

SPECIAL MEETING – HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS

**Tuesday 31 May, 2022
6.30pm**

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

AGENDA

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1.	Commencement of Meeting and Welcome	
2.	Apologies	
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Agenda Item 5.1**HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS IN RELATION TO THE PROPOSED 2022/2023 ANNUAL BUDGET AND THE SUBSEQUENT THREE YEARS**

Director: Lisa King
Director Corporate Services

Author: Mark Connor
Manager Finance

PURPOSE

To provide the opportunity for submissions to be heard in relation to the Proposed 2022/2023 Annual Budget and the Subsequent Three Years.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- Council must prepare and adopt a budget for each financial year and the subsequent 3 financial years by 30 June each year.
- At the Council Meeting on 12 April 2022, Council resolved to publicly display the Proposed 2022/2023 Annual Budget and the Subsequent Three Years and invite public comment and submissions.
- Four weeks were provided for feedback from 13 April 2021 to 11 May 2022.
- In total, fifty two (52) submissions have been received. Forty one (41) submissions were received during Phase 1 and eleven (11) submissions were received during Phase 2.
- Twelve (12) submitters have requested to be heard in support of their submissions.
- Having regard for all feedback received throughout each stage of the engagement process, Council will consider adopting the Proposed 2022/2023 Annual Budget and the Subsequent Three Years at the Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 14 June 2022, at 6.30pm.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - Submitters to be Heard [↓](#)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Thanks submitters for their submissions to the Proposed 2022/2023 Annual Budget and the Subsequent Three Years.**
 2. **Notes the comments provided by submitters in support of their written submissions.**
 3. **Notes the Proposed 2022/2023 Annual Budget and the Subsequent Three Years will be presented to the Council Meeting on 14 June 2022 for consideration.**
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Agenda Item 5.1**BACKGROUND**

The proposed budget has been prepared in accordance with Section 94 of the Local Government Act 2020. The proposed budget gives effect to the Council Plan and is guided by Council's Financial Plan which considers the current financial situation and future projections to support delivery of projects, initiatives and programs important to the community over the next ten years.

At the Council Meeting on 12 April 2022, Council resolved to publicly display the Proposed 2022/2023 Annual Budget and the Subsequent Three Years and invite submissions.

A total of fifty two (52) submissions have been received.

- Forty-one (41) submissions were received during Phase 1 in November 2021 and all have been reviewed by Council.
- Eleven (11) submissions were received during Phase 2 throughout April and May 2022.

Twelve of the fifty two submitters have requested to be heard in support of their submissions

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues****Submission Period**

Council is no longer required to implement a formal section 223 submission process in relation to its proposed budget. Under the *Local Government Act (2020)* the process is governed by Council's Engagement Policy, which was adopted in February 2021.

An advertisement advising of the release of the document, and inviting feedback was published as part of phase 2 of the engagement on Wednesday 13 April. Four weeks were provided for feedback from 13 April 2021 to 11 May 2022.

Fifty one submissions were received over the two engagement processes. Twelve of the fifty two submitters have requested to be heard in support of their submissions.

Sequence of Hearing of Submissions

Submissions will be heard in the order in which submissions were received refer to Attachment 1.

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:

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- Strategic Objective:
 - Ethical leadership - Council will proactively lead changing City using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making & well-planned & effective collaboration & community engagement to support community & economic growth.

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

Engagement on the Proposed Budget has been undertaken in two phases, Phase 1 in November 2021 and Phase 2 throughout April and May 2022, using a variety of methods to seek feedback:

- An open invitation for community to make written submissions via mail, email and online in November 2021, prior to the framing of the budget and again in April 2022, following release of the proposed budget.
- Livestreamed Question and Answer (Q&A) session via a moderated webinar held on Wednesday 27 April 2022, enabling residents to ask the Mayor and CEO questions about the Proposed Budget.
- An open invitation to ask questions via the Your City Your Voice Platform

The following methods were used to communicate the Proposed Budget and invite feedback:

- Media release distributed to local media
- E-newsletter distributed to Maribyrnong News subscribers
- E-newsletter distributed to Your City Your Voice subscribers
- Website information
- News item on website
- Budget Companion Document created
- Newspaper advertising
- Your City Your Voice platform/information
- Paid and unpaid social media promotion
- Community Newsletter and City News

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The opportunity for submitters to present to Council at this Hearing of Submissions represents the final stage of engagement on the Annual Budget.

Having regard for all feedback received throughout the engagement process, Council will consider adopting the Proposed 2022/2023 Annual Budget and the Subsequent Three Years at the Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 14 June, 2022, at 6.30pm.

4. Resources

Resource requirements are in accordance with existing budgetary allocation

5. Environment

There are no environmental impacts associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

Engagement on the Proposed Budget has been undertaken in two phases, Phase 1 in November 2021 and Phase 2 throughout April and May 2022, using a variety of methods to seek feedback.

The opportunity for submitters to present to Council at this Hearing of Submissions represents the final stage of engagement on the Annual Budget.

Having regard for all feedback received throughout each stage of the engagement process, Council will consider adopting the Proposed 2022/2023 Annual Budget and the Subsequent Three Years at the Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 14 June, 2022, at 6.30pm.

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Ref No.	Submitter	To be heard (Yes/No)	Submission Topic
3	Hoang Tran Nguyen On behalf of ViệtSpeak	Yes. Name: Hoang Tran Nguyen Position: Director, ViệtSpeak	Establish an Early Years Vietnamese-English Bilingual Program at the Goodstart Braybrook Childcare Centre.
10	Chris Wheelhouse & Cowper/Parker St Residents	Yes	Sealing and Lighting Greenwood Lane.
13	Dave Lewis Friends of Cruickshank Park	Yes	Stony Creek Future Directions Plan - Duke St Public Acquisition of land and revegetation along the proposed Stony Creek Public Corridor needed to action Section Plans 1 - 4 of the Stony Creek Future Directions Plan.
18	Ross Goodman	Yes	Footscray Boat club (rowing and canoe clubs) Renovate kitchen and bar areas and build a canopy above the balcony
20	Natalie Lumsden Maidstone and west footscray residents action group	Yes	Native tree plan for banks of Stony Creek, Matthews Hill.
21	Natalie Lumsden Maidstone and west footscray residents action group	Yes	Adult exercise playground - west footscray (johnson reserve or robert barret reserve)
34	Greg Hopkins Planning and Performance Director Footscray Hockey Club	Yes	Based on the knowledge gained through programs, we have identified the following four key priority areas for the next few years: 1. Mental Health Program: \$7,500 2. All Abilities: \$4,000 3. LGBTIQA+: \$5,500 4. Cultural Diversity: \$18,000 5. Working closely with our First Nations members and other First Nations People in the Maribyrnong community to improve our Club through better engagement. :\$16,400 CAPITAL WORKS 6. LED floodlights - Upgrade to LED 7. strongly consider the erection of public/secure lighting for the McIvor Reserve carpark, in its budget. (Capital works Costing to be provided by Service Manager) CONCLUSION We hope to work with Council to deliver all of the above proposals. We see our Club as being uniquely placed to engage with many more people in our community over the 2022/23 year and into the future
35	Maribyrnong Truck Action Group	Yes Lisel Thomas will speak at the budget hearings on behalf of MTAG.	Appointment of an Air Quality Advocacy and Action Executive Officer
36	James Goulding & Professor Richard Constantine on Behalf of Victoria University	Yes The full names of those speaking to this are: Rob McGauran Kevin McCarthy	A proposal for further strategic planning work for the new Footscray Health and Education precinct to assist with shaping and guiding future use and development within the precinct.
41	Warren Penna Outdoor Exercise Equipment at Cross Street Underpass	Yes	I am writing to you to request better use of the public space in the Cross Street Underpass Reserve, affectionately referred too by locals at Mount Mistake Reserve be considered for next years budget please. The track has loads of potential to be improved with exercise equipment similar to the pieces along the Maribyrnong River paths. I have observed the "steps" to the West Footscray Station are used by residents, in particularly seniors to pound up and down to improve fitness. The large boulders situated in the Cross Street Reserve Underpass are used by the fitter people to do leg exercises, squats, and push ups.
45	Gemma Cafarella	Yes	To allocate appropriate funding to Footscray Park to fund the commitments in the 2011 masterplan
49	Scott Lyon	Yes	Can this council please honour the master plan of 2011 re Footscray Park