**Around the Bay - July**

**Cherry Lake**

**Have your say on community ideas for Altona North and Brooklyn**

Safer and more accessible spaces for young people, a new ‘heart’ for Altona North, and Oxygen Forests are some of the community’s ideas proposed in the Draft Better Places Brooklyn and Altona North Place Guide. Help shape a better future for these two suburbs by sharing your thoughts on the themes and ideas proposed in the draft place guide. Visit [www.better-places.com.au](http://www.better-places.com.au) before 27 July to learn more and get involved.

**Winter road works in Altona**

Council is delivering a number of essential road improvement projects to help improve pedestrian safety and traffic flow in preparation for the busy summer months in Altona. Pier Street stage 4 works will deliver wider footpaths, safer crossings and an attractive community space. There will be some impacts on traffic and parking with the southern end of Pier Street closed for a few weeks. Your favourite shops and cafes will still be open, with parking available along the Esplanade, Altona Homestead car park, and further north up Pier Street off Edwards Lane, on Railway Street South and the Bent Street carpark at Blyth Street.

**Weaver Reserve carpark upgrade**

Work is underway to create a new carpark for Weaver Reserve (corner Pier Street and the Esplanade). The new carpark will extend from Bent Street to the northern edge of Weaver Reserve. The new carpark entrance will be via Bent Street with pedestrian only access from Pier Street to reduce congestion and improve pedestrian safety. The carpark will be open to the public at the end of August, along with the new and improved Weaver Reserve.

**Strand**

**Newport – Amendment C133 consultation**

The Newport Structure Plan was adopted by Council in March 2022 and Amendment C133 is currently out for public exhibition. The amendment proposes to make changes to the Hobsons Bay Planning Scheme to implement the findings of the Newport Structure Plan and Inner Newport Heritage Gap Study, and seeks to introduce new zones, overlays and local policy. Newport residents are encouraged to review the proposed changes and provide feedback. Join one of our community information sessions on Saturday 16 July, 11am to 2pm, or Wednesday 27 July, 12.30 to 3.30pm, at the Newport Community Hub. Feedback closes 12 August have your say at participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/amendment-c133 or by emailing amendments@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au.

**Maclean Reserve playground opening**

The new park and playspace upgrade at Maclean Reserve, Williamstown (opposite St Mary’s Primary School) was officially launched on 13 July by the Hon. Lily D ’Ambrosio, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate. Hobsons Bay’s newest playspace has a range of exciting features including swings, in-ground trampoline, accessible carousel and timber play structure. Come along to have a play and try out the new equipment.

**Ferguson Street improvements**

Works are nearing completion for the installation of new raised zebra crossings and bike lanes on Ferguson Street in Williamstown. The new lanes and upgraded crossing points will improve safety for locals and visitors travelling through the area, and provide greater sustainable transport options. Works are continuing for the installation of electronic 40 km/h signage.

**Wetlands**

**Colours of Seabrook**

Have you seen the stunning new mural at Seabrook shops along Point Cook Road? The *Colours of Seabrook* mural by accomplished artist [Amanda Newman](https://www.amandanewmanart.com/) features the iconic black swans and other birdlife local to Skeleton Creek. To celebrate the new mural, you’re invited to the launch on Saturday 6 August at 11am (73-75 Point Cook Road). The new mural was initiated thanks to a successful community pitch in 2021 by a Seabrook resident.

**Love Laverton Parks update**

The upgraded Bladin Street Reserve in Laverton is now open to the public. The upgrade has seen new play equipment, landscaping, street furniture, and timber log for nature play and seating added for the community. Henderson Street Reserve works kicked off in June and includes a new playground with a nature play focus, new barbecue area, and seating. Works revamping Dick Murdoch Reserve, including a 40m flying fox, are scheduled to be completed in July 2022. The reserve upgrades are part of the Love Laverton Parks Program and are key place project within the Better Places Laverton community driven [Place Guide](https://hdp-au-prod-app-hobs-participate-files.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/5615/9971/1204/Better_Places_Laverton_-_Final_Place_Guide_September_2020.pdf).

**Tree planting in the wetlands**

500 Drooping Sheoaks, Silver Banksias and the local provenance, River Red Gums, have been planted between Truganina Park and Cheetham Wetlands with more to come in the following weeks. The aim is to re-introduce coastal woodland habitat into this highly disturbed and weedy space, providing a buffer between the park and the saltmarsh environment.

**General**

**Hobsons Bay City Council 2022/23 Budget**

Council’s newly adopted 2022/23 Budget features $62.961 million allocated to major infrastructure projects across the city, and funding for more than 100 vital community services.

Highlights of the 2022/23 capital works program include:

* Buildings ($20.74M), including sporting and recreational facilities ($11.55M), environmental sustainability initiatives ($2M), community centres ($4.97M) and the building renewal program ($2.24M)
* Recreation and open space ($13.12M), including parks, open space and streetscapes ($8M), recreational, leisure and community facilities ($3M), off street carparks ($1.44M) and bridges ($575,000)
* Roads ($14.17M), drains ($5.154M), footpaths and cycleways ($2.36M)
* Waste management ($1.15M) and other infrastructure ($885,000)
* Plant and equipment ($5.38M), including scheduled replacement of Council’s vehicle and plant fleets ($3.75M), library resources ($750,000) and information technology ($850,000).

Community services funded in the budget include conservation and maintenance of open spaces, management of the city’s five libraries and three community centres, waste and recycling collections, local business development and support, disability services, cultural and art events and programs, children and youth services, meals on wheels, and immunisation services.

For more information visit: [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Budget2022-23](https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Council/Publications/Budget/Budget-2022-23)

**Open House Melbourne**

Explore some of our city’s most intriguing and inspiring local venues as part of Open House Melbourne on Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 July. Local highlights of this year’s program include Williamstown Town Hall, Old Laverton School, HMAS Castlemaine, and the former morgue in Williamstown. Go behind the scenes and celebrate the design, history, culture and architecture of Hobsons Bay. Check out the program: https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community/Events-Festivals/Major-Events-Festivals

And… it’s Plastic Free July! Let’s make an effort to reduce our single-use plastics. Together, we can all do our part to help end plastic waste and alleviate the recycling crisis, reduce landfill waste, and mitigate the effects of climate change. It can be as easy as picking one single-use plastic item to avoid or swap for a reusable alternative. Find out more: https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Services/Waste-Recycling/Plastic-Free-July