



# Ordinary Meeting of Council Minutes

held on Tuesday 5 May 2020 at 7.00pm  
via TEAMS

[www.yarracity.vic.gov.au](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au)

## 1. Acknowledgement of Country

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

*We acknowledge their creator spirit Bunjil, their ancestors and their Elders.*

*We acknowledge the strength and resilience of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, who have never ceded sovereignty and retain their strong connections to family, clan and country despite the impacts of European invasion.*

*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 here today—and to their Elders past, present and future.”*

### 1. A. Vale – Victoria Police Officers

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Coleman

**Seconded:** Councillor Chen Yi Mei

On behalf half of Yarra City Council and all Councillors I would like to acknowledge the tragic deaths of four Victoria Police officers who lost their lives in April while helping to keep the community safe.

- Leading Senior Constable Lynette Taylor.
- Constable Glen Humphris.
- Senior Constable Kevin King.
- Constable Josh Prestney.

May their names be remembered, their service honoured, and their memories celebrated. Our sincerest condolences to their families and friends at this time.

It has never been so important that we look after each other. To the serving police officers and PSOs currently on our frontline and the staff who provide support to them, we extend our gratitude for your ongoing support and commitment to your duty.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **2. Attendance, apologies and requests for leave of absence**

### **Attendance**

#### Councillors

- Cr Danae Bosler (Mayor)
- Cr Misha Coleman (Deputy Mayor)
- Cr Mi-Lin Chen Yi Mei
- Cr Jackie Fristacky
- Cr Stephen Jolly
- Cr Daniel Nguyen
- Cr Bridgid O'Brien
- Cr James Searle
- Cr Amanda Stone

#### Council officers

- Vijaya Vaidyanath (Chief Executive Officer)
- Ivan Gilbert (Group Manager Chief Executive's Office)
- Lucas Gosling (Director Community Wellbeing)
- Gracie Karabinis (Group Manager People and Culture)
- Chris Leivers (Director City Works and Assets)
- Diarmuid McAlary (Director Corporate, Business and Finance)
- Bruce Phillips (Director Planning and Place Making)
- Rhys Thomas (Senior Governance Advisor)
- Mel Nikou (Governance Officer)

## **3. Declarations of conflict of interest (Councillors and staff)**

Nil

## **4. Confidential business reports**

Nil

## **COUNCIL RESOLUTION (PROCEDURAL)**

**Moved:** Councillor Coleman

**Seconded:** Councillor Chen Yi Mei

1. That in order to facilitate the conduct of virtual Council Meetings, Council suspend the standing orders for all virtual meetings in accordance with clause 90 of the Yarra City Council Meeting Procedures as follows:
  - (a) all references to a person being “present” shall be taken to include their presence by teleconference;
  - (b) the requirement to leave the room due to a conflict of interest shall be taken to include disconnecting from the teleconference;
  - (c) the requirement to sign the confirmed minutes of a meeting may be held over until it is safe and convenient to do so;
  - (d) the presentation of petitions and joint letters may be done by electronic means;
  - (e) the presentation of public questions and public submissions shall be made by a Council officer on behalf of the submitter, with the submission then being treated in the same manner as if the member of the public had been physically present;
  - (f) clauses 127 to 131 are set aside, in favour of:
    - (i) for a vote to be valid, it must be cast by a Councillor participating in the teleconference;
    - (ii) the chairperson shall ask each Councillor, in turn, to indicate their vote in relation to the question by voice;
    - (iii) if the number of Councillors in favour of the question is a majority of the number of Councillors present at the time the vote is taken, the question is determined in the affirmative;
    - (iv) if the number of Councillors in favour of the question is a minority of the number of Councillors present at the time the vote is taken, the question is determined in the negative;
    - (v) subject to section 61(6) of the Local Government Act 2020, if the number of Councillors in favour of the question is half the number of Councillors present at the meeting at the time the vote is taken, the chairperson has a second vote; and
    - (vi) the chairperson may require a recount to be taken and shall then declare the result; and
  - (g) Council officers and Councillors may use such recording and transmitting devices as are necessary to facilitate the operation of the teleconference.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **5. Confirmation of minutes**

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Jolly

**Seconded:** Councillor Fristacky

That the minutes of the Special Confidential Council Meeting held on Thursday 2 April 2020 be confirmed.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 6. Petitions and joint letters

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## 13. Urgent business

Nil

## 6. Petitions and joint letters

### 6.1 Petition – Stop the Loss of Parking Spaces in Gold and Hodgkinson Streets

Reference: D20/78151

Lead petitioner: Catherine Heng,

A petition containing 44 names from residents have made a request that Council consider the following:

- (a) *3 car spaces are to be removed in Hodgkinson St because of claimed safety issues with the pedestrian crossover at the Gold St roundabout (noting that there have been no safety incidents in over 40 years);*
- (b) *2 spaces in Gold Street to enlarge the existing bus stop near Queens Parade; and*
- (c) *redesign these proposals so that there is no loss of needed on-street parking spaces. We also note that schemes have been presented to Council officers, which address their concerns, but with no loss of parking spaces. We ask Council to adopt these alternative solutions.*

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Jolly

**Seconded:** Councillor Stone

That the petition be received and referred to the appropriate officer for consideration.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 7. Public question time

### 7.1 Damien Bonnice - Street Parking

Questions:

I would like to draw Councillors attention to the unnecessary loss of on street parking spaces near the intersection of Gold & Hodgkinson Streets in Clifton Hill (near Queens Parade). The loss is due to a proposed action by Council to increase the length of the bus parking bay in Gold Street (with the loss of 2 spaces) and to improve sight lines of the pedestrian crossing in Hodgkinson Street (at the intersection - with the loss of 3 car spaces).

Residents do not oppose the intent of the works but, on the basis of submitted (resident) plans, the loss of the 5 spaces has been shown to be unnecessary. My question is - can Council facilitate a meeting between nominated residents (max 3) and Council officers to review the submitted plans and seek to develop a mutually acceptable outcome?

Response:

*The Director City Works and Assets advised the following:*

*There was a meeting between officers, residents and some ward Councillors in relation to the matter. The removal of one of the two car spaces on the east side of Gold Street is necessary to comply with the request we have received from*

*Department of Transport (DOT) to facilitate the safe bus ingress and egress at the bus stop.*

*Originally, DOT had requested the removal of two car spaces and officers considered all of the options and liaised and negotiated with DOT and now determine that only one car space will need to be removed to enable the safe bus access.*

*There may be an opportunity for us to put in an additional car spot on the west side of Gold Street, but officers do need to undertake further work to determine if that is possible, and if it is, that would mean no loss of car park spaces in that location.*

*In Hodgkinson Street the removal of three car parks that lead up to and impeded with the pedestrian crossing is proposed to ensure safe access to the pedestrian crossing.*

*Our professional traffic engineers have accessed the crossing and determined that three non-standard car spaces and by non-standard I mean there is room for two and a half to three car parks there that is not lined to restrict parking, those car parks need to be removed in order to provide clear sight lines to the pedestrian crossing. The Australian standards also apply, that requires no car parking spaces within 10 metres of an intersection and 20 metres of a pedestrian crossing and on that basis the plan is to remove those car spaces.*

*Officers have reviewed the plans that Mr Bonnice submitted and determined that they do not address the safety issues posed to retain the car parks. The plans also included the removal of an existing planter bed and some street trees to enable parking. Officers do not support that and Council's adopted policies also would not support it.*

## 8. Delegates' reports

### 8.1 Councillor Stone - Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA)

<b>Committee</b>	Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA)
<b>Appointed Councillors</b>	Cr Amanda Stone
<b>Date of Council Meeting</b>	Tuesday 5 May 2020
<b>Date of Report</b>	Tuesday 28 April 2020
<b>Report Author</b>	Cr Amanda Stone

#### **DELEGATES REPORT**

The City of Yarra is a member of NAGA.

NAGA formed in 2002 as a network that shares information, coordinates emission reduction and adaptation activities and cooperates on the research and development of innovative projects. NAGA's goal is to substantially contribute to the transition to a low-carbon future by delivering effective programs and leveraging local government, community and business action.

#### **Summary of Work**

In this third quarter, NAGA has focused on developing a strategic plan for 2020-25. Following a strategic planning day in February, the NAGA Executive has identified the following work packages which will form the basis of the next strategic plan:



1. **Climate Governance** – building capacity to accelerate emissions reduction and protect council and communities from climate impacts.
2. **Smarter Advocacy** – strategic approach and broadening scope to support councils engage with new audiences.
3. **Adaptation** – updating and expanding NAGA's approach to adaptation and resilience.
4. **Regional Business Emissions** – large scale solutions to drive down emissions through PPAs and EUAs.
5. **Maximum Residential Renewable Capacity** – applying tools to accelerate local solar uptake and at-distance renewables.
6. **Local Energy Markets** – new retail solutions for council and community needs.
7. **Dumping Carbon** – electrification of councils and carbon storage.

The NAGA Executive considered a draft of the strategic plan at its regular meeting yesterday and will decide on the final version of the plan in May.

### **Projects**

- NAGA is working on two major collaborative projects with other greenhouse alliances. These are:
  - **Power Purchase Agreement** (PPA) for Victorian councils to procure low cost renewable energy from 2020/21 for more than forty councils across the state, making it the largest known local government led PPA. NAGA is working with other greenhouse alliances and the City of Darebin to establish governance structures, and procure an energy retailer.
  - NAGA is working with the Eastern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (EAGA) and the Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA) to deliver the second round of **Solar Savers** to deliver solar to low-income households. This offers alternative financing models, including council rates and a bank finance partnership. This project has been joined by nine local governments. The Shire of Nillumbik is the first council to deliver this version of Solar Savers.
- NAGA is also on the steering group of the **How Well Are We Adapting** project, which is primarily managed by the Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA). This project was originally developed by the WAGA councils to measure climate adaptation actions and impacts in council areas. It has since been extended to other greenhouse alliance regions.

### **Networking**

NAGA and the other Victorian greenhouse alliances have made a decision to cancel the 2020 greenhouse alliances conference, which was scheduled for 7 August.

In response to the restrictions on operations imposed as a result of Covid-19, NAGA is shifting its workshops online for the foreseeable future. With the other greenhouse alliances, we have developed a schedule of workshops covering:

- removing gas from council operations;
- health and wellbeing and climate change;
- embedding climate change in council decision-making; and

- zero emissions vehicles

NAGA had scheduled the first of its climate risk working groups, which evolved out of a presentation on climate risk for local government by Sarah Barker of Minter Ellison, at Darebin City Council in October 2019. However, this has been postponed due to Covid-19 and will be shifted online with the first meeting to be held before the end of the 2019-20 financial year.

### **Advocacy**

NAGA has focused on supporting councils that are considering or have declared a climate emergency, through workshops and an online forum allowing council staff from across Australia to share best practice and information.

With funding from Darebin City Council, NAGA has been working on developing a national network for climate emergency local governments, including creating new governance structures, securing funding and identifying first year projects.

Following the National Climate Emergency Summit on 15<sup>th</sup> February, attended by representatives from 70 councils across Australia, it was agreed to form **Climate Emergency Australia (CEA)**, a national network of governments and sector partners, to provide the climate leadership in Australia by local governments.

A **Network Development Group** has been meeting to develop a structure through which councils can work together. I have been part of that group along with Officer Michael Oke. NAGA has acted as secretariat.

A **Briefing Paper** on progress to date is attached. Funding for a Coordinator has been sought from participating councils. Contributions from councils have varied from \$5000 to \$60,000. Yarra as a founding partner has identified \$5000 from climate emergency advocacy and engagement to contribute. A decision on further commitment will need to be made at a future date.

Climate Emergency Australia has the potential to harness the collective knowledge and advocacy power from councils around Australia who have declared or who acknowledge a climate emergency and therefore accelerate action. Collective action is what is needed at present.

## **ATTACHMENT**

### **Briefing paper - Climate Emergency Australia – first 12 months**

Date: 24 April 2020

Author: Karen Gardham, NAGA

#### **1) Background**

Since Darebin City Council declared a climate emergency in 2016, more than 90 municipalities across Australia, representing over eight million people, and more than 1,400 local governments across the world have declared or acknowledged a climate emergency, with momentum building particularly over the last year.

As declarations have gathered pace, Councils have been in contact with Darebin City Council and with their regional climate change networks, seeking advice and support on understanding what it means to declare a climate emergency. As the number of requests has grown, there is increasing recognition that there is a need for a coordinated national approach to support local governments that have declared a climate emergency. A workshop was held on 15 February 2020 as part of the National Climate Emergency Summit to discuss how Australian Councils could make this happen.

Nearly 70 Councils from across the country were represented by over 150 attendees. Two proposals were agreed at this workshop:

- 1) That we form Climate Emergency Australia (CEA), a national network of governments and sector partners, to provide the climate leadership Australia needs. CEA will enable:
  - an agreed framework for climate emergency policy, action and accountability;
  - collaboration with, and advocacy to, other governments and sectors; and
  - further momentum and movement building in response to the climate emergency.
- 2) That we endorse a Network Development Group (NDG).

## **2) Developing the Climate Emergency Australia structure**

A Network Development Group has established to develop a structure through which Councils can work together. The group has representation from six States and Territories following a self-nomination process. The administration of the development of CEA is being carried out by secretariat of the Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA), a network of nine Councils in Melbourne's north working together on climate change projects, advocacy and knowledge sharing.

The scope of work of Climate Emergency Australia has been defined following input from over 70 councils across Australia via the Climate Emergency Summit workshop; a survey of declared and interested Councils; and the Network Development Group.

### **Scope**

- External: Developing public advocacy campaigns and joint messaging
- Operational: Developing a framework and supporting tools for what it means to declare and governance around this
- Collaborating with others:
  - Identifying or coordinating climate emergency projects e.g. developing best practice advise / toolkits, joint procurement
  - Sharing resources and knowledge between councils across Australia through discussion groups, workshops, webinars

## **3) The first 12 months**

This project will be run for a start-up period of 12 months in order to oversee the work of a Coordinator. It will allow work to get started sooner rather than later e.g. time taken to get councils/people officially part of a structure. CEA beyond this time period will be informed by a review towards the end of the 12 months, and an appropriate governance structure will be set up for beyond that

CEA will not have a formal membership structure for the first 12 months. Councils can be part of the movement by contributing their time, signing up to the messaging and advocacy activity, and sharing good practice – these are “CEA Councils”. CEA will be funded by “Founding Funders” - Councils who see the benefit in working together with other councils, acknowledge this needs resources to get it started, can afford to contribute, and are willing to provide funding to receive the mutual benefits that coordinating this work together brings rather than a direct return to themselves.

#### 4) Governance structure

For the first year the work of the Coordinator is overseen by a Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) of Councils from the founding funders as well as other Councils that are representative of different sizes and geographical location of Councils. A Terms of Reference will outline their work. One or two representatives from each state or territory will form the SAG, each representative to be nominated by two other Councils and will be either a councillor, mayor or senior officer from a council that has declared a climate emergency.

<b>Governance Group</b>	<b>Representation</b>	<b>Meeting frequency</b>	<b>Focus/role</b>
CEA Strategic Advisory Group	Senior Staff Councillors Includes founding funders	Monthly	Ensure oversight and high level guidance of the work of CEA
CEA Working Groups – groups TBC	CEA Strategic Advisory Group members CEA Coordinator CEA Councils	As required	Potential working groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CEA Framework development</li> <li>• Embedding CE within your council</li> <li>• Messaging development</li> <li>• Advocacy campaigns</li> </ul>
CEA Host organisation	Host organisation	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruit Coordinator in consultation with the Network Development Group then SAG</li> <li>• Provide day-to-day management of the Coordinator</li> <li>• Report back to Founding Funders at the midway point and end of the 12 months</li> </ul>

#### **Membership of Strategic Advisory Group (SAG)**

The Strategic Advisory Group will consist of one or two elected representatives (Councillor/Mayor) or Senior Officers (a Director or Manager or equivalent) from each State and Territory, from a council that has declared a climate emergency. There will be places for Founding Funders where required - the aim is to involve the Founding Funders but balance the numbers for a functioning Group. Places on the Strategic Advisory Group are offered to individuals with the skills and ability to support CEA and not on a representative basis for

individual councils. The process for nomination will be distributed once CEA arrangements have been finalised.

## **5) Operational structure**

### **Coordinator**

The Coordinator will:

- develop joint climate emergency messaging to be shared between Councils, subject to project funding
- create and deliver at least one major joint advocacy campaign, subject to project funding
- work with councils to develop a climate emergency delivery framework
- identify key projects that are unique to climate emergency work and partners to deliver them
- provide a platform for Councils to communicate with each other and share resources
- investigate potential ongoing governance models
- review progress and governance towards the end of the 12-month period.

### **CEA Councils**

Climate emergency councils are any Councils (and those carrying out local government functions e.g. the ACT government) in Australia that are committed to the aims of CEA and acknowledge that this is not business as usual climate change work can state their interest in being involved in any piece of work. There is no formal mechanism to become a CEA Council.

Climate emergency councils will:

- Share knowledge of what works and what doesn't with each other
- Take part in joint advocacy campaigns
- Use jointly developed messaging in their public and internal communications
- Identify opportunities and resources for collaborative approaches to the climate emergency
- Work together and provide input to CEA projects, including in-kind and cash resources where possible
- Mentor councils wanting to declare a climate emergency
- Identify issues, barriers and opportunities in project implementation, and refer these to CEA Strategic Advisory Group

## **6) After 12 months**

Towards the end of the 12 month start-up period, the achievements and governance arrangements will be reviewed by the Coordinator and the SAG and a determination made about the future operations and governance of CEA.

## **7) Funding**

Collaboration of governments needs resources and a structure to drive it forward. It is clear that this movement needs to not be "just another network" but work on bringing existing

stakeholders together where they are interested in a role and drive specific action around the climate emergency where there is currently a gap.

NAGA is seeking funding for a start-up period of 12 months to kick-start the development of Climate Emergency Australia and its program of work. At the date of this paper, \$79,000 had been pledged, some of which is awaiting final confirmation.

A part-time Coordinator will be supported by the governance structure identified above that involves Councils from across the country who both were able and not able to contribute financially.

#### **Budget**

- Coordinator salary for 0.6 for 12 months, plus on costs including cost of organisation hosting them: \$90,000
- Officer travel and events: \$5,000

If funding is only gained for the Coordinator role in the first instance, further funding will be sought from councils on a project specific basis to cover major projects such as:

- Specialist advice in developing messaging: \$20,000
- Advocacy campaigns: \$30,000

Funds are sought from councils to be a Founding Funder of this movement to ensure it is resourced and a Coordinator can be recruited. NAGA suggest that larger Councils contribute **\$20,000**, but smaller Councils may wish to contribute a smaller amount of between **\$2,000 and \$5,000**.

Founding Funders are Councils who see the benefit in working together with other Councils, acknowledge this needs resources to get it started, can afford to contribute, and are willing to provide funding to receive the mutual benefits that coordinating this work together brings rather than a direct return to themselves.

Funds are also sought from Councils to contribute to the messaging and advocacy projects identified. It is suggested Councils interested in this identify their contribution in their 2020-21 budgets.

Councils not able to contribute will still be able to be involved in the work of CEA. However, the work cannot be done unless we raise the funds indicated, so all contributions are welcome. An ongoing funding mechanism of Climate Emergency Australia beyond the first 12 months will be decided and implemented once the review of initial work and need has been completed.

#### **8) Further information**

If you would like more information, please contact Karen Gardham at NAGA:  
[karen@naga.org.au](mailto:karen@naga.org.au)

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Stone

**Seconded:** Councillor Bosler

That this Delegate's Report be noted.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 8.2 Councillor Stone - Friends of Baucau Inc.

<b>Committee</b>	Friends of Baucau Inc.
<b>Appointed Councillors</b>	Cr Amanda Stone
<b>Date of Council Meeting</b>	Tuesday 5 May 2020
<b>Date of Report</b>	Tuesday 5 May 2020
<b>Report Author</b>	Cr Amanda Stone

**DELEGATES REPORT**

Friends of Baucau Inc. continues to meet monthly in venues alternately between Yarra and Darebin reflecting its memberships of citizens and councillors from each municipality.

To further this relationship, a delegation from Friends of Baucau and the Neighbourhood House Network from Yarra and Darebin, travelled to Dili and Baucau in 2019 to establish links with women's groups and community centres there. This was the subject of a report to Council by Aldo Malavisi who attended representing Yarra Council.

Since then the relationship between Friends of Baucau, the Neighbourhood House Network in Yarra and Darebin, and the women's groups in Baucau has developed and strengthened even further. The Neighbourhood House Network in conjunction with Darebin Council and Friends of Baucau jointly hosted a visit by Regina De Sousa, in March this year, reported on below.

Friends of Baucau has been active in 2020 with:

- (a) supporting the scholarship program at Baucau Teachers College;
- (b) liaising with the new School Garden program in Baucau;
- (c) hosting the visit of Regina De Sousa to meet with Friends of Baucau and Darebin and Yarra Councils; and
- (d) assisting the Baucau Municipal Administration with much needed funding for Covid-19 prevention and monitoring.

**School Gardens Programme**

Friends of Baucau has been actively supporting the development of permaculture skills and knowledge in the Baucau community. The first School Community Gardens program has been established in Aubaca Central Primary School, in Triloka Suco. Aubaca has 560 students in the three senior years of Basic Education (year 6-9) and services 7 other filial or feeder schools with 1500 + students. Representatives of each of the 8 schools as well as parents and local authorities attended a week long workshop to learn about permaculture and managing school gardens. The workshop was conducted by Permaculture Timor-Leste (Permatil) with funding from Friends of Baucau and Penny and Clive Blazey founding Director of Diggers.

The program was so successful and popular Friends of Baucau have been asked to fund another cluster of schools in Baucau in 2020.

### **Visit by Regina Da Sousa**

Ms Regina de Sousa, currently Community Liaison Officer at the Municipality of Baucau visited Australia for 3 weeks as the guest of the City of Darebin.

Ms de Sousa is recognised nationally for promoting women's participation in political decision making and government especially at the local level.

The three week visit by Ms Regina was well organised by the Gender/Women's Empowerment Sub-Committee. Many thanks were expressed to the councillors and staff of Darebin and Yarra Councils who gave their time and encouragement to the program.

Highlights of Regina's visit included:

- (a) attending the Victorian Neighbourhood House conference in Lorne;
- (b) visiting neighbourhood houses in the Darebin and Yarra municipalities;
- (c) joining in International Women's day events and multicultural activities with the two councils;
- (d) learning more from Darebin and Yarra Council staff about programs for community support and inclusion;
- (e) meeting Victorian Women's Trust to establish a great connection re community conversations and action; and
- (f) helping the committee understand better how we can assist the Women's Association in Baucau.

Regina's return to Timor-Leste was marked by two weeks in mandatory quarantine for all returnees arriving in Dili. She is now well and back in Baucau, but together with her colleagues at the Baucau Municipal Administration, local NGOs and the Women's Association facing the challenge of Covid-19 information-sharing, prevention and monitoring.

### **Baucau and COVID-19**

Regina facilitated a request from Senor Antonio Guterres, Mayor of Baucau for funding support from Friends of Baucau in order to buy essential items such as masks, gloves, ethyl alcohol, handwash and water tanks for hospital and community use. Friends of Baucau was able to provide this support immediately.

Timor-Leste currently has 18 cases of Covid-19 - all from recent returnees from outside Timor-Leste. Currently there are no cases of community transmission. A strong government and civil society information campaign on hand washing and social distancing will hopefully have a good effect, but medical facilities and resources are limited.

### **Furthering the Municipal Agreement**

The developing of a local government structure in Baucau is slow but steady with many of the personnel now in place. Regina da Sousa expressed a strong desire for a representative of Yarra Council to visit Baucau in the next 12 months to further the relationship and identify other ways of supporting the transition to local government. This request is explicitly stated in the attached presentation from the Mayor of Baucau.



## **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Stone

**Seconded:** Councillor Coleman

1. That Council:
  - (a) note this Delegates Report; and
  - (b) acknowledge the Municipal Agreement between Yarra and Baucau and the importance of its role in supporting the transition of Baucau to a strong local government entity.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **9. General Business**

### **9.1 Councillor Stone - Physical Distancing and Public Space Opportunities**

#### **Background**

The result of the recent restrictions on movement as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and Victoria's State of Emergency has been an emptying of Yarra's streets to vehicle traffic and an increase in pedestrians and cycling. Whilst this has been most noticeable on shared paths through open space, it is also seen in our shopping strips and commercial precincts. Council has had feedback that this has been welcomed by many in the community.

Whilst some restrictions are likely to be lifted in the near future, there will remain a requirement for physical distancing for some time to come, possibly a year or more.

Physical distancing will be a challenge in some locations in Yarra with narrow footpaths and busy commercial centres. Pedestrians will find separation difficult as they go about their regular activities in a busier environment.

Yarra Council has also received numerous approaches from residents interested in taking this opportunity to re-examine how we view and use public spaces especially road space. There is an opportunity to introduce some short-term measures which both facilitate physical distancing in our busier areas, but also a better use of public space where more space is devoted to people. Some of these measures could become long term if successful.

Yarra Council officers are aware of these community submissions for better use of public spaces and have begun work to identify opportunities and innovative solutions where pressure points and concentrations of pedestrian activity currently exist. This motion builds on that work and ensures a progress report is provided to Council and the community.

## **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Stone

**Seconded:** Councillor Bosler

1. That officers bring a report to the June cycle of Council meetings outlining:
  - (a) identified locations in Yarra's public spaces where physical distancing will be hard to achieve once current restrictions are lifted;
  - (b) measures which can be taken to increase the opportunities for physical distancing at these locations;

- (c) other opportunities to simultaneously achieve Council objectives such as improving pedestrian facilities, improving bike lanes, increased street greening, increased opportunities for connectivity, increased opportunities for passive recreation whilst maintaining physical distancing; and
- (d) a selection of such projects which could be implemented quickly and cost effectively by Council and a further selection of such projects proposed for any future state or federal funding opportunities as part of an economic stimulus programme.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **10. Questions without notice**

### 10.1 Councillor Jolly - Green Parking Signs

Question:

The City of Melbourne have just distributed eight thousand green stickers to help professionals so that they do not get fined. I also understand that we have to be careful about what we say publicly so we don't cause chaos and have people take advantage of the situation.

Can officers please explain what the plans are in general terms to ensure that health professionals doing vital work health work in our area during this virus are not pinned with parking fines, balanced off by the reality that it is the second biggest source of income for Yarra Council, and the current situation which is a little more broader than just health workers, obviously can't continue indefinitely, but how can we protect them for the duration of this virus?

Response:

*The Director Corporate Business and Finance advised the following:*

*The City of Yarra will be moving towards enforcing green parking signs in the coming weeks but we going to use a warning process to roll that into the community. We are extremely conscious of the issues of health workers and their important role as front line workers in managing the COVID-19 crisis for the community. We have been in discussions with the major hospitals, in particular the Epworth and St Vincent's within Yarra today and plan on doing that over the course of the next week. As I mentioned we are in the warning process rollout but our aim is to make sure that the health workers are able to park and able to go and do their jobs without having to worry about moving their car when they in the middle of trying to keep people safe and healthy.*

*As with all Council's, red zone signs are in place primarily for reasons of safety or significant amenity issues, particularly in peak hours so we will continue to enforce them as we have been over the seven weeks.*

*The Mayor also advised that some hospitals across Melbourne have opened up their car parks to make them more affordable for staff.*

10.2 Councillor Searle - Amendment C245

Question:

In relation to Strategic Planning Amendment C245, which was the heritage theatres and interiors and other associated interiors, there was a panel hearing a couple of weeks ago where this amendment was considered.

Can officers update Council with whether or not there has been an outcome from that hearing or anything else that can be reported?

Response:

*The Director Planning and Place Making advised the following:*

*After the panel hearing, the panel will report back to Council, but at this stage they haven't. As soon as that occurs we will be keep Councillors informed.*

10.3 Councillor Searle - Amendment C245

Question:

So following Council's decision to not pursue heritage interior controls on two theatres that we have seen the interior of the former Burnley Theatre dismantled by the owners.

What support if any, can Council offer the owners of that theatre to restore the interior?

Response:

*The Director Planning and Place Making advised the following:*

*Under Heritage Victoria there is certainly some funding that is available if they met the criteria. That is a matter we can take up on Council's behalf and see if that would apply. It is only a certain amount of funding for restoring the interior of the building, I would suspect it wouldn't be enough, it may be seed funding, but happy to take that on notice and report back to Councillors.*

10.4 Councillor Stone - Yarra Footpaths/ Buildings

Question:

The recent requirements for physical distancing have exposed how narrow and constrained many of Yarra's footpaths are, with limited opportunity for widening into roadways where there are often trams or bus routes, bike lanes and already congested space. Part of the problem is caused by buildings being constructed right up to property boundaries. References in our planning scheme and DDOs to maintaining "hard edge" boundaries and urban design advice on "filling in gaps" with buildings right up to title boundaries exacerbates this problems.

Is there a reason urban designers and planners insist on hard edge designs when pedestrians especially those with mobility impairments, miss out? Can this be addressed in our planning scheme?

We've made great strides in ensuring new buildings in Yarra meet high ESD standards. This is because we require an ESD assessment and then include WSUD requirements in a planning permit. Many of these conditions are not always visible and so we do not always know if they have been met especially in terms of performance. Is there a way to place the onus on the developer to demonstrate to council that ESD requirements, especially in terms of performance, have actually been met?

*Response:*

*The Director Planning and Place Making advised the following:*

*The vast majority of the City of Yarra is an urban area and what I mean by that is that traditionally there is not really a front yard as you would typically find in the outer suburbs. The urban design approach is to effectively maintain that hard edge to the street and areas where there may be cottages, there may be a small yard. It is true that in the City of Yarra there are a lot of narrow footpaths and it is really trying to find a balance between all those competing interests. From an urban design point of view, it is to maintain consistency of setbacks within the street. If there was a staggered approach and front yards where that doesn't normally exist in the street, it is considered that that would not be consistent with the urban fabric.*

*Even if there were setbacks in a particular site in the street, that wouldn't translate to a wider footpath, it would just be the building setback from the footpath, that wouldn't achieve the objective. You would need to redevelop the whole street to be able to facilitate a wider footpath. The existing footpaths are part of the road infrastructure and in most cases without substantial redevelopment of that street, that footpath can't be widened. It goes back to what is the character of the area, character of the street and character of the urban design area. That is the key requirement specified why the alignment is similar to abutting properties.*

*The second question was taken on notice but the Director did advise that there have been some inspections at some sites to make sure that compliance occurs.*

10.5 Councillor Fristacky - Budget and COVID-19

Question:

In relation to a media report in the Age today on page 8, that SGS Economics was assessing the impact of COVID-19 on local economy and reference was made to the City of Yarra; *"Port Phillip, Stonnington, Boroondara and Yarra are forecast to decline by 5 to 7.5 per cent, while Whittlesea, Brimbank, Moreland, Darebin and the Yarra Ranges are expected to drop by between 7.5 and 10 per cent.*

Can officers contact Terry Rawnsley at SGS Economics and Planning to ascertain the basis of the forecast? It may assist us in our own budgeting and understanding.

*Response:*

*The Director Corporate Business and Finance took the question on notice.*

10.6 Councillor Fristacky - COVID-19 and Planning Scheme

Question:

It has been highlighted throughout the lockdowns the problems of isolation with one and two bedroom apartments that don't have balconies or a break out open space and with a hundred percent site coverage and that has implications for our planning scheme.

How can that be further considered, will we need to rely on public submissions now given that the planning scheme amendments with Minister Wynn and due to go on exhibition?

How can we get that further reviewed as part of the planning scheme?

*Response:*

*The Director Planning and Place Making advised the following:*

*The planning scheme policy have been submitted to the State Government and Council are waiting on what is called the Authorisation to enable to go on public exhibition. We don't have that authorisation, we have been waiting around 9 months and regrettably even if we got it tomorrow because it requires community consultation and some face to face consultation that won't be able to happen in the current COVID period.*

*In terms of the open space component, there certainly can be some advocacy to the relevant minister to seek to have the Victorian planning provisions address the open space requirements for units so probably more for the state to require as a matter of a global change. City of Yarra trying to achieve that on its own, don't believe it would be accepted as a one off more for a metropolitan matter for Melbourne.*

Further to that element, the structure of apartments in terms of all apartments having access to balconies, rather than a percentage and also break out space.

*The Director took the further question on notice.*

#### 10.7 Councillor O'Brien - Grey-headed Flying Fox

Question:

On 21 April, there was an article in the Age where MP Tim Smith from Kew was suggesting that the Grey-headed flying fox colony at Yarra Bend Park should possible be moved on or something like that. Given our resolution of 4 February 2020, to promote, protect and advocate on behalf of that colony as one of the custodians of that endangered species.

What avenues of advocacy there might be for us to protect the species given that there is no threat or suggestion that flying foxes can transmit COVID-19 and that in fact the reason flying foxes can carry viruses is because they have what is called super immunity and therefore probably will be quite important in terms of finding solutions to some of these significant human problems like COVID-19?

Response:

*The Director City Works and Assets advised:*

*Since Council's resolution we have made contact with Parks Victoria and DELWP who have the responsibility for managing flying foxes in Victoria.*

*I had hoped to get a formal response from Parks Victoria on the outcome of the meeting we had which was very positive in terms of the actions they are prepared to take and currently taking to support the grey-headed flying fox colony.*

*I don't think it is worth going back to the article Tim Smith wrote or commented on and certainly we will come back to Council with some information in relation to the Parks Victoria and DELWP's support for the colony when we receive the formal response.*

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## 11.1 Yarra Bend Ground Water Report and Peer Review

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Reference: D20/72340

Authoriser: Director City Works and Assets

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes this report and directs Council Officers to undertake the following:

- (a) Council Officers continue to liaise with Glenwill and request further investigations to incorporate Alluviums recommendations as per their peer review report;
- (b) Council Officers continue to monitor and take any necessary action to ensure appropriate management of the site, including the river bank, by Glenwill and their agents;
- (c) Melbourne Water (MW), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and any other authorities/agencies as appropriate, be informed of current and ongoing investigations and findings; and
- (d) A Final report on the cause and potential permanent mitigation options to address the groundwater and river bank slumping be presented to Council in Feb 2021, with earlier reports to be provided if warranted.

*Councillor Nguyen joined the meeting at 7.54pm.*

*The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8.00pm*

*The meeting resumed at 8.08pm*

*Councillor Jolly left the meeting at 8.10pm*

### Public Submissions

*The following people sent a submission to Council on the matter:*

*Michael Long, President South Alphington and Fairfield Civic Association;*

*Spiro Georgakopoulos;*

*Jenni Livingston;*

*Todd Perry;*

*Tracey Bradley; and*

*Fiona Currie.*

*The above submissions were read out on the night by the Senior Governance Advisor.*

## COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor O'Brien

**Seconded:** Councillor Stone

That Council notes this report and directs:

- (a) Council Officers continue to liaise with Glenvill to request further investigations to incorporate Alluviums recommendations as per their peer review report and update Councillors on a regular basis;
- (b) Council Officers continue to monitor the river bank regularly and take any necessary action to ensure appropriate management of the site, including the river bank, by Glenvill and their agents;
- (c) The Construction Management Plan, Services and Engineering Infrastructure Report, The Environmental Management Plan, The Stormwater Management Plan and 'The Groundwater Management Plan – AMCOR Site Yarra Riverfront' including appendices be made publicly available, where possible on the Yarra website;
- (d) Melbourne Water (MW), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and any other authorities/agencies as appropriate, be informed of current and ongoing investigations and findings; and
- (e) A Final report on the cause and potential permanent mitigation options to address the groundwater and river bank damage be presented to Council in Feb 2021, with earlier reports to be provided if warranted.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

All Councillors voted in favour.

Councillor Jolly was absent.

*The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8.56pm*

*The meeting resumed at 9.04pm*

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## 11.2 Fitzroy Cricket Ground Grandstand

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Reference: D20/69736  
Authoriser: Group Manager Chief Executive's Office

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That:
  - (a) Council note that there is no significant impact to Council due to the recommendations of ED Heritage Victoria to revise the extent of registration to Fitzroy Cricket Ground Grandstand; and
  - (b) Council authorises council officers to send a letter to support to Heritage Council of Victoria, after the submission period is over.

### REVISED OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

1. That:
  - (a) Council note that there is no significant impact to Council due to the recommendations of the Executive Director Heritage Victoria to revise the extent of registration to the Grandstand;
  - (b) As stated in Option 1, Council authorises council officers to present a submission of support to Heritage Council of Victoria, and
  - (c) Council formally raise with Heritage Victoria, the matter of undertaking a review of its official records in terms of the correct name being applied to the Grandstand at Edinburgh Gardens.

### Public Submission

*Joan Eddy, President Fitzroy Football Club incorporating Fitzroy Reds, sent a submission to Council on the matter. It was read out on the night by the Senior Governance Advisor.*

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Fristacky                      **Seconded:** Councillor O'Brien

1. That:
  - (a) Council note that there is no significant impact to Council due to the recommendations of the Executive Director Heritage Victoria to revise the extent of registration to the Grandstand;
  - (b) As stated in Option 1, Council authorises council officers to present a submission of support to Heritage Council of Victoria, and
  - (c) Council formally raise with Heritage Victoria, the matter of undertaking a review of its official records in terms of the correct name being applied to the Grandstand at Edinburgh Gardens.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

All Councillors voted in favour.

Councillor Jolly was absent.



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**11.3 Proposed Discontinuance of Roads abutting 53-77 Burnley Street, Richmond.**

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Reference: D20/73183

Authoriser: Director Corporate, Business and Finance

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Council, acting under section 17(4) of the Road Management Act 2004, resolves that the roads abutting 53-77 Burnley Street, Richmond (**Roads**), being:
  - (a) the whole of the land contained in Conveyance Book 227 No. 672 (shown as the area highlighted purple on the plan attached as Attachment 2 to this report (**Site Plan**)); and
  - (b) part of the land contained in certificate of title volume 9214 folio 439 shown as the area highlighted red on the Site plan.be removed from Council's Register of Public Roads on the basis that the Roads are no longer required for general public use for the reasons set out in the body of the report.
2. That Council, acting under clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 1989.
  - (a) resolves that the required statutory procedures be commenced to discontinue the Roads;
  - (b) directs that under sections 207A and 223 of the Act, Public Notice of the proposed discontinuance be given in the Age, the Weekly Review Melbourne Times Newspapers, Council's social media and displayed onsite;
  - (c) resolves that the public notice required to be given under sections 207A and 223 of the Local Government act 1989 should state that if the Roads are discontinued, Council proposes to sell the Roads to the adjoining owner for market value plus (GST) as determined by the Act; and
  - (d) authorises the Valuations Co-ordinator to undertake the administrative procedures necessary to enable Council to carry out its functions under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 in relation to this matter.

## COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Searle

**Seconded:** Councillor Chen Yi Mei

1. That Council, acting under section 17(4) of the Road Management Act 2004, resolves that the roads abutting 53-77 Burnley Street, Richmond (**Roads**), being:
  - (a) the whole of the land contained in Conveyance Book 227 No. 672 (shown as the area highlighted purple on the plan attached as Attachment 2 to this report (**Site Plan**)); and
  - (b) part of the land contained in certificate of title volume 9214 folio 439 shown as the area highlighted red on the Site plan.be removed from Council's Register of Public Roads on the basis that the Roads are no longer required for general public use for the reasons set out in the body of the report.
2. That Council, acting under clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 1989.
  - (a) resolves that the required statutory procedures be commenced to discontinue the Roads;
  - (b) directs that under sections 207A and 223 of the Act, Public Notice of the proposed discontinuance be given in the Age, the Weekly Review Melbourne Times Newspapers, Council's social media and displayed onsite;
  - (c) resolves that the public notice required to be given under sections 207A and 223 of the Local Government act 1989 should state that if the Roads are discontinued, Council proposes to sell the Roads to the adjoining owner for market value plus (GST) as determined by the Act; and
  - (d) authorises the Valuations Co-ordinator to undertake the administrative procedures necessary to enable Council to carry out its functions under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 in relation to this matter.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

All Councillors voted in favour.

Councillor Jolly was absent.

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**11.4 Proposed Discontinuance of Road abutting 12-20 Victoria Crescent, Abbotsford.**

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Reference: D20/70051

Authoriser: Director Corporate, Business and Finance

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Council, acting under clause 3 of schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 1989 (Act)*:
  - (a) resolves, having followed all the required statutory procedures pursuant to sections 207A and 223 of the Act pursuant to its power under clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the Act, and being of the opinion that the road abutting 12-20 Victoria Crescent, Abbotsford (shown marked lot 1 on the title plan attached Attachment 1 to this report (**Road**)) is not reasonably required for public use, to discontinue the Road;
  - (b) directs that, a notice pursuant to the provisions of clause 3(a) of Schedule 10 of the Act is to be published in Victoria Government Gazette;
  - (c) directs that, once discontinued, the Road be transferred to the adjoining owner of 12-20 Victoria Crescent, Abbotsford (Owner), for no less than the market value (plus GST) as determined by the Act;
  - (d) directs that the CEO sign any transfer or transfers of the Road and any other documents required to be signed in connection with the discontinuance of the Road and its subsequent transfer to the Owner;
  - (e) any easements, rights or interests required to be created or saved over the Road by any authority be done so and not be affected by the discontinuance and sale of the Road; and
  - (f) directs that the Owner be required to consolidate the title to the Road with the title to that part of the land located at 12-20 Victoria Crescent, Abbotsford and contained in certificate of title volume 6176 folio 402, by no later than 6 months after the date of transfer of the discontinued Road to the Owner or include the former Road in the plan of consolidation/subdivision to be lodged for 12-20 Victoria Crescent.

## COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Stone

**Seconded:** Councillor Bosler

1. That Council, acting under clause 3 of schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 1989 (Act)*:
  - (a) resolves, having followed all the required statutory procedures pursuant to sections 207A and 223 of the Act pursuant to its power under clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the Act, and being of the opinion that the road abutting 12-20 Victoria Crescent, Abbotsford (shown marked lot 1 on the title plan attached Attachment 1 to this report (**Road**)) is not reasonably required for public use, to discontinue the Road;
  - (b) directs that, a notice pursuant to the provisions of clause 3(a) of Schedule 10 of the Act is to be published in Victoria Government Gazette;
  - (c) directs that, once discontinued, the Road be transferred to the adjoining owner of 12-20 Victoria Crescent, Abbotsford (Owner), for no less than the market value (plus GST) as determined by the Act;
  - (d) directs that the CEO sign any transfer or transfers of the Road and any other documents required to be signed in connection with the discontinuance of the Road and its subsequent transfer to the Owner;
  - (e) any easements, rights or interests required to be created or saved over the Road by any authority be done so and not be affected by the discontinuance and sale of the Road; and
  - (f) directs that the Owner be required to consolidate the title to the Road with the title to that part of the land located at 12-20 Victoria Crescent, Abbotsford and contained in certificate of title volume 6176 folio 402, by no later than 6 months after the date of transfer of the discontinued Road to the Owner or include the former Road in the plan of consolidation/subdivision to be lodged for 12-20 Victoria Crescent.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

All Councillors voted in favour.

Councillor Jolly was absent.

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**11.5 Finance Report - March 2020**

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Trim Record Number: D20/73334

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate, Business and Finance

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Council:
  - (a) note the March 2020 Finance Report (including quarter 3 forecast review).

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Coleman

**Seconded:** Councillor Bosler

1. That Council:
  - (a) note the March 2020 Finance Report (including quarter 3 forecast review).

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

All Councillors voted in favour.

Councillor Jolly was absent.

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**11.6 2019/20 Annual Plan Quarterly Progress Report - March**

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Reference: D20/73071  
Authoriser: Director Corporate, Business and Finance

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Council:
  - (a) note the result as reported in the 2019/20 Annual Plan Quarterly Progress Report – March;
  - (b) acknowledge the significant impact the COVID-19 pandemic will have on the deliverability of 2019/20 Annual Plan actions by the end of June 2020; and
  - (c) receive a further Report on the impact of COVID-19 on the delivery of actions in the 2019/20 Annual Plan.

**Public Submission**

*Jeremy Lawrence, Streets Alive Yarra sent a submission to Council on the matter. It was read out by the Senior Governance Advisor on the night.*

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Fristacky

**Seconded:** Councillor Stone

1. That Council:
  - (a) note the result as reported in the 2019/20 Annual Plan Quarterly Progress Report – March;
  - (b) acknowledge the significant impact the COVID-19 pandemic will have on the deliverability of 2019/20 Annual Plan actions by the end of June 2020; and
  - (c) receive a further Report on the impact of COVID-19 on the delivery of actions in the 2019/20 Annual Plan.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

All Councillors voted in favour.

Councillor Jolly was absent.

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## 11.7 Report on Assemblies of Councillors

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Trim Record Number: D20/37757

Responsible Officer: Group Manager Chief Executive's Office

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council formally note and record the Assemblies of Councillors report as detailed in ***Attachment 1*** hereto.

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Bosler

**Seconded:** Councillor Stone

1. That Council formally note and record the Assemblies of Councillors report as detailed in ***Attachment 1*** hereto.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

All Councillors voted in favour.

Councillor Jolly was absent.

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## 11.8 COVID-19 Business Support Grants - First Round Guidelines – LATE REPORT

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Reference: D20/74040

Authoriser: Director Planning and Place Making

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
  - (a) note the COVID -19 1<sup>st</sup> round *Business Support Quick Response Grants* guidelines in attachment 1;
  - (b) endorses the guidelines for use in determining eligible businesses applications to the fund;
  - (c) authorises officers to promote and seek applications from Yarra businesses over a 10 day period;
  - (d) authorises the CEO to approve grants recipients on the recommendation of the independent panel; and
  - (e) note that a further report on grants recipients will be provided to Councillors.

### MOTION

**Moved:** Councillor Bosler

**Seconded:** Councillor Fristacky

1. That Council:
  - (a) note the COVID -19 1<sup>st</sup> round *Business Support Quick Response Grants* guidelines in attachment 1;
  - (b) endorses the guidelines for use in determining eligible businesses applications to the fund, with the addition that the businesses must demonstrate that they meet industrial relations and OHS expectations, particularly with relation to the JobKeeper program, and subject to exclusion 2 in Attachment 1 "demonstrating a strong connection with the City of Yarra or deliver benefits to the Yarra community" be included positively in the assessment criteria or eligibility criteria at page 1;
  - (c) authorises officers to promote and seek applications from Yarra businesses over a 10 day period;
  - (d) authorises the CEO to approve grants recipients on the recommendation of the independent panel; and
  - (e) note that a further report on grants recipients will be provided to Councillors.

### AMENDMENT

**Moved:** Councillor Nguyen

2. That procurement of goods and services related to the successful grant be obtained (where possible) from Yarra Council based businesses.

*The amendment was accepted by the mover and seconder and incorporated into the motion.*



## COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Bosler

**Seconded:** Councillor Fristacky

1. That Council:
  - (a) note the COVID -19 1<sup>st</sup> round *Business Support Quick Response Grants* guidelines in attachment 1;
  - (b) endorses the guidelines for use in determining eligible businesses applications to the fund, with the addition that the businesses must demonstrate that they meet industrial relations and OHS expectations, particularly with relation to the JobKeeper program, and subject to exclusion 2 in Attachment 1 "demonstrating a strong connection with the City of Yarra or deliver benefits to the Yarra community" be included positively in the assessment criteria or eligibility criteria at page 1;
  - (c) authorises officers to promote and seek applications from Yarra businesses over a 10 day period;
  - (d) authorises the CEO to approve grants recipients on the recommendation of the independent panel; and
  - (e) note that a further report on grants recipients will be provided to Councillors.
2. That procurement of goods and services related to the successful grant be obtained (where possible) from Yarra Council based businesses.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

All Councillors voted in favour.

Councillor Jolly was absent.

## 11.9 Draft Yarra (River) Strategic Plan – LATE REPORT

Reference: D20/75567  
 Authoriser: Director Planning and Place Making

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
  - (a) note the report of officers in relation to the draft *Yarra Strategic Plan* being prepared by Melbourne Water as the nominated lead agency in accordance with the requirements of the *Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn) Act 2017*;
  - (b) note the key points of the officers preliminary submission that have been lodged with Melbourne Water as outlined in paragraph 31 of this report;
  - (c) endorse these key points for presentation to the Panel considering submissions in relation to the draft *Yarra Strategic Plan*, and
  - (d) officers continue to represent the Council at the various meetings regarding the preparations of the draft *Yarra Strategic Plan*, and the panel hearings, and provide further updates to the Council.

*Councillor Chen Yi Mei left the meeting at 10.15pm*

*Councillor Chen Yi Mei returned at 10.18pm*

#### Public Submission

*Andrew Kelly, Yarra Riverkeeper sent a submission to Council on the matter. It was read out on the night by the Senior Governance Advisor.*

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Stone

**Seconded:** Councillor O'Brien

1. That Council:
  - (a) note the report of officers in relation to the draft Yarra Strategic Plan being prepared by Melbourne Water as the nominated lead agency in accordance with the requirements of the Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn) Act 2017;
  - (b) note that the preliminary submission has been lodged with Melbourne Water as outlined in paragraph 33 of this report;
  - (c) endorse these key points for presentation to the Panel considering submissions in relation to the draft Yarra Strategic Plan;
  - (d) further note that whilst the draft YSP is a significant step towards meeting the requirements of the Act and generally sets the right directions, Council does not consider that it is fully developed nor does it account sufficiently for the protection of the ecological values and significant biodiversity of the Yarra River and surrounds, or the impact that climate change will have on these values. Council considers that balancing the interaction between human activity and the ecological functions, including wildlife habitat of the Yarra Corridor, needs to be further refined;
  - (e) further notes that the Directions for Future Land Use and Development at the Abbotsford Convent, Collingwood Children's Farm and Dights Fall needs to articulate what is meant by "opportunity for improvement" and that the focus on improving public access to these places and to the river needs to be balanced more with actions to protect the ecological value of the river in this location, in line with Yarra's draft Nature Strategy;

- (f) also the relationship between the draft YSP and the Victorian Planning Scheme needs to be clearly articulated within the Plan;
- (g) requests that the relationship between natural beauty (Performance Objective 4) and landscape values and the ecology of a major waterway and the needs of inhabitant species be developed and articulated in the Plan
- (h) further notes that there remains inherent conflict between Theme 2 of the Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrong) Act (2017) *Environmental principles – Protecting biodiversity and ecological integrity is paramount and decisions should result in a net gain for the environment on Yarra River land* and exemptions provided for projects declared under the Major Transport Projects Facilitation Act. This exemption undermines a core principle of both the Act and the role of a Yarra Strategic Plan to enact the community vision and this needs to be raised in the panel hearings; and
- (i) officers continue to represent the Council at the various meetings regarding the preparations of the draft Yarra Strategic Plan, and the panel hearings, and provide further updates to the Council.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

All Councillors voted in favour.

Councillor Jolly was absent.

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**12.1 Notice of Motion No. 5 of 2020 - Advocacy for Council Job Retention Allowance**

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Reference: D20/74174

Authoriser: Group Manager Chief Executive's Office

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Searle

**Seconded:** Councillor Bosler

1. That Council notes:
  - (a) the over 1,000 workers employed by the City of Yarra, many of whom are Yarra residents;
  - (b) the dramatic impact the COVID-19 crisis has had and will continue to have on Yarra's financial sustainability;
  - (c) that the Federal Government's JobKeeper scheme eligibility specifically excludes local government workers; and
  - (d) that the NSW State Government has introduced a \$112.5 million Council Job Retention Allowance of \$1,500 per fortnight per employee to fill the gap in the JobKeeper scheme and support job retention in local government.
2. That Council advocates to the Victorian Premier, Treasurer, Local Government Minister and any other relevant ministers to urgently introduce a Victorian Council Job Retention Allowance (or similar scheme), with eligibility for the scheme including casual workers.
3. That Council writes to the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA) requesting them to advocate for the introduction of a Victorian Council Job Retention Allowance.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

All Councillors voted in favour.

Councillor Jolly was absent.

**Conclusion**

The meeting concluded at 10.42pm.

Confirmed Tuesday 19 May 2020

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Mayor