HOBSONS

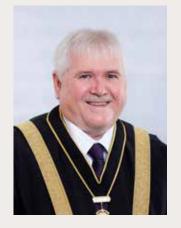


EDITION 28
Winter 2022









MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to the winter edition of the Hobsons Bay Community News. This edition features the 2022–23 Annual Budget that was adopted by Council on in June 2022.

We believe the Budget strikes the right balance of supporting the community to recover from the social and economic challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, while being financially responsible.

Importantly, the Budget continues to provide funding for more than 100 community services in Hobsons Bay and features \$62.96 million for building and maintaining

NEW AQUATIC

CENTRE PROPOSAL

Council seeks a three-way funding

partnership with state and federal governments for the \$60 million

investment needed to build a state-of-

the-art aquatic centre at Bruce Comben

Reserve in Altona Meadows. Council has

new facility, contingent on funding from

moving ahead with concept designs while

advocating for funding. It's proposed the

centre will include a 25m lap pool, learn

to swim pool, toddler pool, warm water

pool, spa, sauna, gym, early years service

and café. To view the draft concept plans

and show your support for this project, in

order to attract funding from other levels

of government, complete the form at: participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/

brucecomben

already committed \$20 million to this

the other tiers of government, and is

infrastructure such as sporting facilities, open spaces, roads, footpaths, cycleways and playgrounds. You can read all about it on pages 5, 6 and 7.

Community consultation through the Community Pitch process is a fundamental part of the development of our Annual Budget. Council is proud to fund all 13 short-listed projects in this year's Budget. You can view the successful pitches on page 5.

More than 2000 community members joined in the Council+ celebrations at Williamstown, Altona North and Altona Meadows on 26 and 27 May. The cover of this newsletter features images from each launch and you can read all about it on page 3.

Council's Better Places program is now active in Laverton, Spotswood and South Kingsville, Brooklyn and Altona North, and Seabrook and Altona Meadows. Learn more about how you can shape the area you live in on page 4.

Council is proud to offer creative experiences across the city and a line-up of exciting events, so don't forget to check out the events on page 10.

Cr Peter Hemphill, Mayor of Hobsons Bay

WHICH Sun. BIN?

Have you ever wondered what you should do with that pizza box?

Should the lid be left on the milk bottle or taken off?

Answers to these questions and more can be found on Council's 'Which Bin' website www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/ recycling and Council's free Recycling 2.0 app available from the Apple App Store (iPhones) or Google Play Store (Android phones). Council staff will also be out and about in the coming months to answer your questions about waste and recycling. Look out for us in your local neighbourhood.







Acknowledgement to Country

We wish to acknowledge the Bunurong Peoples of the Kulin Nation as the traditional owners of the lands, rivers and coastal areas in Hobsons Bay. We recognise the First Peoples' relationship to this land and offer our respect to their Elders, past and present.

Cover image: Highlights from the Council+ launches at Williamstown, Altona North and Altona Meadows. This newsletter is printed on 100% recycled stock using environmentally friendly inks.

Your **councillors**

Cherry Lake Ward

Altona, Altona North, Brooklyn, Seaholme



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Strand Ward

Newport, Spotswood, South Kingsville, Williamstown, Williamstown North



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Altona Meadows Laverton, Seabrook



Deputy Mayor Cr Diana Grima

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Cr Matt Tyler

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9932 1212

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Your Council in your language

HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

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Have you heard of our Centres of Excellence Strategy?

Over the next few years, Council plans to establish six Centres of Excellence across Hobsons Bay, each with a unique theme and focus.

Have your say on the strategy until 29 July at participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/excellence

MORE SERVICES, MORE SITÉS

Council+ is now live at Williamstown, Altona North and Altona Meadows!

You can now visit Williamstown, Altona North and Altona Meadows libraries and ask staff questions not only about our library services, but also organise anything from upsizing bins to paying rates.

The exciting expansion of Council services brings together library and customer services - it's all about making it easier and more convenient for residents.

Pre-COVID, our libraries had an extraordinary 650,000 visits every year so we're making it easier for library visitors to complete other business at Council like pet registrations and planning applications.

We know not everybody wants to use online services, and Council+ will mean people can talk face-to-face at our Council+ service centres, while also maintaining everything that makes our libraries great.

In total, eight sites across Hobsons Bay will be Council+ sites with more coming online by the end of the year.

Note: Cash payments will only be available at the Civic Centre. Eftpos will be available at all other Council+ service centres.

For more information about Council+ visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/CouncilPlus



First Nations communities and expert representatives to learn and collaborate, and to protect and enhance our natural environment. The plan is available to read on our website at

www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/sustainability

Interested in sustainability? Sign up for Living Green - our quarterly sustainability enewsletter. It covers topics ranging from climate change, waste reduction and energy efficiency, to water conservation and tips on reducing your household's environmental footprint.

Register at

www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/LivingGreen

Thanks to a Community Pitch in 2021 from a Seabrook resident, Seabrook has a new mural!

The mural at Seabrook shops next to Point Cook Rd was painted in June 2022 by artist Amanda Newman. Come along to the launch on Saturday 6 August at 11am, all welcome!





BETTER Places

Have you heard of Council's Better Places program? Better Places is a new model for the way that Council designs and delivers projects, thinking in terms of overall 'places' rather than individual 'pieces'.

The success of Better Places is actively involving the community to help shape the area they live in. Feedback, ideas and aspirations gathered during community consultation informs the development of a Place Guide that includes practical on the ground projects and initiatives that the community wants and needs.

Better Places is divided into stages:

- Stage 1 Consultation -Love Change and Ideas
- Stage 2 Consultation of draft vision, principles and project ideas (Based on feedback and community input from stage 1)
- Stage 3 Consultation on draft projects
- Stage 4 Consultation on Draft Place Guide
- Stage 5 Place Guide presented to Council for endorsement
- Stage 6 Better Places projects implementation

BETTER PLACES IN PROGRESS

Brooklyn and Altona'North

The Better Places Brooklyn and Altona North Draft Projects are available for community feedback from July to August. Have your say at participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/ betterplaces-brooklyn-and-altona-north

Seabrook and <u>Altona Meadows</u>

Following community feedback in May and June, the Better Places Altona Meadows and Seabrook draft vision, principles and project ideas are being developed. Keep an eye on Participate Hobsons Bay in August to have your say on the draft vision participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/bpsam

PLACE GUIDES IN ACTION

Laverton

Laverton was the first suburb to be part of the Better Places program. The Laverton Place Guide was endorsed by Council in September 2020. Key themes identified via community feedback include: Cleaner and Greener, A More Vibrant and Celebrating Our Character.

Laverton Better Places Projects

Looking Good Laverton – grassroots clean-up and greening projects

Green Streets Laverton – more trees in Layerton

Love Laverton Parks – eight community parks are being revamped! Frank Gibson and Whittaker Avenue are complete. Bladin Street, Dick Murdoch, Beverly Anton and Henderson Street have kicked off. Cropley Crescent and Bruce Street will be next.

Better Villages Project – redevelop Aviation Road Village and Woods Street Precinct with improved streetscape, public spaces and connectivity.

Safer Places Project – street lighting improvements and widened footpaths

Housing Choice - diverse and affordable housing

Missing Links Project – identify and construct missing pedestrian and cyclist links

Better Places and Spaces Project master plan to redevelop McCormack Park and upgrade Railway Avenue

Wayfinding and Signage Project connecting key destinations within Laverton

Gateways and Art Trails Project outdoor artwork and sculptures at key sites

Love Laverton Focus Group -

meet regularly to discuss and provide input in projects

To find out more – visit

participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/ better-places-laverton

"Better Places creates a shared vision that captures the values and aspirations of communities and then undertakes real projects and improvements that bring the vision to life."

Spotswood and South Kingsville

The Spotswood and South Kingsville Place Guide was endorsed by Council in October 2021 following 12 months of community consultation. The Place Guide includes to live, work and visit.

Current projects

Find out more: participate.hobsonsbay. vic.gov.au/bpssk

YOUR BUDGET 2022-23

Council's Annual Budget 2022–23 is a financially responsible and sustainable budget as we continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council is continuing to deliver over 100 essential services residents' value and need. A highlight of this year's budget is the \$62.96 million investment in capital works to provide infrastructure across Hobsons Bay as well as maintaining our ageing assets.



Community Pitch 2022–23 was reimagined to deliver our community's most wanted ideas. A big thank you to everyone who pitched an idea and voted on their favourite idea. Thirteen community-generated ideas have been included in Council's Annual Budget 2022–23! Council will deliver the following projects this financial year:

- Native nature strips
- Native plant giveaway
- End period poverty
- Connecting Hobsons Bay residents online
- Urban Harvest Festivals of food
- Zero waste pledge
- Upcycle in style
- Circular coffee
- Growing community through propagating plants
- Hobsons Bay volunteer expo
- Toys to the rescue
- Weekend BBQ
- Diversity potluck

Keep an eye out on Council's website and social media channels for upcoming events and how you can get involved. To read more about the winners, visit **participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/community-pitch-202223**



MAJOR PROJECTS

\$4.4M

over two years for HC Kim Reserve Pavilion and sports field upgrades

\$3.9M

over two financial years to upgrade McCormack Park in Laverton, including a new footbridge

\$3.8M

over three financial years for road safety and streetscape improvements along Railway Avenue in Laverton

\$3.7M

over two financial years for Altona Foreshore upgrade project (Esplanade closure, Pier Street stage 4 and Weaver Reserve, seawall and shared trail from Webb to Sargood Streets)

\$3.32M

over two financial years to redevelop Bruce Comben Reserve in Altona Meadows

\$3M

for Dennis Reserve multipurpose pavilion

\$2.5M

over two financial years for stage 1 of the Greenline project (Hall Street, Spotswood)

\$2.08M

over two financial years for Brooklyn Hall redevelopment

\$1.45M

over two financial years to upgrade Newport Park District Park

\$1.6M

over two financial years to upgrade Mary Street Reserve in Spotswood

\$750K

to refurbish Altona Meadows library as part of the Centres of Excellence program

\$465K

to revamp J.J. Ginifer Reserve in Altona North

CAPITAL WORKS



BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS



KINDER FUN

Kindergarten helps your child learn, grow and make friends. Registrations for funded three-year-old and four-year-old kindergarten in 2023 are now open.

There are 18 kindergartens in Hobsons Bay which are part of the Central Registration Scheme, located in Council-owned buildings and managed either by a voluntary parent committee of management or not-for-profit organisation. All offer three-year-old and four-year-old kindergarten and are free or low cost to Health Care Card holders.

Thanks to investment from the state government, children in Hobsons Bay will benefit from between five and 15 hours of three-year-old kinder in 2023 and 15 hours of four-year-old kinder.

Kinder session times vary at each centre and you can view timetables on Council's website.

Council's Central Registration Scheme allows families to submit one registration form indicating their preferences for a number of kindergartens, rather than having to apply for each individual service.



'Kinder is the best. I like playing on the swings at kinder and in the sandpit;"

Two years of kindergarten is

You can find out more information about the benefits of kinder and register online at www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/ kindergarten

Most Hobsons Bay long day care centres who are not part of Council's Central Registration Scheme also offer funded kindergarten programs. For more information please contact individual centres directly.



Are you a carer for an older person living at home? It's such an important job and carers also need to take care of themselves and their wellbeing. Respite services are available at Bateman House in Williamstown for eligible residents at subsidised rates.

Helping carers to remain happy and healthy is critical to ensure they can continue to support their loves ones. That's why respite services are so important.

Council coordinates respite services for eligible residents at Bateman House thanks to funding from the federal government.

Carers have the opportunity to take a break from their caring role, whilst the older people they care for are engaged in fun and stimulating activities in a caring, home-like environment.

Bateman House Williamstown is located on the edge of the beautiful botanic gardens and offers a range of flexible respite services including day programs, overnight or extended respite options.

Council's appointed service provider Benetas is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to supporting older Victorians and their families and carers. For more details about these respite options and eligibility please contact the friendly Benetas staff on 9399 9262.

For more information about Council's services for people aged 65 years and older, please visit www.hobsonsbay.vic. gov.au/ServicesOver65s



Council has delivered \$160,000 in grant funding to Hobsons Bay businesses as part of Council's Community Support Package.

The city-wide Hobsons Bay Business has Heart 2.0 grants program assists the local business community to rebuild and recover from the significant impacts of COVID-19.

Sixty-seven businesses successfully received a Quick Response Grant up to \$1500. The Quick Response Grants were designed for small businesses within sectors that were largely or entirely unable to operate during the 2021 lockdown including in the health and personal services, recreational, tourism and creative industries sectors.

Five Business Precinct Grants have been delivered to local trader associations and business groups to run events and promote their business precincts. Keep an eye out on our social media channels and website for upcoming events to activate business precincts.

For more information about how Council supports business in Hobsons Bay, visit www.hobsonsbaybusiness.com.au

What's happening in your ward?



Cherry Lake Ward

Streetscape works are underway at the bottom end of **Pier Street** between Oueen Street and the Esplanade, Altona. The works focus on improving pedestrian safety on the southern end of Pier Street from Queen Street to Altona Beach, with wider footpaths and safer crossings and are scheduled for completion at the end of September 2022.

Weaver Reserve, adjacent to Altona Beach, has a new look with consolidated green open space for gatherings, events and overflow space for the lifesaving club and grass mounds along the edge of the reserve to help reduce the impacts of wind from the bay. Temporary fencing will remain until the end of August to allow the grass and plants to establish. The Weaver Reserve expanded carpark is scheduled for completion by the end of September. For more information, visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/ altonabeachprecinct

Parks Victoria are redeveloping **Altona Pier**. Did you know the original timber pier was built in the late 1800s? As part of the redevelopment, the pier will be rebuilt and aligned to historic Pier Street. Detailed designs will be released mid-year with construction on the new pier set to begin later in the year. Stay updated on the project by signing up for updates at

www.parks.vic.gov.au/projects/ melbourne-region/altona-pierredevelopment

Have you been to **Truganina Park** recently? Our conservation team has installed new interpretive and wayfinding signage so it's easier to explore and enjoy the reserve. Walk around the loop track and learn about the plants and animals that call this reserve home. You can also visit the improved access path dubbed the Shorebird Track which heads south from the west side of the Laverton Creek footbridge. Keep an eye out for the interpretive signs and read about the red-capped plover and important values of blue carbon.

Strand Ward

Following extensive consultation, the Newport Structure Plan was adopted in March 2022. Amendment C133, currently out for public exhibition, proposes to make changes to the Hobsons Bay Planning Scheme to implement the vision and objectives of the Newport Structure Plan. The amendment includes proposed increased heritage protections and guidelines for new building heights. Join one of our community drop-in sessions on Saturday 16 July, 11am to 2pm or Wednesday 27 July, 12.30 to 3.30pm at the Newport Community Hub. Have your say before 12 August at participate.

hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/amendment-c133

The **Donald McLean Reserve** multi-year development is nearly finished! The pavilion has been internally fitted and is scheduled to be completed by the end of July 2022. The playground and open space upgrade will open in mid-spring. Completed works include the multi-purpose netball and tennis court facility, and upgrades to ovals 1 and 2. The redevelopment project is a partnership with the state government via the West Gate Tunnel Neighbourhood Fund.

Works are progressing at JT Gray Reserve with the slabs being poured for the pavilion and the in-ground services being installed. Works have also commenced on the new cricket nets and external storage. Carpark works will commence later in the year. For more, visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov. au/JTGrayReserve

Parks Victoria are commencing works to repair the bluestone seawall at **Point Gellibrand Coastal Heritage Park** this spring, as part of the Victorian Government's Urban Parks Active Wellbeing Program. Measures are in place to protect the seawall's heritage values and the surrounding coastal environment during the works. For more information, visit www.parks.vic.gov.au/projects

Wetlands Ward

Construction is nearing completion for the Bladin Street Reserve upgrade. The reserve will soon feature new play equipment, street furniture, and landscaping. Henderson Street Reserve works kicked off last month and include a new playground with a nature play focus, new barbecue area and seating. Works revamping Dick Murdoch Reserve, including the 40m flying fox, are nearly finished and scheduled to be completed early July 2022. The reserve upgrades are part of the Love Laverton Parks Program through Better Places Laverton.

Construction of the half-court and landscaping works at **Altona Sports Centre** are progressing well. The concrete has been poured, poles have been installed and the tree bays are cut ready for planting.

Over 350 people provided input into **Better Places Seabrook and Altona Meadows**

by sharing what they loved, what they wanted changed and ideas to improve the area. The draft vision, principles and project ideas are being developed and will be available for feedback in August at

participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/bpsam

Works are progressing well on the

HD Graham Reserve Master Plan.

Construction on the reserve pavilion is scheduled for completion in September 2022 and the sportsground and floodlighting works are finished. For more information, visit www.hobsonsbay.vic. gov.au/HDGraham

Have you seen the stunning **new mural** at Seabrook shops along Point Cook Road? The mural by accomplished artist Amanda Newman features black swans and other birdlife at Skeleton Creek. To celebrate, you're invited to the launch on Saturday 6 August at 11am. The project called Colours of Seabrook is thanks to a

successful Community Pitch in 2021.

CREATIVE EXPERIENCES WHILE YOU ARE OUT AND ABOUT

Explore and enjoy the many free exhibitions and programs on offer through winter in Hobsons Bay. **The Outside Gallery**, at Paine Reserve in Newport, is exhibiting the talented Rob Mancini's Wild West until 30 July. Displayed through lightboxes, this art can be enjoyed during the day and lit up at night.

At Laverton's **Woods Street Arts Space**, the Laneway Gallery will showcase Rhys Cousins until 6 October. In Altona, visit the **Civic Centre foyer** where Hobsons Bay Arts Society will kick-off our winter showcase with their '*Through the Artist's Eyes*' exhibition until 27 July.

For the latest arts and culture events and news, subscribe to the Hobsons Bay arts and culture enewsletter at www.hobsonsbay. vic.gov.au/enewsletter or Facebook: www.facebook.com/creativecityhobsonsbay



Meet your local Councillor, ask questions about key projects and areas of concern and share a hot drink. Members of customer service, the traffic team, project managers and community engagement teams will also be onsite to assist and answer questions you might have about your local area. If there is a particular project or issue that you would like to talk about, please email communityengagement@ hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au prior to the event. Coffee with a Councillor kicked off in April with Cr Briffa, Cr Tyler in May and Mayor Cr Hemphill in June. Upcoming sessions include.

Cr Jonathon Marsden

Saturday 16 July, 11am to 1pm McLean Reserve, Cnr Parker Street and Aitken Street, Williamstown

Cr Daria Kellander

Saturday 27 August, 10am to 12pm Altona North Library carpark

Deputy Mayor Cr Diana Grima

Saturday 10 September, 11am to 1pm Tatman Reserve, Altona Meadows



CONSERVATION HEROES

Eight local community environment groups are active in Hobsons Bay and keen to welcome new faces. Come along to an upcoming event:

Truganina Explosives Reserve Open Days

First Sunday of the month, 1pm to 4pm, Queen Street, Altona

Friends of Newport Lakes

Second Sunday of the month, 10am to 12pm, meet in the carpark at Newport Lakes, Newport Lakes Dr

Friends of Williamstown Wetlands

Monday 25 July, Sunday 7 August and Sunday 28 August, 10am to 12pm, various meeting spots

Friends of Greenwich Bay

Sunday 17 July, 9am to 11am, meet at 110 The Strand, Newport

Friends of Skeleton Creek

Sunday 28 August, 1pm-3pm, meet at Emu Foot Grassland, Henry Dr, Altona Meadows

BUNKASAURUS

By Bunk Puppets, created by Tim Sneddon & Jeff Achtem

Wednesday 28 September, 1pm, Altona Theatre

Two fools in too much trouble... a raucous new all-ages adventure for kids!

Award winners at Edinburgh and Adelaide Fringes, Bunk Puppets have travelled the globe and built an international reputation with their absurdist visual stories. Join them in the September school holidays for a new adventure from the DIY masters of puppetry and theatrical wizardry.

All tickets - \$25

Bookings: www.hobsonsbaytickets. com.au or call 9932 4074

IMMUNISATION BOOKINGS

Book online at www.hobsonsbay.vic. gov.au/Immunisation

EVENTS AT OUR LIBRARIES

Fake news: how to spot it

Friday 22 July, 10am to 12pm, Altona Meadows Library and Learning Centre

Useful apps for your smart device

Friday 29 July and Friday 12 August, 10am to 12pm, Altona North Community Library

Winter documentary film club

Tuesday 9 August, 10am to 12pm Altona Library

ebooks, eaudio books and magazines

Friday 26 August, 10am to 12pm, Altona North Community Library

Your smartphone and tablet

Friday 23 September, 10am to 12pm, Altona Library

ON THE ROAD AGAIN PRESENTS 'LIVE FROM THE ALTONA THEATRE'

We are very excited to have a new program of contemporary music, with some of Melbourne's best live performers appearing in concert at the Altona Theatre.

Thursday 25 August

- Didirri
- Mo'ju

Thursday 22 September

- Emma Donovan and The Putbacks

Thursday 27 October

- Vika and Linda plus support

Bookings can be made at www.hobsonsbaytickets.com.au

'Live from the Altona Theatre' is part of On the Road Again, a Victorian Government initiative to bring live music back across the state.

NATIONAL TREE DAY

Sunday 31 July, 10am to 1pm

Altona Coastal Park

Connect with nature and help plant thousands of trees and shrubs. Enjoy free food, coffee and entertainment for the kids. BYO gloves if you can.

National Tree Day is an annual event to revegetate our special natural areas and helps local animals and plants survive and thrive.