

Civic Awards Policy

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Introduction

Maribyrnong City Council conducts the Maribyrnong City Council Civic Awards annually to honour individuals, businesses, organisations and volunteers who give tirelessly to improving the lives of others in the Maribyrnong community.

The Civic Awards are a continuation of the City of Maribyrnong Civic Awards previously held by City of Footscray from 1977 to 1995 which only focused on individual and volunteer effort.

This Civic Awards Policy is designed to provide guidance on the Civic Awards events and outline the Civic Awards categories, eligibility and selection criteria for recipients.

Definitions

Term	Definition
Council	<i>means</i> Maribyrnong Council
Councillor	<i>Means</i> a Councillor of Maribyrnong City Council as defined under the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .
Civic Award	<i>means</i> a formal recognition presented to an individual, group or organisation for their contributions to the City of Maribyrnong
Judging Panel	<i>means</i> the Civic Awards Judging Panel Advisory Committee who undertake the evaluation of Civic Award nominees and appoint a recipient based on the selection criteria
Mayor	<i>means</i> the Councillor appointed in the position of Mayor and includes a Councillor or the Deputy Mayors acting in the role of the Mayor in accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> .
Nomination	<i>means</i> an individual, business, organisation suggested as a Civic Award recipient
Nominee	<i>means</i> an individual, group or organisation nominated to receive a Civic Award
Recipient	<i>means</i> an individual, group or organisation selected to receive a Civic Awards

Purpose

This policy outlines the framework for the Civic Award categories, eligibility criteria and selection criteria of nominees and/or recipients of the Civic Awards.

Civic Awards Policy

The Civic Awards consist of twelve award categories that seek to recognise a range of individuals, groups, and organisations within the community for their outstanding contributions to the City of Maribyrnong.

The Civic Award categories include:

1. Citizen of the Year

The Citizen of the Year Award is the most prestigious of the annual awards and recognises an inspirational role model who has demonstrated exceptional or extraordinary achievements and a significant contribution for and within the Maribyrnong community.

2. Les Twentyman Youth Leadership Award

This award seeks to acknowledge a young person, or group of young people, under the age of 25 who are engaged in an activity or service for the benefit of the Maribyrnong community.

3. Community Strengthening Award

This award seeks to recognise and acknowledge the outstanding work of an individual, group or organisation who demonstrate delivery of services and programs which support positive outcomes for and within the Maribyrnong community.

4. Contribution to Business Community Award

Recognises organisations or individuals for initiatives that promote and positively impact on the business community in the City of Maribyrnong.

5. Active Maribyrnong Sporting Award

This Award is open to all Maribyrnong based clubs, teams or an individual involved with, or contributing to community sport and recreation.

6. Creative Maribyrnong Award

This Award seeks to recognise an individual, community group or organisation for outstanding contribution to creativity in the City of Maribyrnong.

7. LGBTIQA+ Leadership Award

Recognises the outstanding achievement of a LGBTIQA+ individual or group who has been a leader in the community and celebrated the lives of Maribyrnong's LGBTIQA+ residents, contributed to and reinforced the voices of people who identify as part of the LGBTIQA+ community.

8. Sarah Carter Gender Equity Award

This award seeks to recognise a woman or group of women who have made a significant impact in promoting and advancing gender equity in the City of Maribyrnong.

9. Sustainability and Climate Leadership Award

This award recognises an individual, group, organisation or business that has made a significant and measurable contribution to environmental sustainability and/or climate action in the City of Maribyrnong. The recipient will have demonstrated leadership and community engagement in addressing climate change and promoting sustainable practices.

10. Mayoral Award

An individual, community group or organisation nominated by the Mayor for an outstanding contribution to the Maribyrnong community. The Mayoral Award highlights, acknowledges and gives thanks to the people in the Maribyrnong community who 'make a difference' – demonstrated either in their own lives or through their actions and commitment to others.

Key Dates (subject to change)

- Nominations open: November
- Nominations close: December
- Judging panel Appointed: December
- Judging panel meeting: February
- Award winners notified and invitations sent: February
- Civic Awards Function: March or April

Eligibility Criteria

- Nominees must either live, work, volunteer, study or have a strong connection to the City of Maribyrnong.
- Nominees must be residents of Australia.
- Self-nominations will not be accepted.
- Councillors and Council employees are not eligible while in office or employed, except where their service is unrelated to their role.
- All nomination information and material submitted remains the property of the Maribyrnong City Council.
- Members of the Judging Panel cannot submit Civic Award nominations.
- In the absence of any nominations from members of the community for an award category, the Judging Panel may suggest a nominee from another award category based on local knowledge and experience.

- Nominees are eligible to be considered under more than one award category dependant on their community contributions.
- The Judging Panel reserves the right to consider suitability of nominees for all relevant categories when conducting their assessment process.
- No applicant can receive an award for two consecutive years.
- No applicant can receive more than one award in a year.

Civic Award Selection Criteria

Citizen of the Year

The successful nominee should:

- be a resident of the City of Maribyrnong
- show a commitment to community service over a considerable and/or continuous period of time;
- be an inspirational role model and have significantly contributed to the well-being of the Maribyrnong community through personal service;
- have positive and community orientated personal attributes
- have outstanding leadership skills
- demonstrate exceptional or extraordinary achievements and a significant contribution for and within the Maribyrnong community

Les Twentyman Youth Leadership

The successful nominee should:

- advocate for change or raise awareness about a particular issue; and /or
- volunteer their time to engage or support members of the community; and/or
- have raised money for a particular cause; and/or
- mentored others or have acted as a positive role model; and
- demonstrate leadership attributes

Community Strengthening Award

The successful nominee should:

- have strong community partnerships;
- have volunteered time and effort above expectations for the wellbeing of our community;
- demonstrate a significant contribution to community in a way that fosters community spirit and pride
- demonstrate delivery of services and programs which support positive outcomes for and within the Maribyrnong community
- promote multiculturalism, tolerance, and integration

Contribution to Business Community Award

The successful nominee should:

- have undertaken initiatives that promote and positively impact on the business community in the City of Maribyrnong;
- have a commitment to developing and supporting the success of the Maribyrnong business sector'; and/or

- show innovativeness in the products or services offered and/or products or services that fit a niche not being adequately addressed by the competition

Active Maribyrnong Sporting Award

The successful nominee should:

- be a club, team or organisation who has made a real difference to encouraging greater participation across the whole community; and/or
- be a club which is significantly better off as a result of the contribution of a committed volunteer ; and/or
- be an individual who has performed an extraordinary act or acts that embody the true spirit of sport.

Creative Maribyrnong Award

The successful nominee should:

- demonstrate participation in and access to the creative arts in the City of Maribyrnong;
- positively contribute to the shaping of creative arts in our municipality;
- promote and positively impact on the creative arts community in the City of Maribyrnong.

LGBTIQA+ Leadership Award

The successful nominee should:

- be a recognised leader of LGBTIQA+ community in the City of Maribyrnong;
- continually contribute to strengthening the representation of the LGBTIQA+ community;
- champion the LGBTIQA+ community through advocacy; and/or
- raise the profile of the LGBTIQA+ community.

Sarah Carter Gender Equity Award

The successful nominee should:

- be a recognised woman or group of women whose leadership qualities have made a significant impact in promoting and advancing gender equity in the City of Maribyrnong community;
- continually contribute to strengthening the representation of gender equity in the City of Maribyrnong community;
- champion gender equity through advocacy; and/or
- raise the profile of the gender equity in the City of Maribyrnong community.

Sustainability and Climate Leadership Award

The successful nominee should:

- Demonstrate leadership in climate action through initiatives that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and/or take action to adapt to climate change
- Promote environmental sustainability and encourage sustainable living practices
- Encourage and empower the community through education, collaboration, or volunteerism
- Foster partnerships that strengthen community resilience to climate impacts
- Contribute to Council-supported environmental and climate related programs to expand community reach and increase awareness

Mayoral Award

The successful nominee by the Mayor must:

- be an individual, community group or organisation that resides or operates in Maribyrnong
- have made an outstanding contribution to the local community through their actions, leadership and support of others
- demonstrate a strong commitment and leadership role to helping others and create positive change within the City of Maribyrnong

The Mayor should also provide nominations to the Chairperson one week ahead of the Judging Panel meeting including supporting information to support their nomination.

Civic Awards Judging Panel Advisory Committee

The Judging Panel is an Advisory Committee of Council governed by the Civic Awards Judging Panel Terms of Reference. The Terms of Reference outline the membership of the Civic Awards Judging Panel.

The Civic Awards Judging Panel are responsible for the evaluation of nominees for the Civic Awards and select recipients as determined by the selection criteria in this Policy.

Civic Awards Event

Maribyrnong Council will host an appropriate Civic Award Event to recognise the Annual Civic Award Winners and Award Nominees.

Related Legislation

- *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*
- *Local Government Act 2020*

- *Equal Opportunity Act 2010*
- *Gender Equality Act 2020*

Related Documents

- Council Plan 2025-2029
- Maribyrnong City Council LGBTIQA+ Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2026
- Civic Awards Judging Panel Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

Review of Policy

This Policy will be reviewed every four years or whenever Council determines that a need for review has arisen.