



Cherry Lake Ward

Altona, Altona North, Altona Meadows, Brooklyn, Seaholme



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Strand Ward

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Together Apart – Life in Lockdown

‘Together Apart – Life in Lockdown’ began as a neighbourly conversation over the back fence by two Altona residents to break the solitude of lockdown. Portrait photographer Jude van Daalen and journalist Belinda Jackson collated the stories and photographs of 60 people in their neighbourhood during Melbourne’s first lockdown into a limited-edition book. Check out an exhibition of selected portraits supported by Council’s ‘Make it Happen’ grants at the Hobsons Bay Civic Centre until 30 August (once restrictions ease) and the Altona North Community Library from late August. Visit www.lockdownstories.com.au.

Upgrade of Altona Safe Boat Harbour

Council has developed two draft concept design options for the upgrade of the Altona Safe Boat Harbour in Seaholme. These designs aim to maximise car and trailer parking space, improve lighting and reduce traffic congestion. View the concepts and provide your feedback at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/altona-safe-boat-harbour** before 30 August.

Reserve upgrades take shape

Come and check out the new and improved HW Lee Reserve in Altona! The reserve has been upgraded as part of Council’s Capital Works program. Based on feedback from the community, the upgrade includes a new shelter complete with picnic table and barbecue, bike hoops, reclining chairs, a drinking fountain and landscaping.

Construction of the new pavilion and car park at W.L.J Crofts Reserve in Altona North is progressing well with the structure nearing completion and internal fit out works to commence. The northern playing fields have been redeveloped and are open for passive recreation. Over the coming weeks, new light towers will also be installed.



Rezoning of Precinct 16 West

Council is seeking community feedback on Amendment C114, the proposed rezoning of ‘Precinct 16 West’ (5-7 Sutton Street, 9-9A Sutton Street and 41-59 Stephenson Street) from industrial to residential use. The amendment would introduce planning controls facilitating residential development up to three storeys across most of the site and six storeys to the north east corner. Landowners have also prepared development plans which respond to the draft planning controls. View the plans, provide your feedback and register for a drop-in session at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/precinct16west** by Wednesday 8 September.

New nets at Williamstown Cricket Ground

Following the redevelopment of the oval at the Williamstown Cricket Ground, Council has begun upgrading the outdoor cricket practice nets. The project will include levelling the ground, creating six synthetic turf and six natural turf practice lanes separated by soft netting and encompassing the structure with a hard-netting frame. Works are expected to be complete close to the end of September. Visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Williamstown-Cricket-Ground.

Reconstruction of Durkin Street Laneway

Works to rehabilitate the eastern side of the Durkin Street Laneway are starting soon. The project, which includes road resurfacing and upgrade of the kerb, gutter and drains, will take approximately 12 weeks to complete. Pedestrian and traffic detours will be in place during construction hours. These works will improve the connectivity between Mason Street, the Newport Community Hub, Bryan Martin Oval and Newport Station. This project is the result of community feedback from the 2021 Budget consultation process.



Better Places Laverton

Better Places Laverton is Council’s place-based approach to designing and integrating spaces holistically, rather than as individual pieces. Through the Better Places Laverton project, the Laverton community shared its ideas and opportunities for the area, as well as the things they love about the area they live. The feedback resulted in a number of new projects which are now coming to fruition.

Love Laverton Parks – Henderson Street Reserve, Bladin Street Reserve, and Cropley Crescent Reserve were among eight parks identified for upgrades through the Better Places Laverton project. Each park will be given a unique feel under the project, such as upgrades to existing play and recreation facilities, new landscaping and improvements to pedestrian and cycling connections to bring the parks together into a network of complementary, usable open space. Local residents and park users can have their say on the concept plans until 25 August at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/lovelavertonparks**.

McCormack Park Master Plan – reimagine the park’s role in providing a community space that brings people together to socialise, to play and for fitness. Get involved at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/mccormack**.

Connecting Laverton – a program to provide safe links for pedestrians and cyclists in Maher Road and Railway Avenue, which is also out for public feedback at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/connecting-laverton**.

Altona Sports Centre

The extension of the Altona Sports Centre is nearly finished! Home to over 30 clubs, the extension will add four new indoor courts to the facility, bringing the total to 10 indoor and two outdoor courts. Visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/AltonaSportsCentre.

Rates relief

There is genuine and discreet support for residents and businesses impacted by the pandemic. Ratepayers who have been impacted by COVID-19 can apply for a waiver of their rates by 30 November 2021, in line with the second rate instalment.

Residential ratepayers whose income has dropped by 30 per cent (maximum income of \$80,000) will be eligible to receive a rates waiver. Business ratepayers whose turnover has reduced by 20 per cent will be eligible to receive a rate waiver.

The exact amounts to be waived will be determined in line with the allocation of approximately \$525,000 after the number of eligible applicants is determined. Approximately \$450,000 has been set aside for ratepayers to apply for an interest free rate deferral until 31 December 2021 and then

interest free repayment plans thereafter. Council will be waiving an estimated \$375,000 in rates interest previously raised to ratepayers with a good payment history prior to COVID-19. No action is required as this will be automatically applied by Council.

Residents, businesses, and community organisations can apply online for financial relief at www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/financialassistance.

Community support

With multiple COVID-19 exposure sites and cases, as well as many isolating in our community, there is support at hand. The Hobsons Bay Community has Heart Virtual Hub has details of several support services in the community that are available to provide immediate assistance, including food relief, crisis intervention support, emergency supplies, clothing, financial counselling, mental health and family

violence assistance. Visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/hobsonsbaycommunityhasheart for details.

Kerbside waste and recycling review

To continue to improve our kerbside waste and recycling service, we will soon be implementing a number of adjustments to the service. Council has just confirmed that from 1 November:

- general waste will be collected weekly
- food and garden waste will be collected fortnightly
- a compostable paper bag trial for use in the food and garden waste bin will begin (subject to supply)

New waste calendars will be sent to residents in October. The changes follow Council’s one year review of the service, which considered operational data and community feedback. Visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/recycling.