**Around the Bay – November 2019**

**Cherry Lake**

**PA Burns Reserve**

One of the most glorious coastal open spaces in Port Philip Bay is about to be even more user-friendly for the entire Hobsons Bay community! Stage 1 of the PA Burns Reserve project is coming to an end with works expected to be completed by the end of November. The upgrades include: separating the shared trail and primary dog beach access path to minimise conflict between users of the space; formalised pedestrian access to the dog beach at three locations; a dog wash down area; and two viewing areas overlooking the bay. To ensure equity between all users, there will be changes to the dog areas once the project is complete. Be sure to familiarise yourself with the changes at **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/paburnsreserve** or via the onsite signs.

**Harrington Square traffic**

Council is improving the safety and movement of pedestrians, including school students, around Maidstone Street and Harrington Square. The works will include the construction of a pedestrian refuge in Maidstone Street and a wide, raised ‘wombat’ crossing at the Maidstone Street and Harrington Street intersection. Works are expected to start in January 2020 and will take approximately a week to complete.

**Altona and Seaholme Foreshore update**

We are building better coastal infrastructure, including a new pedestrian access point to the well-loved Flemings Pool in Altona. These works are scheduled to be completed later this month with reconstruction of the seawall, removal of rock and extra sand completing the project. Go to **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Flemings** Meanwhile the Bent Street vehicle access ramp is complete. A picnic area, pedestrian ramp and shade have been incorporated into the design.

**Strand**

**Fearon Reserve Lacrosse Pavilion**Restoration of the Fearon Reserve Lacrosse Pavilion has begun. The upgrade includes installing new weatherboards, doors and insulation; replacing windows and flooring; repairing the verandah; upgrading the accessible toilet; and introducing an accessible car space and access ramp. The project is expected to be completed by the end of December 2019.

**Esplanade traffic management**

Council has installed three wombat pedestrian crossings, speed cushions, median islands and additional pram crossings between Victoria and Giffard Street. The measures will increase safety in the area and will be a permanent solution to the previous bollard installations each summer. The area is extremely busy in the warmer months, being adjacent to Williamstown Beach and near the botanic gardens. It is hoped these changes, together with street lighting improvements, will reduce speed in the area and minimise the risk of conflict between motorists, pedestrians and cyclists.

**Dennis Reserve Master Plan**

Council will host a second drop-in session to discuss the open spaces and landscape design of the Dennis Reserve Master Plan. It’s on tomorrow (Thursday, 14 November) from 5pm to 7pm at the Williamstown Senior Citizens Centre, 109 Ferguson Street, Williamstown. See **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au** for details. If you cannot attend the session, you can still lodge your feedback through the online survey at Participate until 1 December.

**Wetlands**

**Seabrook Boulevard drop-in session**

Council has developed two options to address traffic issues in Seabrook Boulevard and would like to hear your thoughts at a drop-in session on Wednesday 20 November between 5.30pm and 7pm at Linear Park, Seabrook Boulevard, Seabrook. For details, visit **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/seabrookboulevard**

While you are talking to Council about the Seabrook Boulevard traffic solution, chat to the project team about the draft Local Area Movement Plan Western Package, which is out for consultation until 4 December. Go to **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au**

**Epsom Neighbourhood Park**

The Epsom Neighbourhood Park is almost complete! Works are now under way to widen the footpaths to complement the new park and improve accessibility. During this time, there are changes to parking and access in the area, including: no pedestrian access on Epsom Street footpaths south of the fire station, with detours in place along Fitzroy Street and; no on-street parking in Epsom Street and Fitzroy Street. Permanent changes to parking in Epsom Street and Fitzroy Street will also be introduced once the park opens next month. For details, visit **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/epsom**

**Lan Avenue bridge upgrade**

With the completion of stage three of the Skeleton Creek Shared Trail, attention is now turning to addressing flooding and access issues at the Lan Avenue bridge. Design on the bridge upgrade is now complete ahead of works starting in February. This design will deliver a bridge that spans above the one-in-10 year flood levels to provide all weather access for the community. For details, visit **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/sharedtrails**

**General**

**Citizen of the Year Awards**

Do you know someone who is working to make Hobsons Bay an even better place to live, work and play? It’s time to nominate them for the Citizen of the Year Awards. The winners will be recognised at Council’s special Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony on 26 January 2020 at the Williamstown Town Hall. Nominate online at **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/citizenawards** or pick up a hard copy nomination form at the Hobsons Bay Civic Centre or your local library. Nominations close at 5pm Friday 6 December 2019.

**Hobsons Bay Sings**

Residents are encouraged to raise their voices by joining a community choir for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. People of all ages, genders and singing abilities are invited to join in a very special musical performance and take a stand together on gender-based violence. There will be a series of rehearsals in venues across the city, before a combined performance at the Williamstown Town Hall on 10 December. For more information, visit **www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/HobsonsBaysings**

**Food for Fines**

Hobsons Bay Libraries is again preparing to help local charities this festive season with the Food for Fines program. The program is back for the 11th year and will run from Monday 18 November until Sunday 15 December. Library members can have their overdue charges waived by donating items of non-perishable food in the lead up to Christmas. Food donations will be accepted at all branches of Hobsons Bay Libraries. Local charities will package the donated food into hampers for distribution to local families during the festive season. For library branch details, call 1300 462 542 or visit **libraries.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au**

**eRates**

Be sure to sign up to receive your rates notices via email and be in the running to win a wireless hands-free smart speaker. One will be drawn each month. Go to **hobsonsbay.enotices.com.au/#signuptab** to enter.