, gymnasium and café/toilets accessible from the plaza
- Sheltered picnic and BBQ facilities
- Playground
- Closure of Market St and creation of plaza connecting both reserves
- Cricket nets
- Landscaping including removal of 70 trees and planting of 161 new

Scope removed from 2023 Master Plan to manage costs

- No works to street parking
- Reduction in playing field size (within AFL/Cricket guidelines) Snr Cricket, Jnr AFL
- Score board to be retained
- Playing field lighting to retain subject to further investigation

Note – there is a significant saving achieved by refurbishing the existing club rooms to address the needs of Snr Cricket and Jnr AFL. The relocation of Snr AFL to Dobson Reserve will trigger the requirement for a new pavilion with the current provision of facilities being below required sporting standards.

A process has commenced to undertake a Master Plan for Dobson Reserve to reflect the need to accommodate senior AFL and Cricket competition.

Schematic Design RecWest

During schematic design phase the layout of the RecWest building was further developed taking into account all user requirements as shown below.

Key features of the RecWest building include:

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Ground Floor

- 2 indoor high-ball courts with seating and storage
- Community multipurpose and meeting spaces
- Scouts activity and storage spaces
- Toilet and change facilities
- Café and public toilets accessible from the plaza

First Floor

• 24hr gymnasium with separate secure access

Layouts, finishes and inclusions will be further developed during detailed design phase.

Relocation of Users Long Term

Following further geotechnical investigations that sought to achieve a Australian Football League (AFL) minimum oval size of 165m x 135m it was determined that it was not financially feasible to achieve. The proposed oval size does however meet Senior Cricket standards of 135m x 100m.

Discussions with the two tenants of the reserve have supported the opportunity to move Senior AFL to Dobson Reserve. This location shift would allow Shorten Reserve to continue to host the two primary tenants ensuring that they maintain their geographic identity and facilitate the development of Dobson Reserve to host Senior AFL.

To facilitate this move the current winter tenant of Dobson Reserve – Melbourne Knights has provided in principle support to move to Robert Barret Reserve which is also currently undergoing Master planning.

2. Council Policy/Legislation

Council Plan 2021-2025

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objectives
 - Council will plan and advocate for new infrastructure and safe, sustainable and effective transport networks and a smart innovative city that encourages and supports new generations to thrive.

Legislation

Local Government Act 2020.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Agenda Item 9.2

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.*

3. Engagement

The full engagement report can be found at **Attachment 4**.

4. Resources

Estimated Project Budget

Item	RecWest	Shorten	Total
	(Barrett Reserve)	Reserve	
Construction (Inc. contingency)	\$27,900,000	\$9,413,485	\$37,313,485
Authority Fees	\$272,000	\$291,000	\$563,000
Professional Fees	\$1,782,188	\$341,327	\$2,123,515
	\$29,954,188	\$10,045,812	\$40,000,000

Proposed Annual Council Budget

Year	Budget	Spend
Spend to Date	\$852,357	\$852,357
2024/25	\$4,957,000	
2025/26	\$26,200,000	
2026/27	\$7,990,643	
	\$40,000,000	\$852,357

A \$10m contribution has been allocated by the State Government under the Community Sports & Recreation Grants program. The State Government has indicated that the funding agreement will be executed on Councils endorsement of the Masterplan.

Proposed Funding Allocation

Organisation	Amount
Maribyrnong Council	\$30,000,000
SRV Funding	\$10,000,000
	\$40,000,000

5. Environment

The Master Plan will improve the environmental condition of the site by increasing tree canopy cover and diversity of plant species and types. The Master Plan proposes a net gain of 91 trees with 70 removals required and 161 new trees.

Efficient playing field irrigation and drainage systems and the installation of warm season grasses will improve the water management across the site.

Environmentally sustainable initiatives will be factored into the design of all buildings to ensure best practice in construction, materials and emissions

CONCLUSION

Significant costs to deliver the 2023 Master Plan as well as remediate any peripheral damage from deep compaction activities resulted in Council Officers reviewing and prioritising the high level objectives of the project to ensure a financially responsible outcome. The reshaping of the oval and refurbishment only to Shorten Reserve pavilion enable the project to deliver a leading sports and community complex suitable for the RecWest users, senior cricket and junior AFL clubs.

Concurrent masterplans occurring at Dobson Reserve and Robert Barret Reserve will identify and address the future needs of sporting clubs impacted by the development and ensure their future growth and sustainability.





SHORTEN AND BARRETT RESERVE

Overall Site Plan

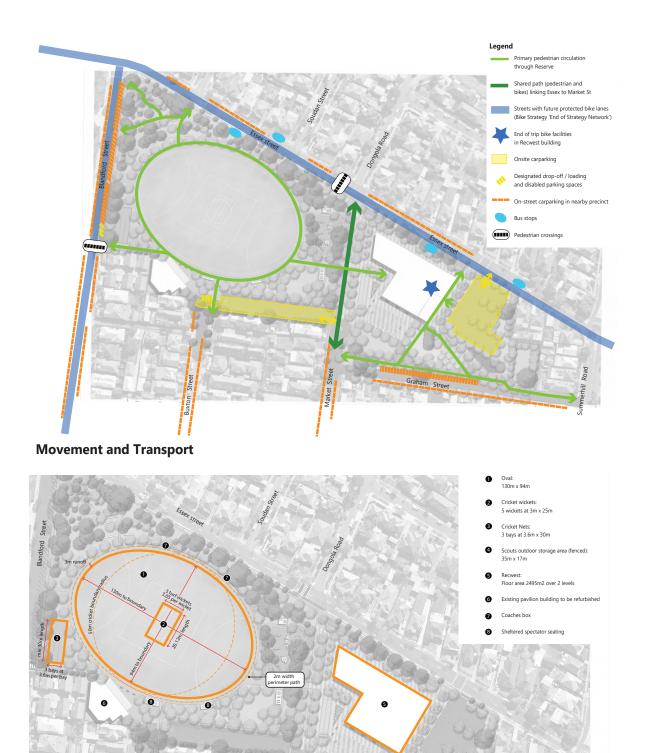
MASTERPLAN

Agenda Item 9.2 - Attachment 1

Legend

9	including replacement Scout facilities
3	New picnic and BBQ facilities
4	Netball / basketball / multiuse court with seating and lighting
5	Bocce court with seating and arbour
6	Cafe seating plaza
7	Existing playground, expanded around existing trees, to include water play
8	Proposed closure of Market Street, with shared path connection to Essex Street
9	Meeting room breakout space
10	Playing field with goals and nets
0	Perimeter path with low fencing and seating
Ð	New multi-use cricket nets
B	Sheltered spectator seating
14	Raingarden for stormwater treatment, investigate storage and reuse for irrigation
Ð	Formalise on street parking on Graham Street (remains closed)
16	Investigate increased on-street parking Blandford Street
Ð	Scouts outdoor storage area (fenced)
18	Informal nature play connection
19	Drop off zone
20	Existing scoreboard
21	Designated disabled and drop-off parking

not to scale	
Aug 2020	



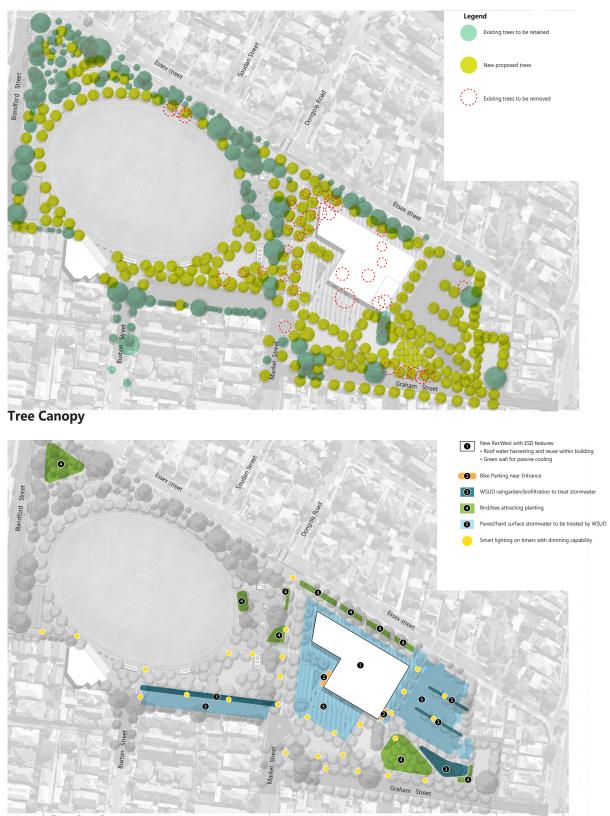




SHORTEN AND BARRETT RESERVE

MASTERPLAN





ESD Features

Site Diagrams

not to scale	
Aug 2020	





Bocce court

Exercise equipment and seating edges



Shaded seating within landscape



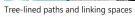


Paved links





Oval perimeter path and seat wall





Nature play element among existing trees



Multi-use court



Picnic and barbecue shelters



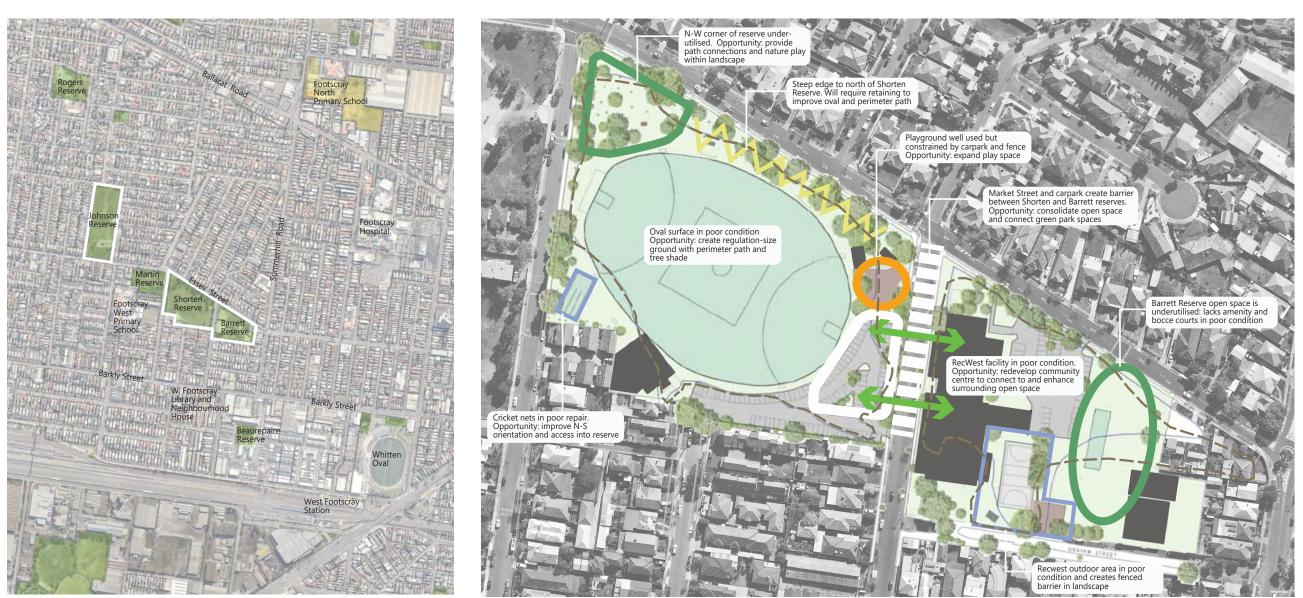
SHORTEN AND BARRETT RESERVE

MASTERPLAN

Example images of site features







Location Plan

Site Analysis Plan



SHORTEN AND BARRETT RESERVE





EXISTING CONDITIONS

Agenda Item 9.2 - Attachment 2

LEGEND

1 EXISTING SHORTEN PAVILION

- 2 EXISTING RECWEST FACILITY
- 3 EXISTING PICNIC AND BBQ FACILITIES
- 4 EXISTING BOCCE COURT AND BARRETT RESERVE
- 5 EXISTING PLAYGROUND
- 6 EXISTING PLAYING FIELD
- 7 EXISTING CRICKET NETS
- 8 EXISTING SCOUTS, AND ENGINEERING BUILDING
- 9 EXISTING SCOREBOARD
- 10 EXISTING PARKING AND DROP-OFF
- EXISTING EXTERNAL BASKETBALL COURT AND PLAYGROUND
- 12 EXISTING SPEED HUMPS
- 13 EXISTING PEDESTRIAN CROSSING



SCALE IN METRIES

+ henderson



STAGE 1 - SHORTEN RESERVE

Agenda Item 9.2 - Attachment 2

LEGEND	
--------	--

- NEW CURATOR STORE AND EMERGRNCY/ MAINENAI ACCESS TO OVAL
- 2 EXISTING RECWEST FACILITY
- 3 EXISTING BOCCE COURT AND BARRETT RESERVE
- UPGRADED OVAL (140m X 100m) WITH 4 TURF CRICKET WICKETS
- **5** NEW GOAL POSTS WITH SAFETY NETTING (SAFETY NETTING TO ALSO PROTECT PLAYGROUND)
- 6 PERIMETER PATH
- 7 NEW 4 LANE CRICKET NETS (14.4m X 36m)
- 8 SPECTATOR SEATING AND COACHES & PLAYERS INTERCHANGE SHELTERS
- 9 SPECTATOR SEATING AND VIEWING AREA
- 10 EXISTING SCOUTS, AND ENGINEERING BUILDINGS
- PROPOSED 18 CAR SPACES ON-STREET PARKING ON BLANDFORD STREET WITH DROP-OFF ZONE AND DISABLED PARKING
- 12 NEW PAVILION
- 13 RELOCATED EXISTING SCOREBOARD
- 14 EXISTING RECWEST PARKING AND DROP-OFF
- 15 EXISTING EXTERNAL BASKETBALL COURT AND PLAYGROUND
- 16 EXISTING SPEED HUMPS
- 10 DESIGNATED PARKING AREAS (22 CAR SPACES ON ESSEX STREET FOR SHORTEN RESERVE)
- 18 BICYCLE HOOPS
- 19 EXISTING PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
- 20 DESIGNATED PARKING AREAS (38 CAR SPACES SOUT OF SHORTEN RESERVE)
- 21 EXISTING SPEED HIP UPGRADED TO PRIORITY PEDESTRIAN CROSSING



SCALE IN METRIES

) + henderson $\left(\right)$



RECWEST AND SHORTEN RESERVE REDEVELOPMENT, WEST FOOTSCRAY

OVERALL MASTER PLAN

A PLANTERS SEATS 2	NEW RECWEST FACILITY INCLUDING TWO INDOOR COURTS AND CO-LOCATED SCOUT FACILITIES
PEDESTRIAN AND ARKING LIGHTS	NEW SHELTERED PICNIC AND BBQ FACILITIES
4	BOCCE COURT WITH SEATING AND ARBOUR
SS EQUIPMENT	CAFE BREAKOUT
RETE PATH 6	RELOCATED PLAYGROUND EXPANDED AROUND EXISTING TREES
HOOPS 7	PROPOSED CLOSURE OF MARKET STREET WITH DRO OFF AREA
FLOODLIGHTS	UPGRADED OVAL(140m X 100m)WITH 4 TURF CRICKET WICKETS
PROPOSED 9	NEW GOAL POSTS WITH SAFETY NETTING (SAFETY NETTING TO ALSO PROTECT PLAYGROUND)
10	PERIMETER PATH
0	NEW 4 LANE CRICKET NETS (14.4m X 36m)
12	SPECTATOR SEATING AND COACHES & PLAYERS INTERCHANGE SHELTERS
13	INVESTIGATE RAIN GARDEN FOR STROM WATER TREATMENT
1	FORMALISE ON-STREET PARKING (35 CAR SPACES) O GRAHAM STREET
6	PROPOSED 19 ON-STREET CAR PARK SPACES ON BLANDFORD STREET WITH DROP-OFF ZONE AND ACCESSIBLE PARKING
16	NEW PAVILION
	RELOCATED EXISTING SCOREBOARD
18	CAR PARK WITH DESIGNATED ACCESSIBLE SPACES AI LOADING ZONE (71 SPACES)
•	CYCLABLE PLAZA AND CONNECTION BETWEEN MARKET STREET AND ESSEX STREET (COMMUNITY MARKET/EVENT AREA) INCLUDING BOLLARDS AND STREET FURNITURE
20	EXISTING PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS
2	ESSEX STREET ON-STREET PARKING AREAS (36-40 CAR SPACES)
2	DESIGNATED PARKING AREAS (38 CAR SPACES SOUT OF SHORTEN RESERVE)
23	BICYCLE HOOPS
24	SPECTATOR SEATING AND VIEWING AREA
25	NEW POWER SUBSTATION AND COMMUNITY BATTER
26	EXISTING SPEED HIP UPGRADED TO PRIORITY PEDESTRIAN CROSSING NEW PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
28	FIRE TANKS
Tilling 29	RAIN WATER TANKS
30	SCOUT GROUP GAS CANISTERS
31	PERMEABLE DRIVEWAY / PAVING
22 B	HYDRATION STATION
HILLE	
SUMMERANT RD	

Agenda Item 9.2 - Attachment 2

NEW CURATOR STORE AND EMERGRNCY/ MAINENAI ACCESS TO OVAL

LEGEND

PLAZA PLANTERS





LEGEND

- BUS STOPS

+ henderson



ESD FEATURES

Agenda Item 9.2 - Attachment 2

LEGEND



NEW RECWEST CENTER WITH ROOF WATER HARVEST ING AND REUSE WITHIN THE BUILDING

RAIN-GARDEN TO TREAT STORMWATER (SUBJECT TO FURTHER SITE INVESTIGATION)

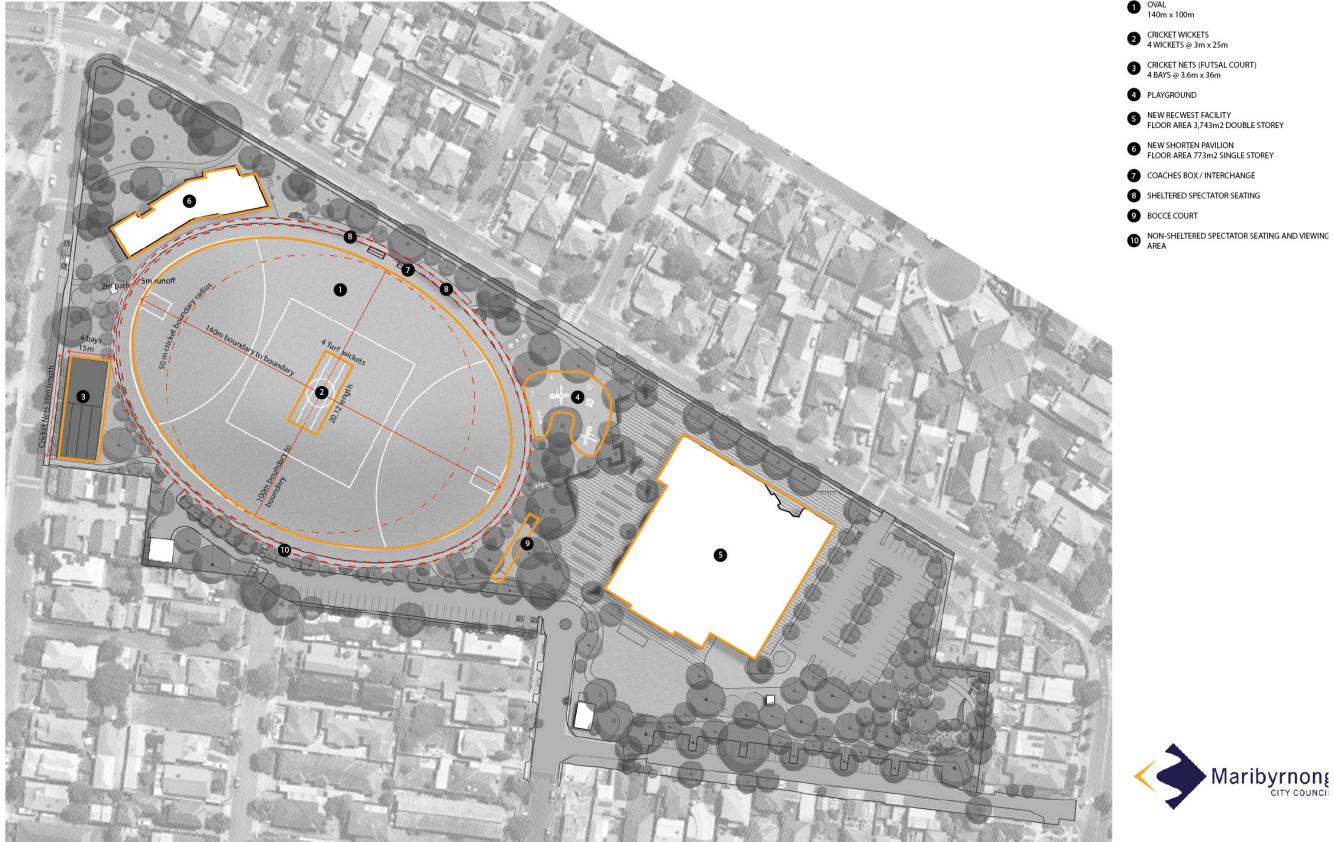
BIRD / BEE ATTRACTIVE PLANTING

PAVED / HARD SURFACE (RECWEST STORMWATER TO TREATED BY PROPOSED RAIN-GARDEN)

SOLAR PUBLIC LIGHTING ON TIMERS



+ henderson



FORMAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Agenda Item 9.2 - Attachment 2

LEGEND

0	OVAL 140m x 100m
0	CRICKET WICKETS 4 WICKETS @ 3m x 25m
3	CRICKET NETS (FUTSAL COURT) 4 BAYS @ 3.6m x 36m
4	PLAYGROUND
6	NEW RECWEST FACILITY FLOOR AREA 3,743m2 DOUBLE STOREY
6	NEW SHORTEN PAVILION FLOOR AREA 773m2 SINGLE STOREY
Ø	COACHES BOX / INTERCHANGE
8	SHELTERED SPECTATOR SEATING
9	BOCCE COURT
10	NON-SHELTERED SPECTATOR SEATING AND VIEWING AREA





RECWEST AND SHORTEN RESERVE REDEVELOPMENT, WEST FOOTSCRAY TREE CANOPY

Agenda Item 9.2 - Attachment 2

LEGEND

EXISTING TREES

#175 PROPOSED NEW TREES 2023 MASTERPLAN

#58 TREES REMOVED 2020 + 2023 MASTERPLANS

9 TREE RETAINED IN 2020 MASTERPLAN AND REMOVED IN 2023 MASTERPLAN

3 TREE REMOVED IN 2020 MASTERPLAN AND RETAINED IN 2023 MASTERPLAN









3occe Courts credit Goode Landscape Studio _ Barnard Place Park



Paving and seating edges # credit Mala Studio _ Docklands Park Redevelopment



Plaza and Sunday Market # credit City Center DC Market Washington DC



ntegrated Paving and Planting credit James Corner Feild / Gehry _ Beekman St Plazas Manhatten



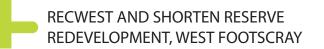
Integrated Paving and Planting Playspace _ Native Grassland # credit Oculus_ Wooten Reserve Grassland Melbourne



Nature Play Equipment



ree Lined Pathway credit Fitzroy Gardens Melbourne





Landscape bridges in rain garden # credit Garden Bridges UK



BBQ Shelter # credit Connell Design and Construction _ Booran Reserve



credit Ace Landscape Services Nillumbik Shire ; Diamon Creek Regional Playspace



RECWEST AND SHORTEN RESERVE REDEVELOPMENT, WEST FOOTSCRAY **OVERALL MASTER PLAN**

NEW PROPOSED

Agenda Item 9.2 - Attachment 3

NEW CURATOR STORE AND EMERGRNCY/ MAINENAI ACCESS TO OVAL

2 NEW RECWEST FACILITY INCLUDING TWO INDOOR COURTS AND CO-LOCATED SCOUT FACILITIES

3 NEW SHELTERED PICNIC AND BBQ FACILITIES 4 BOCCE COURT WITH SEATING AND ARBOUR

6 RELOCATED PLAYGROUND EXPANDED AROUND EXISTING TREES

5 CAFE BREAKOUT + PUBLIC TOILETS

LEGEND

PLAZA PLANTERS WITH SEATS

NEW PEDESTRIAN AND CAR PARKING LIGHTS

FITNESS EOUIPMENT

ONCRETE PATH

OVAL FLOODLIGHTS

\mathcal{O}	OFF AREA
8	UPGRADED OVAL (135m X 100m) WITH 4 TURF CRICKET WICKETS
9	NEW GOAL POSTS WITH SAFETY NETTING (SAFETY NETTING TO ALSO PROTECT PLAYGROUND)
0	PERIMETER PATH
1	NEW 4- 5 LANE CRICKET NETS (14 17 X 36m)
2	SPECTATOR SEATING AND COACHES & PLAYERS INTERCHANGE SHELTERS
3	INVESTIGATE RAIN GARDEN FOR STORM WATER TREATMENT
4	REFURBISHED PAVILION
5	EXISTING SCOREBOARD
6	CAR PARK WITH DESIGNATED ACCESSIBLE SPACES A LOADING ZONE (71 SPACES)
7	CYCLABLE PLAZA AND CONNECTION BETWEEN MARKET STREET AND ESSEX STREET (COMMUNITY MARKET/EVENT AREA) INCLUDING BOLLARDS AND STREET FURNITURE
8	EXISTING PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS
9	DESIGNATED PARKING AREAS (38 CAR SPACES SOUT

20 BICYCLE HOOPS

21 SPECTATOR SEATING AND VIEWING AREA

22 EXISTING SPEED HUMP UPGRADED TO PRIORITY PEDESTRIAN CROSSING

23 FIRE TANKS



SCALE IN METRIES 6 12 18 24 30

- henderson



October 2023

Background

Council has continued to progress designs for upgrades to Shorten and Barrett reserves, post adoption of the West Footscray Community Facilities Plan (the Plan) in September 2020.

The Plan considers the future of three reserves - Shorten, Barrett (which is home to RecWest) and Johnson - and incorporates master plans identifying opportunities for development to accommodate a variety of sports and meet current and future demands based on increasing capacity.

It recognises the failing condition of existing facilities and considers opportunities to integrate Shorten and Barrett reserves with a redeveloped RecWest Footscray.

Since the Plan's adoption, while continuing to advocate for government funding to support implementation, additional site planning and due diligence has been undertaken, including an environmental audit and risk assessment of landfill ground conditions, inclusive of geotechnical investigations.

The investigations have led to changes to the Shorten-Barrett Master Plan previously presented to the community including:

- the relocation of the Shorten pavilion to the northwest of the Reserve on the corner of Blandford and Essex streets
- upgrading the sports fields/oval to a full-size AFL standard oval which will increase its size and move it closer to Essex Street
- fully enclosed four lane cricket nets, to increase training capacity and improve public safety
- the expanded footprint of RecWest includes a second indoor court, a community meeting space, a new area for the Scouts and relocated bocce court
- the proposed transformation of Market Street into an outdoor plaza and active transport pathway to support market days and outdoor events
- increased planting generally across both reserves. This includes 175 new trees to replace 58 trees that will be removed
- increased car parking with 35 additional spaces provided in the formalisation of parking along Graham Street

Since the adoption of the Master Plan, Government has also committed \$10 million dollars to support the redevelopment.

Methodology

From Wednesday 16 August to midnight Sunday 17 September, the community was invited to review the proposed changes, and provide feedback via an online questionnaire.

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An information flyer inviting participation was distributed to surrounding residents. The flyer included an invitation to attend two in-person events on site and a link to the Your City Your Voice project page.

The project was further promoted via a media release, video and social media posts.

Overall Response

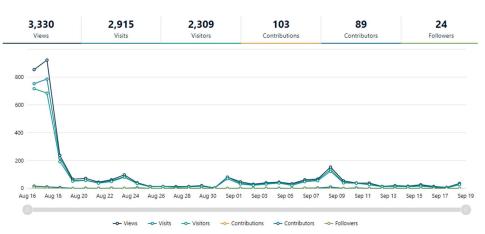
Over 2,300 people (**2,309**) visited the project page with a total of **106** contributions received, which included:

- **103** contributions via the online questionnaire
- three emails to the project team

Your City Your Voice

During the engagement period **103** contributions were received, **24** people followed the project page, and the information flyer was downloaded **124** times. Interest in the project peaked on Thursday 17 August 2023 – the day after the project opened on Your City Your Voice.

Figure 1: Page visits during the engagement period



Of the 2,300 visitors to the project page, more than half (**52.77%**) were active on the page for at least one minute. Over one quarter (**26.59%**) performed at least two actions.

In-person events

Two in person events were held with **12** community members attending:

- Saturday 2 September, 10.00-11.00am at Shorten Reserve Pavilion
- Wednesday 6 September, 6.00-7.00pm at RecWest

The in-person events provided the opportunity for community members to discuss the proposed Master Plan updates in greater detail, ask any questions and also share their ideas and concerns directly with council officers.

The proposed changes were well received by the majority of attendees with feedback specific to three key elements:

- open space including shading for the playground and an outdoor obstacle style gym or ninja warrior style course for older children/adults
- support for the inclusion of publicly accessible toilets for both the Shorten Reserve pavilion and RecWest community facility
- parking and traffic including residents who identified as living on Market Street supporting the proposed street closure and concerns raised residents who identified as living on Essex Street regarding parking conditions along their street.

A summary of the in-person events is provided in TRIM 23/250198.

Emails

Three emails were sent directly to the Recreation and Open Space Team.

While two were supportive of the upgrades to cater to the needs of the growing community, both raised concerns about increased traffic, car parking and pedestrian safety.

The third sought a greater focus on passive open spaces and tree planting to provide greater shade/shelter.

Questionnaire Findings

A total of 103 online questionnaires were completed.

Question: Overall, how satisfied are you with the proposed changes? One star = not satisfied at all, five = very satisfied.

Answered by all respondents.

Almost one third (**31.07%**) were very satisfied (five stars) with the proposed changes and over 70 percent (**70.87%**) indicated three stars or above. **11.65 per cent** were not satisfied at all (one star).

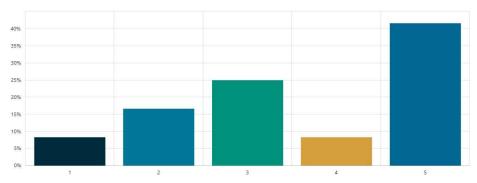


Figure 2: Satisfaction level – all respondents

Respondents who indicated they were a member of a club or group that currently use Shorten Reserve or RecWest (42.8% or 42) were most satisfied with the updates with an average rating of 3.76 out of 5, followed by those who exercise at Shorten Reserve with an average rating of 3.44 out of 5.

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Those who indicated they do not currently use Shorten Reserve but would benefit from the upgrades (10.7% or 11), were the least satisfied with an average of 2.91¹ out of 5.

Those who use Shorten Reserve for passive recreation had an average score of 3.41 out of 5, compared to residents or neighbours with an average score 3.19 out of 5.

				Satisfacti	ion Level		
Respondent Association	Total n=	1	2	3	4	5	Ave.
Resident of West Footscray	85	11	16	22	12	24	3.26
A neighbour of Shorten Reserve or RecWest	51	9	10	14	4	14	3.08
A member of a club or group that currently uses Shorten Reserve or RecWest	42	2	7	8	7	18	3.76
Someone who exercises themselves and/or their dog(s) at Shorten Reserve	61	8	6	18	9	20	3.44
Someone who uses the playspace at Shorten Reserve	47	7	5	13	7	15	3.38
Someone who currently does not use Shorten Reserve but would benefit from an upgraded facility	11	0	6	2	1	2	2.91
Passive recreation ² Resident or neighbour ³	108 136	15 20	11 26	21 36	16 16	35 38	3.41 3.19

Table 1: Satisfaction level by respondent association. Blue shading indicates the highest proportion or respondents, grey shading shows the lowest.

Question: Do you have any specific feedback you would like to provide on any of the key Master Plan updates?

Three quarters (75.2% or 76) of 101 respondents opted to provide specific feedback.

Question: Which of the following would you like to provide specific feedback on?

Answered by 70 respondents.

Respondents were able to select and provide feedback on as many or as few of the proposed updates as they wanted.

The majority of the 70 respondents 54.29% (38) selected 'Transforming Market Street into an open-air plaza' followed by 'Modifying the footprint of RecWest to include a second indoor court' - selected by 35.71% (25).

¹ Given the small number of respondents, findings presented are indicative only.

³ Resident or neighbour is a grouping of those who indicated they use the playspace or exercise at Shorten Reserve ³ Resident or neighbour is a grouping of those who indicated they were a resident of West Footscray, or a neighbour of Shorten Reserve or RecWest.

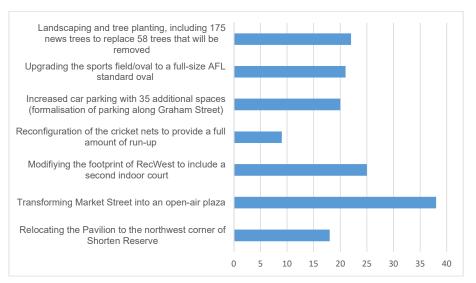


Figure 3: Number of responses to Master Plan update feedback results

Landscaping and tree planting, including 175 additional trees to replace 58 trees that will be removed

Feedback from 22 respondents included:

- retain as many mature trees as possible
- plant mature trees instead of saplings
- plant native species
- include even more trees

"The 175 new trees need to be MATURE trees on planting that will provide adequate shade. Please consider the fact that the west is a concrete corridor with very little green space and respite from the heat in summer."

"Great change. More trees for the community."

Upgrading the sports field/oval to a full-size AFL standard oval

Feedback from 21 respondents included:

- general support for the upgrade (eight)
- opposition to the upgrade (three)
- concerns about increased traffic/parking
- environmental considerations, such as use of grey water

"I don't support the upgrade in size due to the limited size of the site and its local neighbourhood character, located on local streets - the site is not in a position or size to support this level of infrastructure and the upgrade has an unacceptable impact on other community and open space infrastructure in the space, including more tree removal and pavilion relocation."

Increased car parking with 35 additional spaces (formalisation of parking along Graham Street)

Feedback from 20 respondents included:

- concern about parking backing onto surrounding homes
- concern about the loss of open space
- support for additional car parking shown in the Master Plan
- concern about a lack of car parking
- need for more bicycle infrastructure

"Again, parking must not encroach into already limited provision of open space. Why isn't it an underground car park within the RecWest footprint? I would personally support paid parking to encourage active and sustainable transport and to regain the expense. If the open space provision is compromised, this must be compensated in the close vicinity."

Reconfiguration of the cricket nets to provide a full amount of run-up

Feedback from nine respondents included:

- support for fully enclosed cricket nets
- concern about the loss of open space

"Essential. The current nets are unsafe and can be dangerous to the public using the football goals to kick footies while cricket training or use of the nets is happening. An enclosed space will also allow concurrent use of all reserve spaces."

"What is the rationale behind footprint of a single use facility taking up common open space for the vast majority of the users? Compensate with accessible and non-exclusive open space areas in the vicinity."

Modifying the footprint of RecWest to include a second indoor court

Feedback from 25 respondents included:

- support for the additional indoor court (12)
- concern about the loss of the outdoor court (three)
- concern about loss of open space with the increased footprint of RecWest

"If all courts are indoors, children who cannot afford to play cannot access an outdoor court."

"This is required and will help grow indoor sports in the community, especially the Hawks Basketball Club."

Transforming Market Street into an open-air plaza

The majority 38 (54.3%) provided feedback on this update including:

- support for Market Street closing to traffic (16)
- concern about the location of the substation/community battery (14)
- opposition to closing Market Street to traffic (14)
- concern about parking/traffic management (six)

"Closing Market St is a positive, however the parking and traffic management looks like it will be problematic. Consideration of the proposed shopping centre development at Summerhill Rd and Barkly St will make it difficult for vehicles to exit Market St onto Barkly St."

"As a resident on Market St fellow residents and I are excited about the proposal. The location of the power substation and battery is the only cause for concern amongst us. The current location is awful not only for this section of greenspace but also for residents walking down Market St toward the proposed new complex."

Relocating the Pavilion to the northwest corner of Shorten Reserve

Feedback from 18 respondents included:

- support for the relocation (seven)
- opposition to the relocation (five)
- concerns about parking/traffic management (four)

"Excellent idea to relocate and it is in the best proposed location. Important that it maximises viewing and uses the slope of the existing land to promote this aspect. A two storey or split level pavilion would future proof it for the next 30 years."

"I do not support the relocation of the pavilion. Its current location is set into the landscape at the lower side of the site and tucked against back fences which minimises the building's impact on the site - the new location will block views into the space from the open and elevated corner of Essex and Blandford and result in more tree removal."

Do you have any other feedback on the proposed changes to the Master Plan?

Feedback from 76 respondents included:

- support and excitement about the proposed upgrades (22)
- concerns about parking/traffic management (11)
- the location of substation/community battery (five)
- request for a public toilet/baby change table (five)
- calling for lighting design that minimises light pollution for surrounding residencies (four)

"This plan looks amazing and will transfer this area to a premium sports precinct within the west. The community needs this development to go ahead."

"It needs public, accessible toilets. The current playground has bushes that kids are forced to use as a public toilet, this is well known by all locals, and will continue if public toilets are not included."

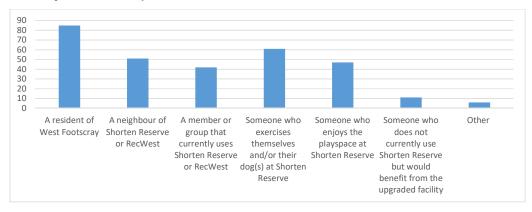
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Demographics

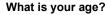
103 respondents provided some demographic information.

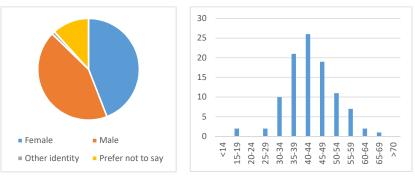
- The majority (85.5% or 85) identified as residents of West Footscray, followed by 'Someone who exercises themselves and/or their dog(s) at Shorten Reserve' (59.2% or 61)
- 44.12% identified as female (45), and 43.14% as male (44).
- More than a quarter (25.7% or 26) were aged 40-44, followed by 35-39 (20.71% or 21) and 45-49 years (18.81% or 19).
- Eleven respondents speak a language other than English at home, nine identify as having a disability, and seven are members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

What is your relationship to Shorten Reserve and RecWest?

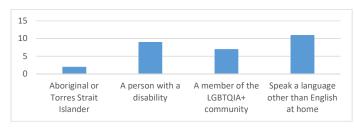


What is your gender?





I am:



Agenda Item 9.3

PLACE BASED INITIATIVES (ANNUAL) GRANTS PROGRAM 2024/25 – FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Director:	Mike McIntosh Director Planning and Environment
Author:	Francesca O'Brien Manager City Futures

PURPOSE

To seek Council endorsement of the 2024/25 Place-based Initiatives (Annual) Funding Recommendations.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- The objective of the Place-based Initiatives (Annual) Grants Program (the Grants Program) is to support a dynamic mix of community-led activities.
- The Grants Program aligns with the Council Plan 2021-2025 and the Maribyrnong Festivals and Activation Framework 2022-2026.
- The 2024/25 Grants Program was open from 22 May to 19 June 2024 with Council receiving 22 eligible applications representing a 69% increase in demand from the 2023/24 round.
- Council's independent Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel (The Panel) met in July 2024 to discuss their individual assessments and make consolidated recommendations.
- The Panel recommends 10 applicants receive funding to a total of \$125,000.
- The recommendations support a diverse range of activities activating different precincts across the municipality.
- This grant round is the final assessment by the current Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel. An updated Terms of Reference will be taken to Council for endorsement in late 2024, prior to initiating an open expression of interest process for new panel members.
- The Panel noted that the demand for community based festivals and activations continues to grow concurrently with the growth of the city. This makes the distribution of fixed funding more challenging each year.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Place-based Initiatives (Annual) Grants Program Guidelines 2024/25 😃 🛣
- 2. Place-based Initiatives (Annual) 2024/25 Funding Recommendations 🗓 🖀
- 3. Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel Terms of Reference 😃 🖀

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the Place-Based Initiatives (Annual) Grants Program 2024/25 funding recommendations, as shown at Attachment 2.

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BACKGROUND

In 2022, Council adopted the Maribyrnong Festivals and Activation Framework 2022-2026 (the Framework), which replaced Council's Festival City Policy. The Framework outlines the rationale, objectives and strategic actions through which Council will deliver and support a broad program of activations, events and festivals. At the heart of the Framework is a commitment to a 'place-based approach' given the wide ranging benefits it can bring to communities, the local economy and City identity.

The Framework acknowledges that Council takes the view that in most instances, communities are best placed to produce the ideas and to plan, organise and deliver the City's activations. The Framework outlines four funding streams as a key mechanism for Council to support community-led festivals and activations:

1) Signature Festivals (Biennial)

This stream is generally for larger-scale festivals (5000+ people) that showcase the best of the City of Maribyrnong, its geography, local cultures or creative talents and attract diverse audiences from across Melbourne and Victoria. These festivals will create significant economic activity for the City and help position Maribyrnong as an events destination.

2) Place-based Initiatives (Annual)

This stream is for place-based activities that creatively activate public spaces, business precincts and local neighbourhoods. They will provide opportunity for inclusive local participation, increase visitation and spending in the local area and help build a shared sense of community and precinct identity.

3) Place-based Initiatives (Quick Response)

This stream is designed for small-to-medium scale place-based activities that may be presented on an ad-hoc or semi-regular basis, or may be a pilot event. The "quick response" allows for activities that cannot meet fixed annual timeframes.

4) Night Time Diversification (Quick Response)

This stream is designed for activities that enhance or widen the reach of night-time attractions and help build Maribyrnong's reputation as a night time destination of choice.

Streams 1 and 2 are open to not-for-profit organisations. Applications are assessed by Council's independent Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel (the Panel) and recommendations made to Council for endorsement.

Streams 3 and 4 are open to not-for-profit organisations or for-profit enterprises based in the City of Maribyrnong. Applications are assessed by Council officers and endorsed by the relevant Manager/Director, with outcomes notified within 28 days of an application being received.

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In 2023/24 financial year funds were awarded as follows through the four streams:

Funding Stream	Applications Funded	Total \$ Funded
1. Signature Festivals (Biennial) 2023/2024	10	\$270,000
2. Place-based Initiatives (Annual) 2023/24	8	\$120,000
3. Place-based Initiatives (Quick Response) 2023/24	13	\$113,607
4.Night Time Diversification (Quick Response) 2023/24	5	\$46,990
TOTAL	34	\$525,597

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES

1. Key Issues

The Place-based Initiatives (Annual) Grants Program 2024/25

The objective of the Place-based Initiatives (Annual) Grants Program 2024/25 (the Grants Program) is to support a dynamic mix of festivals and activations that will:

- Creatively activate the city's spaces
- Help strengthen precinct and neighbourhood identity
- Provide opportunity for inclusive local participation and capacity building
- Increase visitation and spending in the local area
- Provide paid opportunities for local cultural and creative sectors
- Promote collaborations between local business and creatives

The Grants Program Guidelines are provided at Attachment 1.

Funds Available

\$140,000 has been allocated to the Place-based Initiatives (Annual) Grants Program 2024/25. Two events funded in the previous 2023/24 round (Multi-cultural Family Day at Pipemakers Park and Westside Slam) were unable to be delivered as originally planned during the last financial year. They are being supported to occur in FY25 instead, with \$15,000 total across the two events to be paid by Council upon their delivery. As a result, the Place-based Initiatives (Annual) Grants Program 2024/25 has a total available budget of **\$125,000**.

Applicants were eligible to apply for grants of up to \$20,000.

Applications

The Grants Program was open from 22 May to 19 June 2024 (29 days), with applications made through the SmartyGrants online grant management system.

Council received 22 eligible applications totalling a request of \$382,939.38, to an available pool of \$125,000, representing a significant increase in funds requested (68%) when compared to the previous Place-based Initiatives (Annual) round as follows:

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Stream	Eligible Applications Received	Funding requested	Funding available
Place-based Initiatives (Annual) 2023/24	13	\$228,300	\$120,000
Place-based Initiatives (Annual) 2024/25	22	\$382,939.38	\$125,000

Assessment

All applications were assessed by Council's independent Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel against the assessment criteria outlined in the program guidelines.

The assessment criteria includes:

- Commitment to a professional and safe approach in planning and delivery in consultation with Council
- Evidence of local need and/or community support for the activity
- Demonstrates relevant and engaging content or delivery
- Evidence of direct benefit to local businesses, cultural and creative industries &/or artists
- Strengthen local precinct and neighbourhood identity
- Provide opportunities for local participation and capacity building
- Includes measures to promote gender equity, inclusion and accessibility in the planning and delivery
- Commitment to good environmental sustainability practices and minimising environmental impact
- Evidence of a realistic budget with appropriate resourcing.

After completing individual assessments in SmartyGrants, Council's Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel met on 12 July 2024 to discuss the assessments and to prepare consolidated recommendations.

This grant round represents the final to be assessed by the current Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel.

The Panel expressed their thanks to Council for the opportunity to evaluate the grant applications for their term. They noted the crucial role Council plays in empowering local creatives to deliver festivals and activations that contribute to the liveability of the City and which promote distinct precinct identities and creates local pride.

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Recommendations

The Panel recommends 10 applications for funding as listed below.

Place-based Initiatives 2024/25:

- Footscray Themed Neighbourhood Walking Tours
- Bathukamma The Floral Festival 2024
- Ethiopian New Year Festival
- Setting Sun International Film Festival
- Cotton Mills Presents
- Footscray West Writers Fest
- Melbourne's Living Museum of the West 40 years of people, place and culture
- TILDE -trans and gender diverse film festival
- Braybrook Action Sports & Music Festival
- West Footscray Festival of Colours Holi 2025

12 applications were not recommended for funding. A detailed summary of applications received is outlined in Attachment 2.

The Panel's recommendations represent a diverse range of offerings, which activate different precincts across the municipality. The supported activations contribute to Maribyrnong's commitment to investing in attractions that will help enhance the liveability of the City, whilst building community harmony and economic growth.

Next Steps

- Subject to Council endorsement, applicants will be advised in writing of the outcome of their application.
- Applicants will be provided constructive feedback on their application on request and applicants not recommended for funding will be directed to other opportunities where appropriate.
- Funding agreements will be issued to all successful applicants.
- As per the Maribyrnong Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel Terms of Reference (Attachment 3), this grant round represents the final to be assessed by the current Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel. Updated Terms of Reference will be presented to Council for endorsement in late 2024 prior to initiating an open expression of interest process to appoint new panel members.

2. Council Policy/Legislation

Council Plan 2021-2025

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objectives
 - Council will partner with its community to provide and advocate for integrated built and natural environments with access to open spaces that are well maintained, engaging, accessible and respectful of the community and neighbourhoods.

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 Council will provide well-planned neighbourhoods and a strong local economy, delivering services that are inclusive and accessible to the whole community, and that support wellbeing, healthy and safe living, connection to the community, and cultural interaction.

Legislation

Local Government Act 2020.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

The Place-Based Initiatives (Annual) Grants Program 2024/25 was promoted via Council's websites and Facebook account, EDM newsletters, local newspaper advertisements and targeted emails.

4. Resources

Resource requirements are in accordance with the Council approved budgets.

5. Environment

Environmental consideration is embedded in the delivery of the Grants Program and includes:

- The funding Assessment Criteria requiring applicants to identify strategies they will implement to reduce the environmental impact of their festival or event.
- Successful applicants needing to provide Council with Environmental Sustainability and Waste Management Plans as part of their funding agreement.
- Council providing environmental sustainability information to all event organisers within Council's Event Guide.

CONCLUSION

The Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel's funding recommendations represent a diverse range of activities, which enliven the city's precincts. The recommendations both align with Council's Festivals and Activation Framework 2022-2026, and Council's commitment to supporting a range of community-led festivals and activations for the City. These events will help enhance the liveability of the City by creatively activating public spaces, encouraging cultural tourism, building community capacity and driving economic activity.







MARIBYRNONG CITY COUNCIL PLACE-BASED INITIATIVES (ANNUAL) GRANTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES 2024/2025

Acknowledgement of Country

Council is proud to represent a municipality filled with important and significant Aboriginal history. It acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Kulin Nation, and acknowledges the rich culture and considerable contributions Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have made and continue to make to this City.

INTRODUCTION

Maribyrnong City Council's Place-based Initiatives (Annual) Grants Program 2024/2025 provides financial and in-kind support via a competitive grant round.

As an applicant you must meet the Eligibility Criteria and address the Funding Criteria. Proposed activities need to align with strategic objectives of the Council Plan 2021–2025 and the Festivals and Activation Framework 2022–2026. These documents can be found on Council's website <u>maribyrnong.vic.gov.au</u>

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The Place-based Initiatives (Annual) Grants Program 2024/2025 aims to support a dynamic mix of activities that will:

- Creatively activate the city's spaces
- Help strengthen precinct and neighbourhood identity
- Provide opportunity for inclusive local participation and capacity building
- Increase visitation and spending in the local area
- Provide paid opportunities for local cultural and creative sectors
- Promote collaborations between local businesses and creatives

The Program aims to contribute to the Vision and Objectives of the Festivals and Activation Framework 2022-2026 and also directly links to the Council Plan 2021-2025 Strategic objectives of:

• Liveable neighbourhoods

Council will partner with its community to provide and advocate for integrated built and natural environments with access to open spaces that are well maintained, engaging, accessible and respectful of the community and neighbourhoods.

A place for all

Council will provide well-planned neighbourhoods and a strong local economy, delivering services that are inclusive and accessible to the whole community, and that support wellbeing, healthy and safe living, connection to the community, and cultural interaction.

FUNDING STREAM

The Place-based Initiatives (Annual) funding stream is for small-medium scale place-based activities that creatively activate public spaces, business precincts and local neighbourhoods.

- Grants of up to \$20,000 are available
- Applications are open to not-for-profit organisations, incorporated community groups or by applying through an auspice arrangement
- Applications will be accepted until 4pm on Monday 3 June 2024
- Applications are assessed by Council's independent Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel with funding recommendations made to Council for endorsement
- Funded activities must be delivered prior to 30 June 2025

ACTIVITES THAT MAY BE FUNDED

Examples of what may be funded include but are not limited to:

- A significant free outdoor music concert or block party in an urban activity centre
- A community event with a particular theme or focus that offers high level cultural experiences
- Weekly or monthly pop-up markets or outdoor movie screenings
- A series of temporary artworks, projections or creative lighting displays in public space running over an extended period
- A collection of themed neighbourhood tours

ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA TO BE MET

- The applicant is a is a not-for-profit organisation or an incorporated community group
- The applicant must have an an Australian Business Number (ABN) and provide evidence of Public Liability Insurance (PLI) to the value of \$20 million (if you do not have an ABN or PLI you may still be eligible to apply via an auspice organisation - refer to page 5)
- The proposed activity must occur within the boundaries of the City of Maribyrnong
- The proposed activity is scheduled to take place prior to 30 June 2025
- The proposed activity must be free to attend or includes significant free programming
- The applicant must have acquitted ALL previous Council grants and have no outstanding debts to Maribyrnong City Council
- The applicant (or individuals, organisation or businesses involved in the activity) must NOT have any unresolved compliance matters with Maribyrnong City Council

APPLICATIONS THAT ARE NOT ELIGIBLE

- Activities that do not align with Council policies and values
- Multiple applications for the same activity
- More than one application from the same applicant
- Activities that are sponsored by tobacco companies, gambling or fossil fuel companies, unless the company issued the funding through their community grants program (evidence must be provided)
- Activities with a primary purpose of promoting religion or politics or are for fundraising purposes
- Activities that have already received funding in the same financial year. For example, Council will not fund the same, or part of the same activity, through its Community Grants Program, Business Improvement District Grants or Love Your West Grants Program in the same funding cycle.
- Activities already funded by Council through operational or Triennial Arts Grant funding
- Activities which have already started or have been completed

MARIBYRNONG CITY COUNCIL PLACE-BASED INITIATIVES (ANNUAL) GRANTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES 2024/2025

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

CRITERIA

Eligible applications will be assessed by a panel who will consider:

Commitment to a professional and safe approach in planning and delivery in consultation with Council	\checkmark
Evidence of local need and/or community support for the activity	\checkmark
Demonstrates relevant and engaging content or delivery	\checkmark
Evidence of direct benefit to local businesses, cultural and creative industries and/or artists	\checkmark
Strengthen local precinct and neighbourhood identity	\checkmark
Provide opportunities for local participation and capacity building	\checkmark
Includes measures to promote gender equity, inclusion and accessibility in the planning and delivery	\checkmark
Commitment to good environmental sustainability practices and minimising environmental impact	\checkmark
Evidence of a realistic budget with appropriate resourcing	\checkmark

PREFERENCE MAY BE GIVEN TO ACTIVITIES THAT:

- are First Nations led
- are developed in partnership with CALD communities, LGBTIQA+ people, young people, older people and/or people living with disability
- involve community groups within the City of Maribyrnong that are underrepresented in the City's annual events program
- align with key objectives of Council's Climate Emergency Strategy 2020-2025
- address a geographic gap to enable a fair distribution of activity across the Municipality
- are staged in the (typically quieter) winter months to help ensure a balanced calendar of activities across the year

- activate underutilised space in either the public or private realm
- imaginatively utilise public locations that help showcase Maribyrnong's assets
- are staged in the City's key activity centres and will increase economic activity to businesses, helping support COVID-19 economic recovery
- include programming that addresses Council's aim to stimulate cultural interaction and connection to the community

4

MARIBYRNONG CITY COUNCIL PLACE-BASED INITIATIVES (ANNUAL) GRANTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES 2024/2025

BUDGET

When preparing your budget and funding request, please take into account the following:

- Successful applicants may not receive all the funding requested
- Ensure you provide a detailed budget noting all items including in-kind and cash amounts
- Note other sources of funding and sponsorship (these must be itemised not a lump sum), including whether these are confirmed or unconfirmed and indicate if your organisation has been successful with this funding in the past.

LOBBYING

Lobbying of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillors, employees of Maribyrnong City Council or assessment panel members in relation to a funding application is strictly prohibited. No consideration will be given to an application submitted by an applicant where such lobbying has been proven to have taken place.

ASSESSMENT

Applications are assessed on a competitive basis. After your application has been submitted:

- Applications are first assessed that they meet the eligibility criteria
- Eligible applications are then considered and assessed by Council's external Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel
- The Panel's recommendations for funding will be presented to Council for endorsement
- While an application may meet eligibility and funding criteria, this does not guarantee a grant
- You will receive written advice on the outcome of your application
- The decision on funding is final

FUNDING OBLIGATIONS

Successful applicants will be required to:

- Enter into a funding agreement with Council containing standard terms and conditions for the recipient's administration of grant funds
- Meet with and provide Council with copies of required documentation pertaining to the funded activity
- Secure and meet the requirements of any relevant permits and permissions for the activity
- Submit a written acquittal (including a financial reconciliation) through SmartyGrants to acquit the grant funds

MARIBYRNONG CITY COUNCIL PLACE-BASED INITIATIVES (ANNUAL) GRANTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES 2024/2025

Failure to meet the agreed obligations can result in Council taking steps to recover funds and/or exclude the applicant from being able to access funding in the future.

VARIATION REQUESTS

Grant recipients can make reasonable requests to vary their funded activity should the need arise. Generally, requests for reasonable timeframe changes or activity location changes within City of Maribyrnong can be approved quickly. Other proposed changes may require re-assessment and will be approved on a case by case basis. Significant changes to some funded activities may not be able to be agreed to for a range of reasons.

PAYMENTS

Council will issue grants by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and banking details will be requested when completing paperwork related to successful grants.

Your organisation (or your auspice body) will need to provide a tax invoice to Maribyrnong City Council, showing the grant amount, plus GST if applicable.

Council will pay 50% of the grant payment on signing of the funding agreement. The final 50% grant payment will be only made once all relevant documentation associated with your activity is received by Council.

ABN & GST INFORMATION

ABN REQUIREMENTS

All grant applicants will be required to have a registered ABN. Your organisation can get an ABN by completing the appropriate forms that are available from Australia Post and the Australian Tax Office.

ABOUT GST

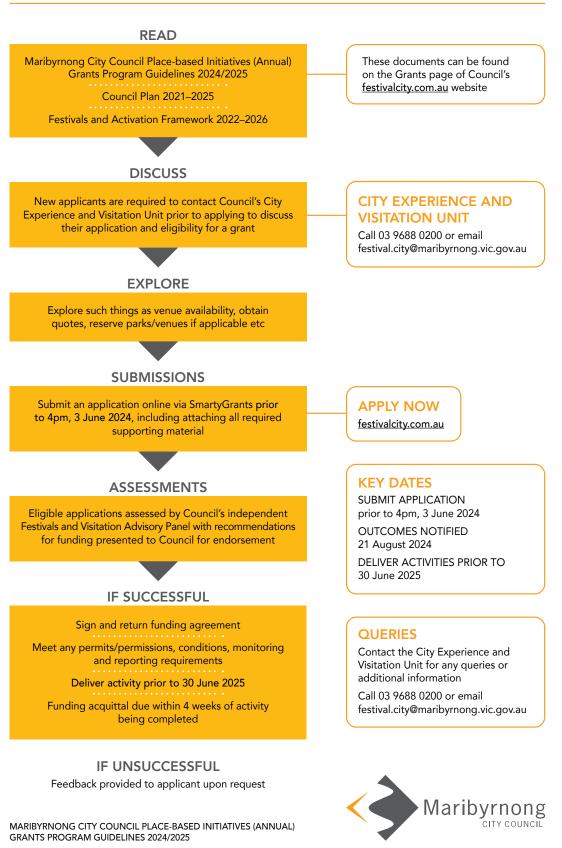
GST will only apply to your grant if your organisation or auspice body is registered for GST with the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In these cases Council will add 10% for the GST to the grant. For information and advice on GST and the implications for your grant, call the ATO on 13 28 66 or visit the website www.ato.gov.au

Grants are considered taxable income by the ATO. It is illegal to claim GST if you are not registered.

AUSPICE ORGANISATIONS

Applicants who don't have an ABN or PLI may still apply via an auspice organisation. An auspice is an otherwise eligible organisation who agrees to support you and manage grant funds on your behalf. A confirmation letter from the auspice will need to be included in your application.

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION & PROCESS



PLACE BASED INITIATIVES (ANNUAL) 2024/25 - FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS						
Festival / Activation Title	Applicant Organisation Name (+ Auspice if applic)	Proposed date/s	Proposed Times	Location	Brief Description	Funding Recommended
Pop Up Jam	L2R Dance	1 Dec 2024	1-3pm	Byron Plaza, Footscray	L2R's Pop-Up Jam celebrates the creative talents of young people from Melbourne's West, in a public, feel-good environment. A dynamic mix of 30 young, emerging and professional hip hop dancers will share their choreographic/performance skills, creating safe spaces for children and young people to be active, happy, and free in the heart of Footscray.	\$-
Footscray Themed Neighbourhood Walking Tours	Footscray Traders Association	1-31 Oct 2024	Various	Footscray Central Activity Precinct	FTA will deliver a variety of neighbourhood walking tours in Q4 2024 as we move into warmer weather. These would 10 Food Discovery Tours centred around Footscray Market and local traders and 5 Photo Walks visiting key areas of Footscray. In total 15 events.	\$ 7,000
Bonsai Northwest Exhibition	Bonsai Northwest Inc	Hub: 22 Apr - 2 May 2025 FCA: 3-4 May 2025	Hub: Mon-Fri 8.30am-5pm FCA: Sat Sun 10am-4pm	Exhibition: Footscray Community Arts, Moreland St Promo Display: Civic Precinct and Community Hub, Napier St Footscray	An annual Bonsai Exhibition at Footscray Community Arts. Displaying over 70 Bonsai over 2 days, including some of the best Bonsai in the state to promote and encourage Bonsai as an Art to all ages and backgrounds. A promotional display at the new Civic Hub encouraging community to be involved and show how Bonsai can be enjoyed by all.	ş -
Bathukamma - The Floral Festival 2024	Melbourne Telangana Forum Inc.	5 Oct 2024	2-10 pm	RecWest Braybrook, 39 Lily St	A vibrant celebration of Telangana's cultural heritage, centered around the traditional Bathukamma flower arrangement. Participants gather to create intricate floral stacks, sing traditional songs, and perform lively dances, fostering a sense of community and unity. The festival showcases the rich colors, rhythms, and traditions of Telangana, offering attendees a unique cultural experience filled with joy and camaraderie.	\$ 10,000
Ethiopian New Year Festival	Ethiopian Community Association of Victoria INC	7 Sept 2024	10am-6pm	Nicholson Street, Footscray	Enkutatash (እንቁጣጣሽ), which means "gift of jewels" in the Amharic language, is the Ethiopian New Year. In Australia, where multiculturalism thrives, celebrating Enkutatash becomes a bridge between cultures. It allows the Ethiopian community to share our traditions, food, music, dance fashion and rhythms with fellow Australians.	\$ 10,000
Maribyrnong Summer of Skate Festival	Victorian YMCA Community Programming	1 Feb - 1 Mar 2025	8 All Aboard Sessions - Tues and Thurs 4pm-6pm SPL: Sat 1 March 11am-3pm	Highpoint Plaza Skatepark	'Maribyrnong Summer of Skate' festival is a dynamic community event celebrating skateboarding culture. The event features a month-long series of All Aboard sessions (grassroots-level classes designed to inspire and engage participants of all ages and skill levels). This inclusive festival celebrates the spirit of skateboarding, engages the community, and activates public spaces in a creative and meaningful way.	\$ -
Setting Sun International Film Festival	Setting Sun International Film Festival (Auspiced by: Auspicious Arts Projects Inc)	1 - 18 May 2025	various	Sun Theatre, Kindred Studios and/or Blue Stone Arts Space, Greek Centre	The Setting Sun Film Festival is a filmmakers' festival and competition showcasing Victorian made feature films and the best short films from Australia and overseas. It includes a diverse range of programs and awards from a diverse range of filmmakers.Around 12 days of film sessions, filmmaker forums, feature film premieres in a variety of locations.	\$ 15,000
Wee Folk Christmas Celebration!	West Footscray Neighbourhood House	7 Dec 2024	1pm - 3pm	West Footscray Neighbourhood House - Downstairs Room and Community Garden	Join us at West Footscray Neighbourhood House for the Wee Folk Christmas Celebration. Embrace the joy of having your face painted, immerse yourself in Christmas crafts, and delight in the presence of Santa himself.	\$-
Cotton Mills Presents	Cotton Mills Business Association	Exhibition 1: 21-28 Mar 2025 Exhibition 2: 13-20 Jun 2025	10am-4pm	Cotton Mills - Moreland Street, Footscray	We propose to establish an ongoing exhibition programme for residents of Maribyrnong City. Our objective is to provide local emerging and mid-career artists with paid opportunities to exhibit their work in a professional and curated space.	\$ 10,000
Living Portrait Theatre	David Wells (Auspiced by: Cabaret with a Cause Inc)	8 dates btwn late Feb & early April 2025	12.30 - 3.30pm	Sites selected by negotiation with Council. Eg. FCA, Brayrbook Hub, Footscray Station precinct, Yarraville Pop-Up park, Maidstone Community Centre, Nicholson St Mall, Byron Plaza, Vic Uni/Footscray Park	The 'Living Portrait Theatre' (LPT) is a portable structure that creates an immediate interactive performance, where local participants become living portraits presenting themselves through a gold picture frame. Over time a gallery of the local community is created, transforming a street-scape into a dynamic arts space.	\$ -
SalamFest, Taste of Diversity	SalamFest Incorporated	4, 11 & 18 May 2025	10am-1pm	Braybrook Community Hub, Churchill Ave	This project will be showcasing the SalamMobile inspiration from the Rumi Car and explores the art of Muslim culinary and comprises three cooking demonstration and Rumi Mobile Installation. Masterchef Faiza Rehman will share their knowledge with the broader community and train individuals interested in traditional food fro Muslim World.	\$ -
ComeTogether Again	Australian Vietnamese Arts and Culture	23 Nov 2024	10am - 5pm	Footscray Community Arts, Moreland St	"Come Together Again" is an arts exhibition and cultural performance event to create a multicultural day at the Footscray Community Arts and surrounds. We aim to reconnect and rediscover the joy of shared artistic endeavours within our community. This is a FREE community event created in a collaborative efforts with different community and performing arts groups.	\$-

Enlightening Nicholson Street as Business and Cultural Hub	Africause youth and Community Services	8 Feb 2024	10am - 7pm	VU Metro West and Footscray Arcade, Nicholson St	The project will bring local communities, businesses and cultural outlets together to share and celebrate achievements and exchange rich, vibrant and diverse experiences. Local businesses and cultural and traditional outlets will bring their products to the street attracting residents residents and visitors to appreciate what Footscray can offer.	\$ -
Footscray West Writers Fest	West Footscray Arts Incorporation	21-23 Feb 2025	Fri 6pm - Sun 6pm	Barkly St, Clarke St Pop Up Park, The Chestnut Tree, Harley and Rose, Migrant, Scout Hall, Corner Studio, West Footscray Wines	The Footscray West Writers Fest will transform Barkly Street into a vibrant hub of writers and readers for a summer weekend. The program is designed to celebrate culture, community and storytelling unique to Maribyrnong and Melbourne's Western Suburbs, inviting readers of all ages to poetry readings, author talks, book discussions, kids sessions, music, walking tours and workshops.	\$ 20,000
Melbourne's Living Museum of the West - 40 years of people, place and culture	Melbourne's Living Museum of the West	22-23 March 2025	Sat 10am - 2pm Sun 10am - 4pm	Pipemakers Park, Maribyrnong	For 40 years, Melbourne's Living Museum of the West has been collecting, preserving and communicating the stories of the land, rivers and people of Melbourne's West. A vibrant two-day event held in March 22-23 at Pipemakers Park, will feature a program of activities that celebrate our continuing contribution to the identity of the West, designed to engage and educate audiences of various ages and backgrounds.	\$ 15,000
Gendai Kikakuten - Melbourne	Five Walls Gallery (Auspiced by: Auspicious Arts Projects Inc)	2-24 May 2025	Opening Night: 2 May 6-9pm Exhibition: Wed-Sat 12-5pm Lightboxes: everyday from 2 May - end of 2025	Five Walls Gallery, Hopkins St and Light boxes on Leeds St, Footscray	GENDAI Kikakuten Melbourne is a unique exhibition aimed at forging new connections between local artists in Melbourne, particularly from Footscray, and their Japanese counterparts from the Kansai region of Japan. The exhibition, curated by Aaron Martin and Misuzu Ueda, directors of Five Walls Gallery, focuses on assembling artworks with a shared affinity for abstraction, reductive, or non-objective art.	\$ -
TILDE trans and gender diverse film festival	Tilde - Melbourne's Trans and Gender Diverse Film Festival Inc (Auspiced by: Footscray Community Arts)	2-4 May 2025	Fri 6pm-11pm Sat & Sun 10am-11pm	Footscray Community Arts, Moreland St	TILDE is a community-led, international film festival based in Melbourne; one of only a handful of trans and gender diverse (TGD) film festivals in the world. Over 3 days at FCA, we will bring TGD filmmakers and audiences/community together to celebrate TGD culture through screenings, filmmaker in-conversations, exhibitions, shared food and messages of solidarity from TGD filmmakers from around the world.	\$ 8,000
Zorba In Street	Malak Foundation Incorporated	5 Oct 2024	10am-4pm	Maddern Square, Footscray Mall, Footscray Railway Station, Leeds Street Square Area and surrounding streets	A vibrant event featuring Guru Dudu's silent disco tour through Footscray CBD, concluding with a communal meal from local restaurants. By fostering local business collaborations, Zorba In Street celebrates Footscray's unique community spirit and cultural diversity.	\$ -
The Door in Question - XR Theatre Experience	Troy Rainbow (Auspiced by: Auspicious Arts Projects Inc)	1 - 31 May 2025	Mon-Sun 12pm - 10pm (hourly sessions)	58 Irving St, Footscray	"The Door in Question" is an Extended Reality (XR) theatre production immersing participants in an illusory world inspired by schizophrenia experiences. Developed in collaboration with clinical psychology professionals, the project aims to enhance public understanding of neuro-diverse experiences through a blend of 360 film, VR, immersive theatre, and AI.	\$ -
West Footscray Halloween	Multicultural Events Melbourne Inc, T/A The Op Shop West Footscray	31 Oct - 3 Nov 2024	Nightly 6pm - 9pm Sat & Sun 2pm - 9pm	594 Barkly Street, West Footscray	Our Halloween Hell House is a community-led haunted house event, where participants can dress up in costumes and explore a series of spooky, themed rooms. Visitors walk through dark corridors filled with eerie decorations, ghostly apparitions, and live actors who bring the scares to life. The experience is designed to be both thrilling and safe, fostering a sense of unity and excitement.	\$ -
	Melbourne Action Sports Parks (Auspiced by: AusCycling)	15-16 Feb 2025	Sat & Sun, 9am - 8pm	RampFest - using the car park as the primary festival site and music venue	The event would be a unique combination of music, action sports and culture targeted to young people in Melbournes inner west - showcasing some of our unique artists.	\$ 15,000
West Footscray Festival of Colours Holi 2025	West Footscray Traders Association	15 Mar 2025	11am-4pm	Barkly Village, West Footscray	Holi festival of colours, the most vibrant and colourful festival in the Indian event calendar, celebrated by the local community of maribyrnong and attended by thousands to celebrate colour, food, music. A festival for the whole family.	\$ 15,000

Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel

Terms of Reference

Maribyrnong Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Maribyrnong Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel is to provide Maribyrnong City Council with strategic advice and recommendations pertaining to its festivals and visitation initiatives. The Panel is advisory in nature and has no decision making authority.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel are to:

- review, assess and provide objective, independent recommendations to Council in relation to festival grants and funding programs.
- ensure that guidelines and assessment criteria endorsed by Council have been applied consistently and equitably for all applications.
- provide strategic advice on the development of a new festival policy for the City
- assist Council with better engagement with the major events sector
- advise Council on how to leverage other festivals and events that have a positive impact on City of Maribyrnong's economy
- provide strategic advice on how to increase local tourism and visitation
- 2.1 The Panel is not formed pursuant to any Act or legislation, but is an advisory panel formed to provide guidance and assistance to the City in accordance with paragraph 1 above. The City is not bound to adopt or incorporate any of the initiatives recommended by the Panel, but may elect to use the findings or initiatives recommended by the Panel in the development and implementation of policy.
- 2.2 These Terms of Reference set out the rules that members of the Panel agree to follow.

3. Definitions

- Advisory Panel means the Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel
- **City** means the City of Maribyrnong
- **Council** means Maribyrnong City Council

Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel

Terms of Reference

4. Dates, Times and Places of Meetings

- 4.1 Times and dates of meetings of the Advisory Panel shall be at the discretion of the Council's Coordinator Festivals and Visitation, after seeking the views of members of the Advisory Panel and Council's Manager City Futures.
- 4.2 A maximum of three (3) Advisory Panel meetings will be held per year. Additional meetings throughout the period will be subject to the approval of all members of the Advisory Panel.
- 4.3 Meetings shall be held at the Maribyrnong Town Hall or an appropriate alternative location, including the use of online video conference platforms.
- 4.4 An agenda for meetings held will be delivered to each Advisory Panel member at least 48 hours prior to the date of each meeting.

5. Membership and Attendance

5.1 Appointments to the Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel will consist of three (3) community representatives.

Council shall undertake an expression of interest process calling for applications from community members.

Applicants must either reside or be employed within the City, or be able to demonstrate other affiliation with City of Maribyrnong.

Previous members can reapply through the public expression of interest process.

The following criteria shall apply for the selection of Advisory Panel members:

- (a) Proven experience, skills and qualifications in key areas of festival production and delivery, including but not limited to:
 - Artistic/Cultural
 - Economic
 - Volunteering
 - Marketing and Sponsorship
 - Production and Logistics
 - Governance
- (b) Proven knowledge of, and experience in, contemporary tourism and visitation strategies
- (c) Broad representation of applicants that reflect the diversity of the City of Maribyrnong
- (d) A minimum of one (1) position on the Advisory Panel to be for a member under the age of 30

5.2 Term of Appointment

The period of appointment for Advisory Panel members shall be four (4) years aligned with the Council term.

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Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel

Terms of Reference

5.3 Attendance

An Advisory Panel member shall endeavor to advise the Coordinator Festivals and Visitation (or delegate) of non-attendance at any meeting.

5.4 Failure to Attend Meetings

Any member who is unable to attend two (2) consecutive Advisory Panel meetings shall notify the Coordinator Festivals and Visitation in writing as to his/her availability to continue to be a member of the Advisory Panel.

5.5 Resignation of an Advisory Panel Member

A member may resign from the Advisory Panel by advising the Coordinator Festivals and Visitation in writing.

6. Conflict of Interest

- 6.1 Panel Members must disclose a Conflict of Interest in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- 6.2 In the event of a Conflict of Interest arising the Panel Member:
 - (a) Must disclose the interest and clearly state the nature of the interest at the meeting before the matter is considered.
 - (b) Must leave the room and not participant in any discussion and/or decision.
 - (c) The disclosure must be recorded in the meeting minutes

7. Chairperson

- 7.1 Meetings will be chaired by the Coordinator Festivals and Visitation (or delegate).
- 7.2 Duties and Discretions of the Chairperson:
 - (a) They must not accept any motion, question or statement which is derogatory, or defamatory of any Councillor, Advisory Panel member, member of Council staff, or member of the community; and
 - (b) They must call to order any person who is disruptive or unruly during any meeting.

8. Operations

- 8.1 Advisory Panel members shall:
 - (a) remain informed of current issues, developments, and trends affecting the festival, events and tourism sector
 - (b) be familiar with festival, events and tourism policies, strategies and programs in the City of Maribyrnong;

Festivals and Visitation Advisory Panel

Terms of Reference

- (c) prepare for and actively participate in panel meetings;
- (d) attend at a minimum 50% of the funded festivals per annum.
- 8.2 The Advisory Panel has no budgetary responsibilities, decision-making powers or delegated authority but serves to make recommendations for Council's consideration.
- 8.3 The Advisory Panel shall follow the general consensus principle, when determining its preferred position on matters under discussion.
- 8.4 Advisory Panel members will not publicly comment on behalf of the group. Neither will it seek to advocate on the needs of individual organisations.
- 8.5 The Council will provide the necessary support to assist the Advisory Panel to function effectively including:
 - (a) Maintaining contacts details of members
 - (b) Preparing and distributing agendas and prior reading materials
 - (c) Preparing and distributing meeting minutes

9. Honorarium for funding rounds

- 9.1 In respect of the time required to assess a funding round, Advisory Panel members will be offered an honorarium that reflects the number of applications, time commitment and complexity of the grants program.
- 9.2 The minimum honorarium offered per funding round is \$250 and the maximum rate to be offered per round is \$1500.
- 9.3 Personal costs incurred (eg. parking, child care) as a result of attendance at Advisory Panel meetings may be reimbursed subject to documented receipts being provided upon request.

10. Review

- 10.1 A review of the role, function, membership and productivity of the Terms of Reference will be conducted once every four years or as required to ensure currency, effectiveness and stakeholder engagement.
- 10.2 Council retains the right to:
 - (a) Review, amend or alter the operations and membership of this Advisory Panel as it deems appropriate and necessary.
 - (b) Revoked these Terms of Reference at any time.

AWARDING OF CONTRACT NO 1263-24 SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF IN-GROUND PARKING SENSORS

Director:	Mike McIntosh Director Planning and Environment
Author:	Nicole O'Donnell Manager Emergency Management and Regulatory Services

PURPOSE

To seek Council approval to award Contract No 1263-24 Supply and Installation of Inground Parking Sensors to Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- Sections 108 and 109 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the *Act*) and Council's Procurement Policy require Council to give public notice and invite tenders before it enters into a contract for services to the value of \$300,000 or higher.
- In-ground sensors are presently employed for enforcing parking regulations in high-usage, time-restricted areas and for gathering occupancy data to support urban planning, transport engineering, and parking initiatives.
- The contract will enable Council to continue utilising this technology to conduct its operations and support the planning of major projects.
- Following a tender process, the Tender Evaluation Panel recommends that Contract No 1263-24 Supply and Installation of In-ground Parking Sensors be awarded to Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Awards Contract No 1263-24 Supply and Installation of In-ground Parking Sensors to Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd to the value of \$2,840,409.00 inc GST;
- 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute Contract No 1263-24 Supply and Installation of In-ground Parking Sensors to Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd;
- 3. Notes the contract amount of \$2,840,409.00 over five years exceeds the current allocated budget of \$2,100,000.00; and
- 4. Note that the budget shortfall of \$740,409.00 will be allocated proportionately to future budgets 2025/26, 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29.

BACKGROUND

Sections 108 and 109 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the *Act*) and Council's Procurement Policy require Council to give public notice and invite tenders before it enters into a contract for works to the value of \$300,000 or higher.

The proposed contract involves the supply and installation of in-ground sensors to allow for the continued use for enforcing parking regulations in high-usage, time-restricted areas and for gathering occupancy data to support urban planning, transport engineering, and parking initiatives.

In accordance with the Instrument of Delegation – Operating Authority, the awarding of contracts exceeding a total value of \$2 million inclusive of GST requires a resolution of Council.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES

1. Key Issues

Tender Process

Pursuant to Maribyrnong City Council's Procurement Policy, the Request for Tender was advertised on 18 May 2024. By the closing date, 17 June 2024, three tenders had been received.

A pre-tender estimate was prepared and assessed at \$2,500,000.

The contract will have an initial term of three years, with two optional one-year extensions, resulting in a potential total contract period of five years.

The price range of submissions was between \$2,840,409.00 including GST and \$6,372,580.50 including GST.

Evaluation Process

The Evaluation Panel consisted of:

- Acting Director Planning and Environment Services Chairperson and Non-Voting Member.
- Manager Emergency Management and Regulatory Services Voting Member.
- Acting Coordinator Parking & Local Laws Voting Member.
- Smart Parking Technician Voting Member.
- Strategic Procurement Advisor –Voting Member.

The Evaluation Panel Members do not have any pecuniary interest in this contract.

Tenders were evaluated against the following criteria and weightings and in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy and associated procedures.

Part 1 Mandatory Crit	eria	
Criteria	Description	Pass/Fail
Insurance	Evidence of the insurances cover required	Pass/Fail
	under the proposed contract	
OH&S Systems	Evidence and systems to verify existence	Pass/Fail
	of the OH&S and EMS system	
Financial Viability	Demonstrated financial capacity to provide,	Pass/Fail
	over the term of the contract, all the	
	requirements specified	
Compliance with	Demonstrated understanding and	Pass/Fail
proposed contract	compliance with the proposed contract	
Part 2 Weighted Crite		
Criteria	Description	Weight
Capability and	Demonstrated skills, including the ability to	15%
Capacity	manage projects in delivering quality	
	outcomes. Resources committed to the	
	project	
Relevant Experience	Experience in similar projects; proven	15%
and Past	record of compliance and completion of all	
Performance	works based on past contractual and	
	current performance	4.70/
Delivery Methodology	Ability to supply and or carry out works	15%
and Project /	within the timeframes required	
Implementation Plan		=0/
Performance & Risk	Identification and assessment of any risks	5%
Management	considered to currently exist or which may	
	occur during the currency of the Contract	
	that would affect the effective and efficient	
	performance of the work under the contract	500/
Financial	Tender Price	50%

Identification of Preferred Tenderer

The tender submitted by Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd is the preferred tenderer as it has achieved the highest ranking of all submitted tenders against the evaluation criteria, including financial assessment.

The proposal from Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd demonstrated a thorough methodology for undertaking the works, presented no significant risks associated with assumptions or exclusions, and was closest to the allocated budget amount for the project. In contrast, the other two tenders significantly exceeded the budget. One tenderer lacked sufficient experience in meeting the contract requirements, while the other had some experience but only with smaller projects.

The Evaluation Panel's Assessment Matrix rated Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd at 9.3 out of a possible 10 points.

The highest ranked tenderer, Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd, was approached for a best and final offer but the price schedule is unchanged from the tender submission document:

- a) The tendered lump sum is \$2,840,409.00 including GST.
- b) Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd can commence immediately from award of the contract.
- c) Adequate resources will be available to satisfactorily undertake this contract.
- d) Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd, as the incumbent contract holder for inground sensors for the Council, ensures the ongoing supply and implementation of sensors for the new contract.

Experience

Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd has successfully completed several projects of similar scope and scale. These projects include the supply, installation, and maintenance of 1,685 in-ground and surface-mount parking sensors for Penrith City Council, as well as the supply, installation, and maintenance of 3,622 in-ground parking sensors for Toowoomba Regional Council.

In addition, Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd has supplied, installed, and maintained the in-ground sensors in the Maribyrnong City Council area since 2016.

Independent Performance and Financial Assessment

The financial assessment highlighted two concerns, and as a result, two risk mitigations have been incorporated into the contract, which Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd has agreed to. These will be monitored throughout the contract.

Project Delivery Timeframe

- Award of contract 26 August 2024
- Contract commencement 2 September 2024
- Works completion 2 September 2029
- Defects liability and maintenance period 3 years
- Contract end 2 September 2029

The works and maintenance will be ongoing for the duration of the contract.

Tender Evaluation Panel Recommendation

Based on the Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd response to the request for tender and the outcome of the due diligence conducted, the Tender Evaluation Panel recommends that Council approve the awarding of Contract No 1263-24 Supply and Installation of In-ground Parking Sensors to Vehicle Monitoring Systems Pty Ltd for the lump total contract sum of \$2,840,409.00 (inclusive of GST).

2. Council Policy/Legislation

Council Plan 2021-2025

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objectives
 - Council will plan and advocate for new infrastructure and safe, sustainable and effective transport networks and a smart innovative city that encourages and supports new generations to thrive.

Legislation

Local Government Act 2020.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.*

3. Engagement

The request for tender was advertised on Council's Tenders and Procurement portal and in The Age newspaper.

4. Resources

The project will be funded by the budget allocated for in-ground sensors.

5. Environment

The conditions of contract require the contractor to adopt and maintain environmentally sustainable practices and processes when undertaking works for Council.

The works being undertaken will be completed in accordance with EPA guidelines.

CONCLUSION

The in-ground sensor contract will enable the Council to efficiently enforce parking regulations in high-usage, time-restricted areas and gather occupancy data to support urban planning, transport engineering, and parking initiatives.

The tenderer provides excellent value for money, and the continuation of installation and maintenance of in-ground sensors is highly recommended.

COUNCILLOR SUPPORT AND EXPENSES REPORT APRIL 2024 TO JUNE 2024

Director:	Celia Haddock Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Elle Schreiber Executive Officer to Chief Executive Officer

PURPOSE

To present the Councillor Support and Expenses for the April 2024 to June 2024 period.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- Council's Council Support, Expenses and Reimbursement Policy requires details of Councillors support and expenses to be reported to Council, and to be made available on Council's website for the term of the Council.
- This reporting period is for April to June 2024.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Council Support and Expenses Report April to June 2024 🗓 🖀

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Councillor Support and Expenses Report for the April 2024 to June 2024 period, to be made available via Council's website for the term of the Council.

BACKGROUND

As part of Council's commitment to open and transparent governance, Council's 'Support, Expenses and Reimbursement Policy 2020' requires details of Councillors' expenses to be reported to Council.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES

1. Key Issues

Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, Councillors are entitled to resources and facilities support and reimbursements of expenses, related to their duties as a Councillor.

In carrying out civic and statutory functions, Councillors are required to attend both statutory committee and sector-based meetings, attend seminars, functions and other information meetings, in order to be kept informed of issues facing the municipality, wards, and local government in general.

Details of Councillor Support and expenses in relation to the following support items are reported to Council on a quarterly basis:

- Councillor Development/Training
- Conferences/Seminars
- Events
- Memberships
- Child/Family Care
- Photocopy use
- Mobile/Data
- Travel

2. Council Policy/Legislation

Council Plan 2021-2025

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objectives
 - Council will proactively lead our changing City using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making and well-planned and effective collaboration and community engagement to support community and economic growth during the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and beyond.

Legislation

This report is presented in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Councillor Support, Expenses and Reimbursement Policy 2020 and the Council Plan 2021-2025.

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Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

Nil.

4. Resources

Nil.

5. Environment

Nil.

CONCLUSION

The Councillor Support and Expenses for the period April 2024 to June 2024 are presented for noting.

Councillor Expenses Report 2024				
	Apr	May	Jun	Grand Total (excl GST)
Cr Anthony Tran				
Information and Communications	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$164.97
Cr Anthony Tran Total	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$164.97
Cr Bernadette Thomas				
Information and Communications	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$164.97
Cr Bernadette Thomas Total	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$164.97
Cr Cuc Lam				
Conferences and Training	\$1,392.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,392.72
Membership	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$810.00	\$810.00
Information and Communications	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$164.97
Cr Cuc Lam Total	\$1,447.71	\$54.99	\$864.99	\$2,367.69
Cr Jorge Jorquera				
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cr Jorge Jorquera Total	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cr Michael Clarke				
Conferences and Training	\$616.00	\$0.00	\$616.00	\$1,232.00
Information and Communications	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$135.00
Cr Michael Clarke Total	\$661.00	\$45.00	\$661.00	\$1,367.00
Cr Sarah Carter				
Information and Communications	\$274.98	\$54.99	\$282.62	\$612.59
Cr Sarah Carter Total	\$274.98	\$54.99	\$282.62	\$612.59
Cr Simon Crawford				
Information and Communications	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$164.97
Cr Simon Crawford Total	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$164.97
Grand Total (excl GST)	\$2,548.66	\$319.95	\$1,973.58	\$4,842.19

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GOVERNANCE REPORT - JULY 2024

Director:	Lisa King Director Corporate Services
Author:	George Ioannou Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Governance Report is to note the record of informal meetings of Councillors and Councillor delegates' for July 2024, as well as other statutory compliance and governance matters as they arise.

ISSUES SUMMARY

Details of informal Councillor meetings and Councillor Delegates' Reports are presented to Council on a monthly basis. The reports will be made available on Council's website for the term of the current Council.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Governance Report - July 2024 <u>J</u>

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the July 2024 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 Council.

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BACKGROUND

It is considered good governance that written records of informal meetings of Councillors are, as soon as practicable, reported at a Council Meeting and incorporated in the minutes of that Council meeting. The Councillor delegates' reports demonstrate Council's commitment to open and transparent governance. Details of Councillor Delegates Reports are presented to a Council Meeting on a monthly basis, and made available on Council's website.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES

1. Key Issues

Informal Meetings of Councillors

Chapter 6 of Council's Governance Rules state that if there is a meeting of Councillors that:

- 1.1 is scheduled or planned for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors;
- 1.2 is attended by at least one member of Council staff; and
- 1.3 is not a Council meeting, Delegated Committee meeting or Community Asset Committee meeting

the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a summary of the matters discussed at the meeting are tabled at the next convenient Council meeting.

These <u>do not</u> include:

- A meeting of the Council
- A Delegated Committee
- An audit and risk committee
- A club, association, peak body, political party or other organisation.

The attached record is reported to Council in accordance with this requirement.

Councillor Delegates' Reports

As part of their governance and representation obligations, individual Councillors represent Council on a range of committees. The committees operate outside of the section 63 and 64 (of the *Local Government Act 2020*) Committees established by Council.

Councillor participation in peak associations, local and regional forums and specific issues committees is an important part of effective governance and representation.

Attached are the Councillor delegates' reports for the period.

2. Council Policy/Legislation

Council Plan 2021-2025

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

• Ethical leadership - lead our changing city using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making and well-planned, effective collaboration to support economic growth during the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and beyond.

Legislation

This report is presented in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020.*

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

3. Engagement

Nil.

4. Resources

Nil.

5. Environment

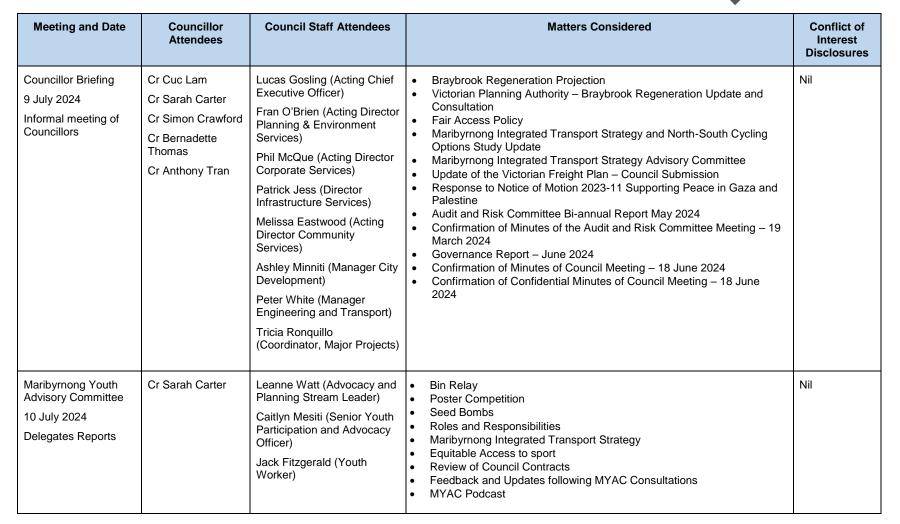
Nil.

CONCLUSION

The Governance Report demonstrates Council's commitment to open and transparent governance.

Governance Report – July 2024

Details of Informal Meetings of Councillors and Delegate Reports





Governance Report – July 2024

Details of Informal Meetings of Councillors and Delegate Reports



Councillor Briefing 16 July 2024 Informal meeting of Councillors	Cr Cuc Lam Cr Sarah Carter Cr Michael Clarke Cr Jorge Jorquera Cr Bernadette Thomas	Lucas Gosling (Acting Chief Executive Officer) Fran O'Brien (Acting Director Planning & Environment Services) Phil McQue (Acting Director Corporate Services) Patrick Jess (Director Infrastructure Services) Melissa Eastwood (Acting Director Community Services) Ashley Minniti (Manager City Development) Belinda Stewart (Manager Community Service and Social Infrastructure) Bruce Marshall (Coordinator Economic Development and Smart Cities)	 Council Submission to State Government Inquiry into Food Security Draft Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy 2024 Bradmill Neighbourhood Activity Centre Planning Application at 341- 359 Francis Street, Yarraville Pizza D'Asporto Application – Alfresco Parklet 	Nil
Climate Emergency Advisory Committee Delegates Report 24 July 2024	Cr Cuc Lam Cr Jorge Jorquera	Callan Riley (Manager City Sustainability) Adrian Whitehead (Acting Coordinator Environmental Sustainability) Jo Attard (Acting Senior Sustainability Strategist)	 Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country Introductions The Climate Emergency Strategy and Action Plan Reflection on the purpose Advisory Committee and Terms of Reference Focus of the Next Meeting Other business 	Nil
Community Recovery Committee Delegates Report	Cr Sarah Carter	Fran O'Brien (Acting Director Planning and Environment Services)	 Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country Conflict of Interest Action Item Review Terms of Reference and decision making process 	Nil

Governance Report – July 2024

Details of Informal Meetings of Councillors and Delegate Reports



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Agenda Item 10.1

NOTICE OF MOTION: 2024/10 TIBETAN COMMUNITY AUSTRALIA

Notice of Motion No:	2024/10
Councillor:	Councillor Simon Crawford

BACKGROUND

The date of 10th of March carries profound significance for Tibetans, resonating across generations as a symbol of courage, resilience, and hope.

The day recognises the impact on Tibetan Peoples refugee experience and on-going fight for recognition and freedom. Uprising Day is an inspiration that fuels the Tibetan Freedom movement. It stands as a testament to the indomitable spirit of the Tibetan people.

As a new home to many in the Tibetan community, Maribyrnong now offers a sense of belonging and hope to generations who have overcome incredible odds, escaping persecution and hardship.

Raising the Tibetan flag on this significant day in Maribyrnong would be a powerful gesture of solidarity. It sends a message of inclusiveness and support for multiculturalism, highlighting the values that make our community rich and diverse.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Notice of Motion 2024/10 - Tibetan Community Australia 😃 🛣

MOTION

That Council:

- 1. Notes the request from the Tibetan Community Australia Vic Inc and the Australia Tibet Council to support efforts to recognise the on-going plight of the Tibetan People;
- 2. Notes that the Tibetan community is an important part of the multi-cultural fabric of the Maribyrnong Municipality; and
- 3. Resolves to allow the Tibetan community to fly the Tibetan flag, each year on March 10 in support of Uprising Day as a symbol of courage, resilience, and hope.



NOTICE OF MOTION

under Chapter 2, Division 4, Rule 22 of the Maribyrnong City Council Governance Rules

It is my intention to move at the next Meeting of Council, to be held on 20 August 2024, a motion which reads:

MOTION

That Council:

- 1. Notes the request from the Tibetan Community Australia VIC INC and the Australia Tibet Council to support efforts to recognise the on-going plight of the Tibetan People
- 2. Notes that the Tibetan community is an important part of the multi-cultural fabric of the Maribyrnong Municipality
- 3. Resolves to allow the Tibetan community to fly the Tibetan flag, each year on March 10 in support of Uprising Day as a symbol of courage, resilience, and hope

Human Rights Consideration (Councillor to identify relevant item)

- a) I believe the proposal/decision supports human rights.
- b) I believe the proposal/decision does not impede any human rights.
- c) I believe the proposal/decision may impede individual human rights, but other benefits of the decision outweigh the impediments (please elaborate).

Councillor:

Simon Crawford

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Signature:

Date:

23 June 2024



Background

The date of 10th of March carries profound significance for Tibetans, resonating across generations as a symbol of courage, resilience, and hope.

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