**Around the Bay – June 2019**

**Cherry Lake**

Mangroves trial at Altona Coastal Park

Council has partnered with the University of Melbourne’s National Centre for Coasts and Climate Change on a world-first trial to reduce coastal erosion by planting mangroves in protective pods at Altona Coastal Park. Mangroves protect foreshore areas and prevent coastal erosion due to their complex root systems that grow above and below the surface of the water, helping to bind the soil while reducing the impact of wind and waves. The mangrove seedlings are being protected by hourglass-shaped grey concrete pods and we ask the community to avoid the area during this formative time while the mangroves establish and strengthen. For details, visit **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/mangroves**

Concept plans for Brooklyn open spaces available for comment

Flying foxes, fitness equipment and trampolines are some of the ideas included in the concept plans for Brooklyn Reserve, D.N Duane Reserve and Rowan Avenue Reserve in Brooklyn. You can now view and provide feedback on these plans online at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/brooklynreservesupgrade** before 1 July. Come chat to the team on Saturday 15 June from 10am to 12pm at the Brooklyn Reserve. These works will be delivered in partnership with the Victorian Government as part of the West Gate Tunnel Project.

Have your say - Norah McIntyre Reserve

Council has prepared preliminary concept plans to guide future upgrades to the Norah McIntyre Reserve in Seaholme. The proposed upgrade includes a new play space, new park furniture, potential for a half basketball court, updated pathways and new lighting, landscaping and fencing. You can view the plan and provide your feedback at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/norahmcintyre** before 1 July. Works are due to occur in the next financial year.

**Strand**

Douglas Parade pedestrian upgrade

Do you walk, cycle or drive along Douglas Parade, Newport? Following a budget submission in 2017, Council has come up with a number of options to improve pedestrian access at the Yarra and Bunbury Street intersections. Have your say by 16 June at **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/douglas**

Blenheim Reserve community park

Council is calling for residents to have their say on the future design of the new Blenheim Road community park, the area adjacent to the Australian Islamic Centre. Whether it be a space to chat with neighbours, have a picnic or play with the pups, we would like to hear your ideas on how we can make it a valued community space. We will be hosting two consultation sessions in late June and presenting the draft masterplan for feedback in August. Keep your eyes on **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/blenheimupgrade** for updates.

Winter events calendar

Coinciding with Refugee Week, human rights advocate Christine Cummins will speak about her experiences working with asylum seekers on Christmas Island and share the personal stories of asylum seekers documented in her new book Dignity in a Teacup: True stories of courage and sacrifice from Christmas Island. The presentation is on Wednesday 19 June at 6.30pm at Newport Community Hub. For bookings visit **libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au** or phone 1300 462 542.

The Newport Folk Festival will rock the streets of Newport from 28-30 June. Visit **newportfolkfestival.org.au/** for more details.

And… don’t miss out on Mission Songs Project, a special Arts At Your Doorstep performance at the Williamstown Town Hall on Wednesday 10 July at 7.30pm. Visit **www.hobsonsbaytickets.com.au** for tickets.

**Wetlands**

Name the Epsom Street community park

Help us name the new neighbourhood park being developed between Epsom Street and Fitzroy Street in Laverton. Suggested names must not exceed 25 characters and adhere to Council’s Naming Policy. If you would like to submit a name and to read the naming policy, visit **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/namingnewpark** or email **projects@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au**

Altona Meadows Community Park

The Altona Meadows Community Park is getting an upgrade - including a public toilet, park furniture, a new barbecue and new fencing and irrigation. Based on the findings of extensive community consultation, a dog park will not be included in this location. Works will continue throughout June and finish by the beginning of July, weather permitting.

Tree planting

From now until September, Council will plant over 600 trees throughout the Wetlands Ward. In addition to offering shade in summer, improved air quality and general beautification, these trees also have tonnes of environmental advantages including encouraging more birdlife and reducing stormwater run-off.

Lan Avenue bridge works

Good news for Altona Meadows and Seabrook residents! Council is planning for the delivery of bridge replacement works on the Lan Avenue bridge at the Skeleton Creek crossing between Altona Meadows and Seabrook, subject to Council approval of the 2019-20 budget on 25 June. The works, to be delivered in late 2019, will include elevating both the bridge’s access ramps to bring them out of the flood zone, maintaining full access for users even following heavy rain. We will keep the community updated once the final design and timing of the works have been confirmed.

**General**

School holiday program

Learn how to record and produce music, take professional photos, create positive daily mood boosters and find your voice at Hobsons Bay UP’s free holiday program. Starting Monday 1 July, the two week program is packed with activities to build confidence, resilience and self-esteem in young people while teaching them new skills and keeping them entertained. All activities are free of cost but bookings are essential. Visit **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Holidayprogram** for further information and to register.

**Community Grants now open**

Applications for Council’s 2020 Hobsons Bay Community Grants program are now open. The community grants program provides financial support to groups, clubs and organisations for projects that meet a local community need, promote health and wellbeing and address priorities in the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision. Apply online at w**ww.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Communitygrants** by 31 July.

**Introducing our new electric garbage truck**

Trials have begun on a fully electric waste vehicle servicing Hobsons Bay. Used by Council’s contractor Cleanaway, the vehicles are among the first in Australia to be servicing kerbside collections. The vehicle has zero tailpipe emissions and generates electricity when braking, topping up its own batteries and reducing repair and maintenance costs. For more information, visit **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/electricwastevehicle**