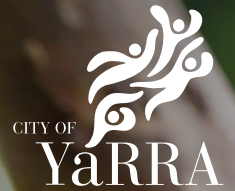


APRIL / MAY 2024

# yarranews



## In this issue

FOGO bins rolling out now

Have your say on our  
draft Budget 2024/25

More green spaces  
opening in Collingwood







## Message from the Mayor

Hi everyone,

As we move through autumn, we're getting ready for the launch of our food and garden organics (FOGO) waste collection service. This new service is in line with Victorian Government legislation, which requires all councils to provide households with a four-stream waste service (glass, recycling, FOGO and rubbish) and is designed to improve recycling and reduce waste.

The rollout of bins has already begun, and by the end of June all properties that are serviced by Yarra will have their bins ready for the collection service to commence from 1 July.

I'm really excited about the difference the FOGO service will make in our community. It reflects our shared values and commitment to a sustainable future and a Circular Economy. Let's embrace this initiative together, as we continue our journey towards a more sustainable Yarra.

Turning to our roads and pathways, I'm thrilled to share our first Transport Action Plan has been approved! We've heard from our community and their desire for Council to take strong action on improving sustainable transport options, with the 10-year Plan outlining actions to deliver the ambitious targets in Yarra's Transport Strategy to help create safer streets and fair access for everyone to move around. We're committed to reducing transport emissions, supporting active lifestyles, and aiming for net-zero emissions by 2030; with the Plan playing an important role in how we will achieve this.

Additionally, we've made strides in sports and recreation at the Yambla Pavilion, introducing three gender-neutral changerooms. This upgrade underscores our dedication to inclusivity and accessibility in community sports, ensuring everyone can participate and enjoy the benefits of local activities. These improvements at Yambla are just the beginning, with more enhancements on the way to support our vibrant community.

Together, these initiatives demonstrate our commitment to a sustainable, inclusive, and thriving Yarra. Thank you for joining us on this journey.

**Cr Edward Crossland**  
Mayor City of Yarra

### Wurundjeri Acknowledgement

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra.

We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra.

We pay our respects to Elders from all nations and to their Elders past, present and future.

**On the cover:** Craig, Princes Hill resident

### Stay connected with Yarra

- Online at [yarracity.vic.gov.au](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au)
- Sign up for our community engagement e-news and have your say on projects at [yoursayyarra.com.au](http://yoursayyarra.com.au)
- Follow us on Facebook or Instagram (@cityofyarra) and Twitter (@yarracouncil)
- Register for our monthly e-news at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarralife](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/yarralife)



## Latest News

### Driving Yarra forward with our Transport Action Plan

Council recently endorsed its first Transport Action Plan, a key element of the Yarra Transport Strategy. This 10-year agenda aims to revolutionise Yarra's transport landscape, making it more sustainable, accessible and safer. Developed with community input, the plan sets ambitious goals to enhance mobility, expand cycling infrastructure, improve pedestrian safety and increase public transport use, aligning with our ambition for net-zero emissions by 2030.

We'll advocate to Spring Street for significant investment in transport corridors and State funding to support these important upgrades as part of our commitment to a sustainable, well-connected Yarra.

### Accessible EV charging and community battery coming to Clifton Hill

We're collaborating with the Yarra Energy Foundation to bring a new neighbourhood battery system and two wheelchair-accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging stations to Clifton Hill. To be installed near Collingwood Leisure Centre, this first-of-its-kind project in Australia connects a neighbourhood battery with EV charging to enhance both renewable energy use and accessibility. The project is supported by a \$750,000 grant from the Victorian Government's Neighbourhood Battery Initiative.



### Advocating collectively for positive change

In March Mayors across Melbourne met to agree they will advocate collectively on circular economy, affordable housing and transport improvements.

In May Yarra will ask the Municipal Association of Victoria to call on State Government to stop cutting down trees to achieve electric line clearance in Metropolitan Melbourne, in cases where they don't present a fire hazard.

In July Yarra will ask Australian councils to demand climate action resources from the Federal Government, as it pledged at COP28. Yarra also wants national material product standards so products last longer, are repairable, reusable and recyclable. Also significantly, Yarra will ask that the national council body call on the Federal Government to introduce comprehensive antivilification laws, to protect our diverse community from hate speech.

For more details on these stories and other news, visit [yarracity.vic.gov.au/news](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/news)



# Food and garden organics (FOGO) bins are on their way to you!



“We’re thrilled about the new FOGO service – we have a worm farm that we love, but having a spot for our garden trimmings is going to be so handy.”

- Craig, Princes Hill resident

## Our new food and garden organic (FOGO) bins have now begun to be delivered to households and organisations across Yarra.

Those who receive a kerbside collection service will receive a new lime green-lidded bin that will collect food and garden organic (FOGO) materials.

Do not worry if you have not received your bin yet, it will come before the end of June 2024.

**Please keep in mind that the FOGO collection service does not commence until first week of July 2024. It’s best not to use your bin until close to this first collection date.**

This material will be collected and turned into valuable materials like compost, reducing emissions from landfill.

This new service is in line with Victorian Government legislation, which requires all councils to provide households with a four-stream waste service (glass, recycling, FOGO and rubbish) and is designed to improve recycling and reduce waste.

FOGO bins will be collected weekly, on the same day as your rubbish bin. Collections in the Abbotsford alternate collections area will continue unchanged, with FOGO bins collected weekly and rubbish bins collected fortnightly.

Before you begin to use your bin in July, familiarise yourself with what can and cannot go in your FOGO bin.

## What goes in the bin?

### ✓ The following items can go in your FOGO bin:

- ✓ Fruit and vegetable scraps
- ✓ Bread products
- ✓ Meat and seafood
- ✓ Loose leaf tea and coffee grounds
- ✓ Leftovers
- ✓ Garden clippings and weeds
- ✓ Plants and flowers
- ✓ Leaves and branches



### ✗ The following items cannot go in your FOGO bin:



- ✗ Products labelled compostable or bio-degradable (including bags and bin liners)
- ✗ Plastic bags
- ✗ Tea bags
- ✗ Tissues and napkins
- ✗ Pet faeces, animal remains and litter tray contents
- ✗ Treated wood or wooden chopsticks
- ✗ Any item that goes in your recycling or glass bin

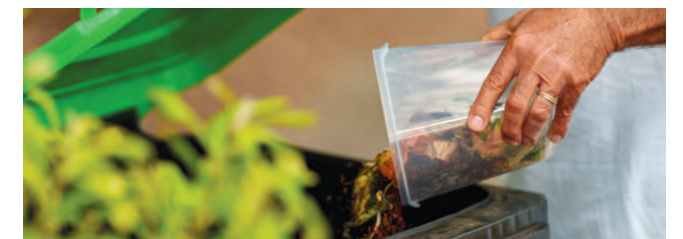
## Where can I learn more?

We’ve organised a range of opportunities for you to discuss these questions with our friendly waste management team.

### In-person FOGO pop-up sessions:

Thursday 16 May, 4 to 6pm  
Victoria Street, Richmond  
(corner Nicholson Street)

Saturday 8 June, 10am to 12 midday  
Fairfield Park, Fairfield (near toilet block)



Find out more about our FOGO service at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/FOGO](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/FOGO)





## Leading the charge with electric vehicle street sweepers

### Have you spotted our new sweeper on your street?

We're proud to be the first council in Victoria to introduce electric vehicle (EV) street sweepers as part of our ongoing efforts to create a sustainable and cleaner future for our community.

- **Better performance and efficiency:** The Ecosweep 2000 offers 30% more suction than traditional models and flexible cleaning speeds.
- **Quiet operation:** Meets noise regulations for both day and night-time sweeps.

- **Cost savings:** Reduced maintenance from fewer mechanical parts.
- **Health and safety:** Improved conditions for workers and residents alike.
- **Innovative technology:** First in Victoria with electric, zero-emission street cleaning.

Our street sweepers cover approximately 300km of roads and laneways and are a core component of our extensive street cleansing program.

Find out about more ways we're responding to the climate emergency with meaningful solutions at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/climateaction](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/climateaction)



Cr Edward Crossland, Mayor City of Yarra (left) and Sheena Watt, MP for Northern Metropolitan Region (right)

## Turning pavement into a park!

In late 2020, we heard your ideas for a new park on Otter Street in Collingwood.

Creating new green spaces in urban inner-city environments can be difficult, so we're thrilled to have transformed pavement into a new grassy urban oasis. This space will provide locals and visitors with a place to meet up, hang out and relax!

The newly opened park on the corner of Smith and Otter Streets includes different types of seating, trees and lawns, a new public toilet and artwork by Kamilaroi artist Reko Rennie, honouring the area's rich First Nations history and culture.

As a high-density and fast-growing neighbourhood, we're committed to creating more green space in Collingwood.

The opening of Otter Street Pocket Park follows the opening of the expanded Cambridge Street Reserve in December last year – now Collingwood's biggest park.

This project has been proudly delivered in partnership with the Victorian Government.



See how we're investing in Yarra's future with our Capital Works Map at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/currentworks](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/currentworks)





# Your input in action: our draft Climate Emergency Plan needs your feedback

Extreme heatwaves and the loss of our unique flora and fauna demonstrate how climate change is intensifying. We know addressing the climate emergency is a top priority for the Yarra community and that you want us to be bold and ambitious.

Last year, we launched a consultation for our new Climate Emergency Plan, receiving over 200 contributions that reflect our collective aspiration for a better future. We've listened to your feedback and used it to help shape the draft Climate Emergency Plan.

Now we need your help to review the draft plan and let us know if we're on the right track.

We want our community to be part of the climate solutions we develop, every step of the way.



## Have your say today!

Visit [yoursayyarra.com.au](https://yoursayyarra.com.au) before the consultation closes on Monday 6 May. Together, we can make sure that people and nature in Yarra thrive for generations to come.



Richmond Kinder's eco-friendly upgrade

## Highlights from our Quarterly Community Report

In a first for Council, we have introduced Quarterly Community Reports to make it easier for all our residents to see our recent progress and what we've been working on. Our Quarter 2 Community Report (October to December 2023) showcases the work we're doing to support our community and demonstrates how we're tracking against our four-year Council Plan.

We're committed to keeping you in the loop and involved in our journey towards a better Yarra.

### Key achievements:



84% of Council Plan actions are on target, including the Climate Emergency Plan and progress on the Zero Carbon Development Planning Scheme amendment.



Richmond Kindergarten's eco-friendly upgrade has earned top marks from the Department of Education, boosting early childhood services.



Our \$11.65M infrastructure investment has improved roads, sports facilities, and community spaces, with projects like footpath enhancements and new public toilets at Barkly Gardens.



The launch of our sector-leading Financial Sustainability Strategy in December demonstrates our dedication to managing resources to provide for our community now and into the future.

## Wired for Tomorrow

We're partnering with the Yarra Energy Foundation to explore the groundbreaking idea of transforming Yarra into an all-electric precinct. By developing a blueprint for communities to move away from gas, we aim to harness community energy, envision a sustainable future, and outline necessary steps and collaborations.

This effort aligns with our commitment to a zero-carbon future, supported by the passionate local group Electrify 3068.



Learn more about our electrification journey.

## SunSPOT calculator

Discover the benefits of solar for your home with the free SunSPOT tool. Easily calculate potential savings, find the ideal system size, and identify the best placement for solar panels on your roof.



Join Yarra's journey to double residential solar by 2024.



Read the full report, as well as our Quarter 1 report at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/performance](https://yarracity.vic.gov.au/performance)





## Shaping Yarra's future: Have your say on the 2024/25 Budget

Our draft annual Budget is now out for public exhibition until Friday 10 May.

Yarra City Council's draft 2024/25 Budget demonstrates that even with rising costs and adverse changes in the economic environment, we are committed to delivering key projects our community wants. All while delivering for a financially sustainable future.

Supporting Yarra's *Council Plan 2021-25* and *Community Vision*, our draft Budget continues to support essential services like waste and recycling, parks, roads, sports facilities, and open space improvements, despite current economic and local government sector wide financial challenges and population growth pressures.

### Your feedback matters

Share your thoughts on the draft Budget and our draft Long-Term Financial Plan 2024/25 to 2033/34 by Friday 10 May at [yoursayyarra.com.au](https://yoursayyarra.com.au)

### Come and talk with us about the Budget and Financial Plan

Saturday 27 April, 10am to 12 midday  
Gleadell Street Market

## Annual Grants opening in June!

Looking for funding for a local community project or artwork?  
Let us help bring it to life!

We're investing \$1.62 million in the community as part of our 2025 Annual Grants program, which forms one part of our broader \$2.55 million grants program.

Our grants aim to improve:

- social equity
- environmental protection
- community connectivity across Yarra.

This funding supports Yarra's community groups, not-for-profits, and individuals in areas like health, arts, climate, sports, and youth programs.

Past recipients include CLIMARTE, Seventh Gallery, and Collingwood Basketball Association.

Applications will be open from Monday 10 June until Wednesday 31 July.



"Yarra's support was crucial in bringing our community cinema project to life, covering screening and licensing fees, artist fees, and essential equipment investments."

- Lucie, Seventh Gallery



Find out more at  
[yarracity.vic.gov.au/annualgrants](https://yarracity.vic.gov.au/annualgrants)

## Join the conversation with your Councillors

We've created more opportunities for you to speak directly with your Councillors, ask questions and provide feedback about the local issues that matter to you.

Our Talking Yarra events are held at locations across Yarra, to ensure broad and meaningful engagement with our diverse community.

We're running these sessions in addition to our existing Your Say Yarra engagement platform, where you can provide feedback on specific Council projects.

### Join us for our next event:

Saturday 20 July, 10am to 12 midday  
Fitzroy North shopping strip  
Near corner of St George's Road and Scotchmer Street

For more information and to stay updated on session dates, visit [yarracity.vic.gov.au/councillors](https://yarracity.vic.gov.au/councillors)







## It's not too late to enrol in kinder!

Free kindergarten across Yarra now includes up to 15 free hours a week for three and four-year-olds as part of the Victorian Government's Free Kinder program!

We've also upgraded and built new kindergartens across Yarra, including the new state-of-the-art Collingwood Kinder at Collingwood College, providing room for 66 children and modern, creative spaces for learning and play.



Registrations are open for 2024 and 2025. Learn more at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/kinder](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/kinder)



## Books and blooms

Have you had the chance to experience the pop-up park outside Richmond Library on Charlotte Street?

With garden beds and new seating, this temporary haven will allow us to review the traffic impacts in the area and serves as a place to relax before the permanent reserve is constructed.

## YARRA COMMUNITY AWARDS 2024

### Nominations open soon

Recognise and honour the everyday heroes who make Yarra such a wonderful place to live, work and visit.

Nominations open on Monday 20 May and close on Sunday 30 June.



Nominate an individual or group at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/awards](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/awards)



2023 winners: Bol Mayan (left), Young Citizen of the Year and Mubarek Imam (right), Citizen of the Year

## VEC announces a new ward structure for Council elections this October

We're one of 39 councils moving to a single-Councillor ward structure for our 2024 election in October, resulting in 9 new wards, each represented by one Councillor.

This is a shift from the current 3 wards with 3 Councillors each.

This adjustment follows a review and a submission to the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) by Council, prioritising existing communities over arbitrary divisions based on major roads. Yarra's external boundaries remain the same.

For Yarra residents, the election participation process remains unchanged. Non-resident property or business owners must register by August to vote in October.

### New wards:

- Boulevard Ward
- Curtin Ward
- Hoddle Ward
- Langridge Ward
- Lennox Ward
- MacKillop Ward
- Melba Ward
- Nicholls Ward
- Yarra Bend Ward

Learn about the changes at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/new-council-wards](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/new-council-wards)  
For any election questions please head to [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)



## Adapting home care services to address national aged care reforms



In response to the Commonwealth aged care reforms, we're updating our home care services to better support Yarra's older residents.

Starting 1 July 2024, we will transition 137 clients from Council-provided care to Mercy Health, our trusted, long-time, not-for-profit partner known for its comprehensive aged care services and excellent quality care.

Our priority is a smooth transition, providing personalised and targeted support for clients and their families over a 6 to 12-month period.

We are committed to improving the lives of our community's seniors and will always provide a range of services to support them to stay active, healthy, and connected.

Learn more at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/aged-care-reforms](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/aged-care-reforms)



**LEAPS AND BOUNDS**

## What's on

### Art Place 2024

**Saturday 27 April to Sunday 26 May**  
**Abbotsford Convent**  
**1 St Heliers St, Abbotsford**

The Abbotsford Convent Foundation celebrates 20 years with a curated exhibition by Catlin Langford, showcasing the precinct's evolution. This archival journey at The Store reflects on the community's role in transforming the Convent into a vibrant arts and cultural hub. The 4-week event invites reflection on the Convent's impact and its sustainable future.

### Open Table Community Lunches

**Every Saturday, 1pm to 2pm**  
**Bargoonga Nganjin, North Fitzroy Library**

Join us and our friends Open Table for a free, nutritious vegan lunch at Bargoonga Nganjin. Halal options will also be available. Enjoy a meal in community atmosphere and help save tonnes of food from landfill.

### Australian Heritage Festival 2024

**18 April to 18 May**

"Connections" is the theme of this year's festival. As we celebrate connections among people, places, and the past, we invite you to explore Yarra's heritage precincts. Download a map of one of our self-guided heritage walks from our website at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/heritage](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/heritage), and for more information about the festival visit [nationaltrust.org.au/ahf](http://nationaltrust.org.au/ahf)

### Celebrate Yarra's Volunteers

**Tuesday 21 May, 6.30pm to 7.30pm**  
**Online**

Celebrate National Volunteer Week (20-26 May 2024) with Volunteering Victoria's free webinar. Discover how you can find diverse volunteering opportunities and see how your contributions can make a difference. While helping the community, you'll also enrich your own experiences and skills.

### Leaps and Bounds 2024

**Thursday 25 July to Sunday 28 July**

Mark your calendars! Yarra's iconic celebration of live music venues and musicians is back for its 11th year. Featuring a stellar line up of gigs within pubs, bars and band rooms – look out for diverse curated lineups and shows, including special showcases highlighting First Nations, queer artists, and tribute acts. Sign up for updates at [lbfm.com.au](http://lbfm.com.au)

Find details about these events and more that are coming up in Yarra at [yarracity.vic.gov.au/events](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/events)

**YOUR SAY  
YARRA**

## Get involved in Yarra's projects

Share your feedback about upcoming Council projects and share your thoughts and ideas for Yarra. Your input will help us make decisions that reflect the needs and priorities of our community.

Sign up to our engagement e-newsletter to stay informed and have your say.

Visit [yoursayyarra.com.au](http://yoursayyarra.com.au) to find out more.





## Your Councillors

To find your Ward visit  
[yarracity.vic.gov.au/councillors](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/councillors)

Below are contact details for your Ward Councillors. These are listed in alphabetical order.

### Langridge Ward

- **Cr Michael Glynatsis**  
michael.glynatsis@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Stephen Jolly**  
stephen.jolly@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Anab Mohamud (Deputy Mayor)**  
anab.mohamud@yarracity.vic.gov.au

### Melba Ward

- **Cr Edward Crossland (Mayor)**  
edward.crossland@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Herschel Landes**  
herschel.landes@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Claudia Nguyen**  
claudia.nguyen@yarracity.vic.gov.au

### Nicholls Ward

- **Cr Bridgid O'Brien**  
bridgid.obrien@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Amanda Stone**  
amanda.stone@yarracity.vic.gov.au
- **Cr Sophie Wade**  
sophie.wade@yarracity.vic.gov.au

To contact your Councillors, call **9205 5055**, send a letter to **c/o PO Box 168, Richmond VIC 3121**, or email their address above.

## Council Meetings

Meetings take place at Richmond Town Hall. If you would like to attend, please visit [yarracity.vic.gov.au/meetings](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/meetings) for details.

All meetings are live streamed at  
[yarracity.vic.gov.au/webcast](http://yarracity.vic.gov.au/webcast)

- Tuesday 14 May
- Tuesday 18 June

Information from this edition in your language. For more information please call **9280 1940** and quote REF **19952**.

本期的《Yarra News》介绍了我们社区的最新动态以及当地即将举行的活动和市议会最新的重要消息。欲了解有关《Yarra News》的更多信息, 请致电**9280 1937**并报上查询参考编号19,903。

Σε αυτήν την έκδοση του δελτίου Yarra News, μάθετε τι συμβαίνει στην κοινότητά μας. Διαβάστε για τις επερχόμενες τοπικές εκδηλώσεις και τις σημαντικότερες ενημερώσεις του Δήμου. Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες σχετικά με το Yarra News καλέστε στο **9280 1934** και δώστε τον αριθμό αναφοράς 19,903.

في هذا العدد من Yarra News (أخبار يارا) تعرّفوا على ما يحدث في مجتمعنا وعلى الأحداث المحلية القادمة وأهم وآخر مستجدات المجلس. لمزيد من المعلومات حول Yarra News (أخبار يارا)، اتصل على **9280 1930** واذكر الرقم المرجعي 19903.

Trong ấn bản này của Yarra News, hãy tìm hiểu xem điều gì đang xảy ra trong cộng đồng của chúng ta. Đọc về các sự kiện sắp tới được tổ chức tại địa phương và các thông tin cập nhật quan trọng của hội đồng. Để biết thêm thông tin về Yarra News, hãy gọi số **9280 1939** và trích dẫn số tham chiếu 19,903.

Nella presente edizione di Yarra News, scoprite cosa sta succedendo nella nostra comunità. Leggete delle novità dei prossimi eventi locali e degli aggiornamenti importanti del comune. Per ulteriori informazioni su Yarra News telefonate al numero **9280 1931** e citate il numero di riferimento 19.903.

En esta edición de Yarra News, descubra lo que sucede en nuestra comunidad. Lea sobre los próximos eventos locales y las importantes actualizaciones del municipio. Para más información sobre Yarra News, comuníquese al **9280 1935** e indique el número de referencia 19.903.