



Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 11 February 2020

Council Chamber
Hobsons Bay Civic Centre
115 Civic Parade, Altona

**HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL**



THE COUNCIL'S MISSION

We will listen, engage and work with our community to plan, deliver and advocate for Hobsons Bay to secure a happy, healthy, fair and sustainable future for all.

OUR VALUES

Respectful

Community driven and focused

Trusted and reliable

Efficient and responsible

Bold and innovative

Accountable and transparent

Recognised

Council acknowledges the peoples of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of these municipal lands and waterways, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Chairperson:

Cr Colleen Gates (Mayor)

Wetlands Ward

Councillors:

Cr Angela Altair

Strand Ward

Cr Peter Hemphill

Strand Ward

Cr Jonathon Marsden

Strand Ward

Cr Tony Briffa

Cherry Lake Ward

Cr Sandra Wilson (Deputy Mayor)

Cherry Lake Ward

Cr Michael Grech

Wetlands Ward

Aaron van Egmond
Chief Executive Officer
Hobsons Bay City Council

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**Minutes of the Council Meeting Held on Tuesday 11 February 2020
at 7.04pm in the Council Chamber, Hobsons Bay Civic Centre, 115
Civic Parade, Altona.**

PRESENT

CHAIRPERSON:

Cr Colleen Gates (Mayor) Wetlands Ward

COUNCILLORS:

Cr Angela Altair	Strand Ward
Cr Peter Hemphill	Strand Ward
Cr Jonathon Marsden	Strand Ward
Cr Tony Briffa	Cherry Lake Ward
Cr Sandra Wilson (Deputy Mayor)	Cherry Lake Ward
Cr Michael Grech	Wetlands Ward

OFFICERS:

Mr Aaron van Egmond	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Sanjay Manivasagasivam	Director Infrastructure and City Services
Ms Penelope Winslade	Director Sustainable Communities
Mr Andrew McLeod	Director Corporate Services
Ms Diane Eyckens	Manager Corporate Integrity
Ms Jennifer Legge	Acting Manager Communications and Community Relations
Ms Briony Davis	Governance Officer/Minute Secretary

1 Council Welcome

The Chairperson welcomed members of the gallery and acknowledged the people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of this land.

2 Apologies

Nil.

3 Disclosure of Interests

In accordance with sections 77A, 77B, 78 and 79 of the *Local Government Act 1989* Councillors are required to disclose a "conflict of interest" in a decision if they would receive, or could be reasonably perceived as receiving a direct or indirect financial or non-financial benefit or detriment (other than as a voter, resident or ratepayer) from the decision.

In accordance with section 79B of the *Local Government Act 1989* Councillors who consider that they have a personal interest that is in conflict with their public duty in relation to a matter may, if they do not have a conflict of interest as described above, apply to Council to be exempted from voting on the matter.

Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.

Cr Wilson declared an interest in Item 8.1.2 Advocacy Priorities 2020, as she is a member of the Hobsons Bay Wetlands Centre.

4 Minutes Confirmation

4.1 Ordinary Council Meeting

Confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of the Hobsons Bay City Council held on 10 December 2019 (copy previously circulated).

Motion

Moved Cr Peter Hemphill, seconded Cr Tony Briffa:

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of the Hobsons Bay City Council held on 10 December 2019 be confirmed.

Carried unanimously

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of the Hobsons Bay City Council held on 10 December 2019 be confirmed.

5 Councillors' Questions

Cr Peter Hemphill requested that a temporary seal be applied to a hole on Hudsons Road, Spotswood between Hall Street and Scienceworks, to prevent the temporary fill from being displaced and creating a potential hazard for vehicles.

Mr Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Director Infrastructure and City Services, advised that the request would be followed up.

Cr Peter Hemphill asked that tenants of the pavilion at Loft Reserve, Newport be reminded of their responsibilities in maintaining the cleanliness and condition of the pavilion. Cr Hemphill further requested that inspections be carried out in relation to other sporting and recreational tenancies to ensure that Council's assets are being looked after.

Mr Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Director Infrastructure and City Services, advised that the request would be followed up.

Cr Jonathon Marsden asked how the Hobsons Bay Parking Strategy is progressing and when a draft is likely to be prepared for public exhibition.

Mr Andrew McLeod, Director Corporate Services, advised that work has already commenced on the Parking Strategy and that an initial briefing will come before Council to outline the plan for development of the strategy. Mr McLeod indicated that, given the comprehensive community consultation needed to provide a whole-of-city response, the expectation is that the strategy will take 12 to 18 months to reach a point where Council may consider it for adoption.

6 Public Question Time

Rosa McKenna

Q. Council's Integrated Transport Plan 2017-30 indicates that its goal for neighbourhoods is that "safe and connected walking and cycling routes will link people to places in their local neighbourhoods, complemented by convenient and sustainable connections to vibrant activity centres". [As] Hall Street currently provides an opportunity to help deliver this goal in the Spotswood Activity Centre, it should be prioritised as an important bike and pedestrian link to the new Stony Creek bike bridge and a green link to the new Stony Creek park. On what basis has Council determined that it requires a design that preserves the 60 car parks, at the expense of safe bike routes and neighbourhood greening? The car parks in this area are used as all day car storage for commuters with little benefit to the Activity Centre.

A. Council strongly supports the safe bike routes and pedestrian access within the municipality. Council is also working closely with the West Gate Tunnel Project to achieve a balance between bicycle and pedestrian safety, and the Hobsons Bay commuter parking needs within the area.

Q. The Mayor (Cr Marsden) launched a report called "The Message Tree" at the conclusion of a project funded through Council Vibrant Community Grants in 2019. This report was the result of cooperation between a number of community groups in collaboration with a Boon Wurrung story significant in the shared history of Hobsons Bay. It made a number of recommendations for

Council to consider and it constituted an important step towards meeting Reconciliation Action Plan objectives.

When will the report be formally presented to Council, and its recommendations considered?

- A. As Mayor, Cr Marsden launched the report during Reconciliation Week in 2019.

Council acknowledges it as an excellent new resource for the city and thanks the participants for their initiative and work. Discussions are underway with grant recipients on a range of recommendations being implemented.

The report has been provided to Councillors, and discussions continue further around its content.

- Q. What is the status of the current Reconciliation Action Plan in Hobsons Bay and how is its implementation being managed? At what point is Get Up Out West to be consulted on the Reconciliation Action Plan in its advisory role in the plan?**

- A. The first year rollout of Council's Reconciliation Action Plan has just been completed. This is our second plan and the first endorsed through Reconciliation Australia (in the Innovate RAP category).

A range of actions are underway. Consistent with the Reconciliation Australia reporting framework, Council will lodge a progress report in August 2020, and we look forward to sharing the information over the coming months.

Consistent with Council's actions around the Reconciliation Action Plan, relationships with a range of interested stakeholders, including Get Up Out West, will continue to be maintained.

Mark Benjamin

- Q. Many years ago, we went from 240 litres to 120 litres of garbage disposal per week. At that time, it was clear that we needed to divert recycling to the yellow bin. In Recycling 2.0 we have a reduction from 120 litres volume a week to 120 litres a fortnight. This reduction in general waste cannot be offset by diverting waste to the yellow bin as the plastic standard is stricter. We only dispose of 10 litres volume of food waste per fortnight in my household which is not unusual, so it appears that diverting waste to the green bin is nowhere near sufficient to offset the general waste reduction. Specifically, how is the average household expected to reduce their general waste down to 120 litres per fortnight?**

- A. The Recycling 2.0 changes will result in an increase from 104 to 116 bin collections per household per year for Hobsons Bay residents.

Unfortunately the recycling crisis exposed the fact that there are not local markets to recycle some materials. Council has made the decision to do two critical things. First, we are taking glass out of our co-mingled recycling bin, which means the glass and all the other co-mingled items will be recycled to a much higher quality product. Second, we are only taking items in the co-mingled recycling bin for which there are genuine local recycling outcomes. Our provider, Australian Paper Recovery (based in Truganina), will ensure all our recyclables will be used locally and genuinely recycled. We will continue to work actively with our providers to seek to expand the products Hobsons Bay residents can recycle over time.

As part of this change we do understand that the requirement to move other plastic items (that are not able to be reused by our local supplier) into the waste bin may provide some pressure on volumes in the waste bin.

For many households, waste bins were not filled within a week under the old system, and the new four bin service should meet the needs of most households. However, we do recognise one size does not fit all circumstances. We will continue to offer residents the option to upsize their waste bin or have an additional bin, for a fee, something that has already been in place prior to the introduction of Recycling 2.0.

We are encouraging households to give the new service a go using all four bins provided for the first six weeks (three collection cycles), then review your needs in terms of bin sizes.

There are a range of tips about strategies to reduce your waste volume in Council's Recycling 2.0 website: www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Services/Recycling-2.0-Waste-and-recycling-services

Frederick Smart

Q. [At the] Council Meeting [on] 12 March 2019, a question was asked:

“In the Local Government Performance Report can something be included in the comments when there's instances [of] things going behind schedule that address why it is behind and what is to be done to bring them back on schedule (schedule slip, more resources or reduces scope for instance).”

To which the answer was:

“A new ‘Corporate Planning and Reporting’ solution is currently being developed for rollout in the new financial year. The new system will ensure that commentary is mandatory to explain why initiatives may have been delayed, deferred, or cancelled.”

- a. Can Council provide advise if the “Corporate Planning and Reporting” solution was rolled out**
- b. If not rolled out then can an item in the CEO report track this project to completion**
- c. The answer in March 2019 did not address the part of the question related to what is to be done to bring a project back to schedule and have that documented, only comments to why it is off schedule. Is there to be any facility so residents can understand the changes to project scope, schedule or resources to enable them to better track projects through their lifespan?**

A. Our new reporting system, H2.0 Agility, was launched in January 2020, a massive undertaking to incorporate a number of separate reporting systems into one system enabling the alignment of Council's projects to the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision, Council Plan 2017-21, strategies, Annual Budget, unit business plans right down to the annual employees' work goals.

H2.0 Agility has been designed to foster transparency, good governance and accountability and has been developed to enable the community to have direct access to view project delivery, including actions achieved and what is happening next. The ability to view that will be forthcoming.

Q. [At the] Council Meeting [on] March 12 2019 a question was asked:

“The item on the CEO Report on Operations says: ‘The purpose of this report is to inform Council and the community of recent issues, initiatives and projects undertaken across Council’. There is the CEO Update that mentions a number of events and meetings with little information about them. If it is important enough for the CEO to attend isn't it important enough to include some more information on things covered in those meetings/events?”

At that time the answer included the statement: “However, your feedback has been noted, and will be considered in future reports”. I can't say that I've noticed much change in the “Events and Meetings” section, so was the feedback considered or considered and rejected?

A. The feedback has been considered and where possible, additional information has been included. There are a significant number of meetings the actions of which are communicated in more detail through other Council reports. This may include but is not limited to the CEO Report on Operations or the Westgate Tunnel update report.

We will attempt to include some additional information in the report where it does not duplicate information elsewhere in the Council Meeting agenda.

Q. A waste energy facility for Laverton North has recently gained Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) works approval after obtaining planning permission from Wyndham Council. This plant is planned to process some 200,000 tonnes annually of municipal sorted waste through a gasification process. If it is built, has Council considered:

- a. The potential of sending its waste to this facility**
- b. The implications to Hobsons Bay of this facility in terms of air quality**
- c. Impacts to local and arterial roads in Hobsons Bay of other Local Government Authorities (LGAs) sending their waste to this facility**

A. Council's Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025 acknowledges a role for alternatives to landfill in recovering more resources from waste sent to landfill. The strategy also prioritises recovering as much material as possible from the waste stream for recycling and organics uses, something that Council has just embarked upon. Council's commitment is to seek collaborative opportunities to procure innovative alternatives to landfill (which could potentially include waste to energy and other options), as well as explore alternative solutions on its own. Council has not committed to a particular approach or facility.

In regards to air quality, this facility is within Wyndham City Council and all planning considerations were undertaken by that council. We understand that the works approval that has been issued includes a number of air quality requirements to ensure any future facility operates within required standards. Once built, the facility will also be required to obtain a licence to operate, and that licence will require further reports to consider air quality and odour, as more detailed designs are developed.

In regards to traffic, markets for this potential facility are not yet known. The transport of waste is administered by the EPA under the *Environment Protection Act 1970* and the Environment Protection (Industrial Waste Resource) Regulations 2009. While Hobsons Bay City Council is not involved in this development, it is anticipated that waste might be transported to the site via the Princes Freeway from the east and west. Transport routes from other LGAs would be unlikely to be transported through Hobsons Bay given the location of the facility.

Amanda Hill

- Q. Hobsons Bay City Council (and many other municipalities) require all animal faeces to be disposed of in an appropriate manner.**

Previously general waste was collected weekly and allowed owners and occupiers who own pets the option to dispose of animal faeces in the Council provided bins. The current general waste service (commencing Feb 2020) is now being collected fortnightly. This change now conflicts with the requirements of all owners or occupiers who have registered pets (which could be more than 13,937 animals registered) in this municipality.

The particular *Community Local Law 2015* under the heading Cleanliness 54(f)(iii):

“54. Cleanliness

An owner or occupier of any premises on which any animal or bird is kept must: [...]

f) cause all manure, refuse and rubbish produced or accumulated on the premises to be immediately placed in a properly constructed fly and vermin proof container with impervious walls and floor, and [...]

(iii) cause the contents of such container to be removed and disposed of to the satisfaction of an authorised officer at least once every week”

Failing to do so is an offence under the Hobsons Bay City Council *Community Local Law 2015* and carries a penalty of either an on the spot infringement notice or court imposed penalty.

Will Council consider reinstating the weekly general garbage collection service?

- A. Not at this time.**

Council has implemented a new kerbside recycling system. The new service will be evaluated as we move through the transition period, where we will test and potentially refine processes to improve the sustainability of the program and improve the recycling outcomes for all residents of Hobsons Bay.

- Q. Does Council approve of the practice that some residents now resort to flushing animal excrement (faecal matter both canine and feline) into the sewerage system as a way to address concerns residents have raised in relation to the new fortnightly general waste collection? And in particular the issues being raised about offensive bin smells and cleanliness.**

- A. Melbourne Water is the key body to set policy on what can be flushed into the sewer system. Council is seeking further clarification from Melbourne Water which can be added to the further information and tips Council is sharing with residents on the website and social media.**

Council's recycling website currently provides information on how residents can manage any odours in landfill bins. These include wrapping the waste in a biodegradable bag, storing the bin in the shade, using a natural odour neutraliser, and sanitising the rubbish bin.

Q. If Council refuse to reinstate the weekly general garbage collection service, would Council consider providing an alternate waste collection service for residents that allows the removal of animal waste from households on a weekly basis as per Hobson's Bay City Council's own local law requirements?

A. An alternate waste collection system for animal waste has not been considered at this time. Animal waste is generally odorous, contains bacteria and other contaminants and it is recommended that these types of waste are bagged and placed into the waste bin. The local laws were developed in 2015, well prior to these household waste and recycling service changes. The local law will be reviewed in the future to capture these changes.

Rowena Joske

Q. When the plan for Precinct 15 in Altona North was approved in 2018, Council noted the desperate need for improved public transport links through the site, which will be home to 6,000 new residents. This included that: "at a minimum we need a rapid, reliable and direct bus service that connects Altona North to Spotswood and the Newport train station". One housing development in Precinct 15 [is] currently being marketed as being [a] five minute drive away from Newport Station.

Could an update be provided on what progress has been made to secure this bus service to Spotswood, and when developers can have certainty about sustainable transport options so they can promote them as part of the marketing of the new homes that are soon to be built?

A. The overall development plan for Precinct 15 has been designed to accommodate bus services throughout the precinct. Council has recently assisted the Department of Transport (DoT) for a review of bus services in Altona North and Spotswood to improve efficiency and connectivity in these suburbs. This includes improved services between Precinct 15 and both the Newport and Spotswood train stations. Council officers have been informed by DoT that the implementation of this review with improved services requires funding, and will be considered as part of future Victorian Government budget processes. Council will continue to advocate to DoT and the Victorian Government for improved bus services around the Precinct 15 location, and for a train station in Altona North.

Barbara Hughes

Q. Regarding the proposed installation of an electronic scoreboard on Fearon Reserve, Williamstown, why has there been no official Council planning process in place, thereby robbing residents of a chance to object to an installation that will have a permanent, negative effect on their amenity of the area?

A. The Williamstown CYMS Football Club received a grant of \$20,000 for an electronic scoreboard through the Australian Government's Stronger Communities Program.

Council officers reviewed the proposal and confirmed that no planning permit is required, but requested that the club undertake an initial consultation with surrounding residents to gain their feedback.

Q. Regarding the proposed installation of an electronic scoreboard on Fearon Reserve, Williamstown, why would the Hobsons Bay City Council which prides itself, and has spent millions of dollars, on preserving the heritage nature of Williamstown, allow a permanent modern scoreboard to be erected in an area of significant heritage value?

A. Council values the heritage nature of Williamstown, however this needs to be balanced with the provision of core infrastructure for sporting purposes.

Q. Regarding the proposed installation of an electronic scoreboard on Fearon Reserve, Williamstown, why was this not included on the Fearon Reserve Master Plan which was agreed to after consultation with residents?

A. Electronic scoreboards have only recently become a feasible option for sports clubs, so it was not included when the Fearon Reserve Master Plan was endorsed by Council in 2013.

Following the completion of the consultation period on Monday 17 February 2020, Council officers will work with the club to review the feedback prior to determining the next steps.

Russell Marsh

Q. A petition was formed by the Nelson Place Traders and lodged with Council in December 2018 with regards to inequality of parking in comparison to other businesses in Williamstown. A request was made to alter parking fees and times to a more comparable system. We are wondering when Council will be responding to this as there has been no correspondence of acknowledgement nor decision handed to us during that time. The traders put forward a parking strategy that included 12pm to 5pm paid parking (at present it is 13 hours a day of paid parking).

A. Council officers are preparing a proposed suite of actions related to all elements of parking to enable its work in this area to be updated as a city-wide response.

The work proposed references existing strategies, and will be relevant to all processes and policies around the issue, including paid parking, residential permits, trader permits, activity centre plans, developer plans and integrated transport planning.

The first stage of this work is due in the first quarter of 2020.

Q. An action plan was formulated with the assistance of Angela Altair, Paul Morgan and Peter Hemphill more than five years ago by the Council in relation to funds allocated to Nelson Place but also to the inequality of parking fees and hours along the strip in comparison to other areas of the city. To date, nothing has changed with respect to the parking structure. Given that metered parking along the strip was supposed to be a trial (that has now lasted over a decade) we are wondering why Council has not responded to this item within the last five years and when they propose to do so.

A. Council has no plans to reduce hours or to reduce the cost of parking at this point in time. Council's main focus in 2020 will be on the development of a Parking Strategy.

7 Petitions/Joint Letters

7.1 Petition - Opposition to Construction of a Barrier in Seabrook Boulevard, Seabrook

Directorate: Corporate Services

Councillor Portfolio: Integrated Transport - Cr Jonathon Marsden and Cr Sandra Wilson

Appendices: Nil

Purpose

To receive a petition, containing 169 signatories, opposing the construction of a barrier in Seabrook Boulevard, Seabrook dividing the estate into north and south sections.

Motion

Moved Cr Tony Briffa, seconded Cr Michael Grech:

That Council:

- 1. Receives and notes the petition opposing the construction of a barrier in Seabrook Boulevard, Seabrook dividing the estate into north and south sections.**
- 2. Receives a report on this matter at a future Council meeting.**

Carried unanimously

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. Receives and notes the petition opposing the construction of a barrier in Seabrook Boulevard, Seabrook dividing the estate into north and south sections.**
 - 2. Receives a report on this matter at a future Council meeting.**
-

Summary

The petition was received on 18 December 2019 and reads as follows:

“We the undersigned residents of Seabrook Estate vehemently oppose the division of the estate by the creation of a barrier that prevents the free-flow of traffic along the entire Seabrook Blvd in both directions.”

7.2 Petition – Opposition to Installation of an Electronic Scoreboard on Fearon Reserve, Williamstown

Purpose

To receive a petition, tabled by Cr Angela Altair, that objects to a proposal to erect an electronic scoreboard in Fearon Reserve, Williamstown.

Motion

Moved Cr Angela Altair, seconded Cr Peter Hemphill:

That Council:

- 1. Receives and notes the petition calling for a plan to install a scoreboard on Fearon Reserve, Williamstown be put on hold pending further consultation.**
- 2. Receives a report on this matter at a future Council Meeting.**

Carried unanimously

Summary

The petition, containing 120 signatories, was received on 11 February 2020 and reads as follows:

“We, the undersigned, object most strongly to the proposed erection of an electronic scoreboard on the north east corner of Fearon Reserve as proposed by the Williamstown CYMS Football Club.”

8 Business






8.1 Office of the Chief Executive

8.1.1 Chief Executive Officer - Report on Operations

Directorate: Office of the Chief Executive

Councillor Portfolio: Not applicable

Appendices:

- 1 CEO Report on Operations December 2019 and January 2020 
- 2 AOC - 10 December 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting 
- 3 AOC - 11 December 2019 Truganina Explosives Reserve Advisory Committee Meeting 
- 4 AOC - 28 January 2020 Councillor Briefing Session 
- 5 AOC - 4 February 2020 Councillor Briefing Session 

Purpose

To provide Council with a regular update from the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) on the recent initiatives, projects and performance undertaken.

Motion

Moved Cr Angela Altair, seconded Cr Michael Grech:

That Council:

1. **Receives and notes the Chief Executive Officer's Report on Operations, including details of recent issues and initiatives undertaken by the organisation.**
2. **In accordance with section 80A(2) of the *Local Government Act* 1989 (the Act), incorporates into the minutes of this meeting the written Record of Assembly of Councillors held on 10 December 2019, 11 December 2019, 28 January 2020 and 4 February 2020.**

Carried unanimously

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Receives and notes the Chief Executive Officer's Report on Operations, including details of recent issues and initiatives undertaken by the organisation.**
2. **In accordance with section 80A(2) of the *Local Government Act* 1989 (the Act), incorporates into the minutes of this meeting the written Record of Assembly of Councillors held on 10 December 2019, 11 December 2019, 28 January 2020 and 4 February 2020.**

Summary

The attached CEO's Report on Operations provides Councillors and community with a regular update from the CEO on key initiatives, projects and performance.

Discussion

The purpose and discussion of this report is to inform Council and the community of recent issues, initiatives and projects undertaken across Council. The report is provided on a monthly basis.

8.1.2 Advocacy Priorities 2020

Directorate: Office of the Chief Executive

Councillor Portfolio: Not applicable

Appendices: 1 Appendix 1 - Advocacy Priorities 2020

Cr Wilson declared an interest in Item 8.1.2 Advocacy Priorities 2020, as she is a member of the Hobsons Bay Wetlands Centre.

Purpose

To seek endorsement of the 2020 Advocacy Priorities.

Motion

Moved Cr Sandra Wilson, seconded Cr Jonathon Marsden:

That Council:

1. Endorses Council's Advocacy Priorities for 2020.
2. Supports the commencement of the promotion and implementation of these priorities.

Carried unanimously

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Endorses Council's Advocacy Priorities for 2020.
2. Supports the commencement of the promotion and implementation of these priorities.

Summary

Council's Advocacy Priorities for 2020 are proposed, as per the content in this report and Appendix 1, following a recent review. The review considered: Council's 2019 Advocacy Priorities; Council's advocacy submissions over the last two years; recent strategies and projects; significant issues currently faced by Hobsons Bay; and Council's Advocacy Strategy 2014-18, which included feedback from the community and stakeholders.

Thirteen Advocacy Priorities are recommended for 2020. Following endorsement, these priority areas will be actioned over the next 12 months with progress reported throughout the year.

It is recommended that Council take a three tiered approach to the delivery of specific advocacy actions associated with the 13 priorities.

Background

As the closest level of government to the community, Council has a legislated responsibility to support the health and wellbeing of the people of Hobsons Bay. Council has a clear role to listen to, understand and respond to community needs. This includes advocacy to both the Victorian and Australian Governments and other relevant bodies for changes that sit outside of local government jurisdiction.

The Mission of the Council Plan 2017-2021 is: “**Council will listen, engage and work with our community to plan, deliver and advocate for Hobsons Bay to secure a happy, healthy, fair and sustainable future for all.**” To deliver on this mission, and the six priority areas articulated in the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision, Council considers and endorses advocacy priorities at the beginning of every year to ensure that it is responsive to the needs of the Hobsons Bay community.

Council’s advocacy activities were reviewed in conjunction with the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision and the Council Plan 2017-21 to identify the city’s current challenges and to understand what has worked well and what could be improved.

Discussion

Council regularly engages with the community through a range of strategies and projects to understand their key issues. This feedback, along with the review of Council’s advocacy activities, has provided the foundation for the 2020 Advocacy Priorities.

The 2020 Advocacy Priorities will be implemented over a 12 month period to allow for changes within the political environment and to pursue opportunities as they arise.

Council’s recommended three tiered approach to the delivery of specific advocacy actions are presented below.

1. **Game changers (transformational):** Projects or issues that have the ability to significantly transform the city’s economic, environmental and/or social opportunities. Deliver in partnership with key Hobsons Bay organisations and the community.
2. **Regional:** Projects or issues of significant relevance to both Hobsons Bay and the western region. Deliver in partnership with key Hobsons Bay organisations and community groups.
3. **Local:** Projects or issues of significant relevance to Hobsons Bay. Council to deliver advocacy.

Council’s advocacy activities include but are not limited to; digital campaigns, printed collateral, short films, letters to political representatives, and/or government departments, targeted partnership with community and/or advocacy groups and funding applications to other levels of government.

Council’s 13 Advocacy Priorities for 2020 are presented below. Further detail on each advocacy priority and what change or funding Council is seeking is provided in Appendix 1.

It should be noted that specific funds required for each priority, where appropriate, will be further costed following Council’s endorsement. These costs will form a key part of the advocacy information and messaging that will be included as part of the campaigns.

Game changers (transformational):

- Western Aquatic Centre (Bruce Comben Reserve, Altona Meadows)
- Ferguson Street Precinct Upgrade
- alleviation of West Gate Tunnel traffic in Altona North and Brooklyn (Millers Road and Grieve Parade)
- Point Cook Road congestion treatments and safety/amenity enhancements
- foreshore infrastructure and response to sea level rise

Regional:

- Hobsons Bay Wetlands Centre
- improvements to pedestrian and cycling connections
 - Queen Street Bridge separate pedestrian and cyclist creek crossing
 - Queen Street/Central Avenue pedestrian and cyclist improvements
 - Kororoit Creek Road/Millers Road pedestrian and cyclist intersection improvement works
 - Kororoit Creek Shared Trail Stages 4 and 5 at the cost of approximately \$7 million
- youth mental health
- Melbourne Metro 2
- waste and recycling outcomes

Local:

- social services information connector
- boat ramp management
- affordable housing

8.2 Corporate Services

8.2.1 Audit Committee Update

Directorate: Corporate Services

Councillor Portfolio: Not applicable

Appendices: 1 Audit Committee Meeting Minutes - 27 November 2019

Purpose

To update Council regarding issues considered at the Audit Committee meeting held on 27 November 2019.

Motion

Moved Cr Sandra Wilson, seconded Cr Jonathon Marsden:

That Council notes the matters considered by the Audit Committee at the meeting conducted on 27 November 2019.

Carried unanimously

Recommendation

That Council notes the matters considered by the Audit Committee at the meeting conducted on 27 November 2019.

Summary

This report provides an update of the Audit Committee meeting held on 27 November 2019 to ensure that Council is informed of the activities of the Audit Committee. It provides Council with an opportunity to explore any issues that have been considered.

Background

The Audit Committee is an advisory committee of Council appointed under section 139 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. The committee comprises three independent members and two Councillors. The Chair is an independent member, who has the casting vote. The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer are non-voting members.

The committee meets quarterly, as a minimum throughout the year and has a Charter that addresses responsibilities that include risk management, control frameworks, external accountability, legislative compliance and internal and external audits.

Discussion

The 27 November 2019 meeting addressed the following items:

- the Chief Executive Officer's update
- outstanding audit recommendations
- Internal Audit Program including proposed audits and completed audit reports
- risk management update, highlighting the risk executive summary, a general update on recent issues and an insurance report
- financial reports for the year ended 30 September 2019
- cash and investment balances as at 31 October 2019

8.3 Infrastructure and City Services

8.3.1 Response to Petition - Concerns Regarding Relocation of Cricket Nets in Donald McLean Reserve, Spotswood

Directorate: Infrastructure and City Services

Councillor Portfolio: Active and Inclusive Communities - Cr Michael Grech and Cr Peter Hemphill

Appendices: Nil

Purpose

To respond to the petition from residents in The Avenue, surrounding streets and recreational users of Donald McLean Reserve, Spotswood, regarding their concerns about the planned location of the new cricket nets at the reserve.

Motion

Moved Cr Peter Hemphill, seconded Cr Angela Altair:

That Council:

1. **Endorses the proposal to relocate the cricket nets to the southern boundary of Donald McLean Reserve, south of the Roy Picone Pavilion.**
2. **Writes to the lead petitioner advising of the outcome of this report.**

Carried unanimously

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Endorses the proposal to relocate the cricket nets to the southern boundary of Donald McLean Reserve, south of the Roy Picone Pavilion.**
 2. **Writes to the lead petitioner advising of the outcome of this report.**
-

Summary

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 12 November 2019 a petition was received with 17 signatures (Appendix 1) requesting that Council provides an alternative location for the planned relocation of the cricket nets at Donald McLean Reserve. The petition indicates residents' concerns about the proposed location on the southern boundary of the reserve relating to safety, aesthetics, noise and amenity.

The Donald McLean Reserve Improvement Plan (DMRIP) was developed following a detailed community consultation process including a drop-in session, online surveys and input via Council's online engagement portal, Participate Hobsons Bay. This plan acknowledges the need to relocate the existing cricket nets to accommodate construction of the West Gate Tunnel and provision of ongoing tunnel maintenance access requirements.

The design development of the relocated cricket nets has taken into account the concerns raised throughout the consultation period, which are similar to those included in the petition. The nets will be an enclosed structure to constrain all stray balls and will not be floodlit. The design also retains and improves access into and within the reserve and sightlines across the reserve will not be inhibited. Additional landscaping and the protection of the existing established trees will further improve the amenity of this area.

Background

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 12 November 2019, a petition with 17 signatures was tabled in relation to concerns regarding the proposed relocation site of the cricket nets at Donald McLean Reserve.

The West Gate Tunnel Project (WGTP), in its Environmental Effects Statement, identified that the cricket nets need to be relocated as a result of the new alignment of the West Gate Tunnel and associated ramps together with the requirement for ongoing maintenance access to the tunnel. Both Council and the Donald McLean Reserve tenants were made aware of these circumstances in late 2017.

The Victorian Government, as part of the WGTP, agreed to partner with Hobsons Bay City Council to deliver a package of capital improvements to its sporting facilities and recreational spaces, contributing up to \$5 million on appropriate projects. WGTP's construction contractors, the CPB Contractors and John Holland joint venture, agreed to fund the design and construction of the new cricket nets at Donald McLean Reserve as a result of the required decommissioning of the existing nets.

The relocation of the cricket nets has been proposed as part of the delivery of the DMRIP. This improvement plan was developed through an extensive community consultation process. As part of the process about 118 submissions were received through Participate Hobsons Bay and drop-in consultation sessions. Ten of these submissions referenced concerns about the proposed relocation of the new nets. Concerns raised included safety issues from stray cricket balls striking road users and pedestrians, damage to parked cars and the Roy Picone Pavilion building, and the cricket nets visually detracting from sightlines across the reserve. The community consultation findings were taken into consideration as part of the design development of the relocated cricket nets.

Discussion

To facilitate the relocation of the cricket nets, Council officers investigated location options within the reserve in accordance with the Cricket Australia Community Cricket Facility Guidelines. Key constraints were as follows:

Location 1: The northern boundary of the reserve between the two ovals

The location of the new goalposts and floodlighting for Oval 2, together with the new water storage tank, did not leave sufficient space for a compliant facility.

Location 2: The north-eastern corner of the reserve

The location is the proposed site of a maintenance access corridor for the new West Gate Tunnel and did not leave sufficient space for a compliant facility.

Location 3: The remaining space to the south of the West Gate Freeway and north of the proposed pavilion

The proposed footprint of the new pavilion does not leave sufficient space for a compliant facility.

Location 4: The southern boundary of the reserve between the two ovals

There is sufficient area in this location to accommodate a compliant facility. This location is easily accessible by users with direct connections from The Avenue and pathways within the reserve.

Location 5: East of the existing Roy Picone Pavilion

Site assessments identified valuable trees and vegetation at this location. Consequently there was insufficient area to accommodate a compliant facility without the loss of several established trees.

Taking into consideration this option analysis, Council officers determined in collaboration with the users of the recreation reserve that the southern boundary of the reserve between the two ovals (Location 4) was the most feasible.

Following identification of the preferred location public consultation was carried out. The feedback that was received during this consultation period resulted in the following elements being incorporated into the design:

- fully enclosing the cricket nets to contain stray balls within the structure and limit damage to road users, pedestrians, parked vehicles and the Roy Picone Pavilion
- provision of pathway connections to provide through access between The Avenue and the reserve
- provision of landscaping to provide a soft and non-intrusive planting buffer surrounding the nets
- retention and protection of the existing street trees in The Avenue to maintain existing sightlines
- use of black mesh fencing material for the cricket nets and reserve perimeter fence for improved aesthetics

Rubber material will be installed on the inside of the nets structure at the southern end to minimise the sound of the balls being hit onto the fence and reduce noise issues for the residents of The Avenue.

Council's design standards for cricket nets do not include floodlights as these facilities are used within daylight hours. Consequently, lighting will not be installed.

The Spotswood Cricket Club has specific occupancy terms as part of their licence agreement with Council. The club will access the nets between September and March annually for practice and junior development activities. These times are typically between 5.30pm and 8.30pm. In accordance with these terms of use, there should be no late evening activities occurring at the cricket nets.

The proposed location and design for the cricket nets provides improved facilities for the users of Donald McLean Reserve and satisfactorily mitigates amenity and safety concerns for road users and residents of The Avenue.

Council has commenced implementation of the DMRIP. Works to relocate the cricket nets are scheduled to commence in March 2020 to facilitate completion in time for the 2020-21 summer season.

8.3.2 Drainage Asset Management Plan 2019

Directorate: Infrastructure and City Services

Councillor Portfolio: Not applicable

Appendices: 1 Drainage Asset Management Plan 2019

Purpose

To seek Council's endorsement of the Drainage Asset Management Plan 2019 (DAMP).

Motion

Moved Cr Jonathon Marsden, seconded Cr Peter Hemphill:

That Council adopts the Drainage Asset Management Plan 2019.

Carried unanimously

Recommendation

That Council adopts the Drainage Asset Management Plan 2019.

Summary

The DAMP (Appendix 1) has been developed to facilitate responsible management of the Hobsons Bay municipal drainage network.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 12 November 2019 Council resolved to place the Draft DAMP on public exhibition for four weeks.

One comment was received during this period, but did not result in any changes to the DAMP being presented for adoption.

Background

Council is responsible for the management of about 540km of stormwater pipes and over 20,000 stormwater pits with an estimated replacement value of \$227 million.

The DAMP combines management, financial, engineering and technical practices to ensure the level of service required is provided at the most economical cost to the community.

Discussion

A drainage condition audit was completed in 2018 to determine the physical condition and remaining useful life of Council's drainage assets, in order to inform the development of a long term renewal program. The majority of Council's drainage assets (98 per cent) are in very good to average condition with about 2 per cent in poor condition.

The drainage assets in poor condition represent Council's current backlog of works, and will be renewed via the Capital Works Program over the next five years.


There are numerous locations where streets are prone to flooding during storm events. To address this, Council has completed a flood analysis study to identify areas that require drainage improvement works. A long term program has been developed to construct new drainage infrastructure and upgrade parts of the existing network.

8.3.3 Roads and Bridges Asset Management Plans 2019

Directorate: Infrastructure and City Services

Councillor Portfolio: Not applicable

Appendices:

- 1 Roads Asset Management Plan 2019 
- 2 Bridge Asset Management Plan 2019

Purpose

To seek Council's endorsement of the Roads Asset Management Plan 2019 (RAMP) and Bridges Asset Management Plan 2019 (BAMP).

Motion

Moved Cr Jonathon Marsden, seconded Cr Sandra Wilson:

That Council adopts the Roads Asset Management Plan 2019 and Bridges Asset Management Plan 2019.

Carried unanimously

Recommendation

That Council adopts the Roads Asset Management Plan 2019 and Bridges Asset Management Plan 2019.

Summary

The RAMP and BAMP are the inaugural asset management plans for these asset classes.

Council resolved to place the Draft RAMP and Draft BAMP on public exhibition for four weeks at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 8 October 2019. The public exhibition was held between 1 November 2019 and 1 December 2019.

No comments or feedback were received from the community during the public exhibition period. Therefore, the RAMP (Appendix 1) and BAMP (Appendix 2) are being presented for adoption unchanged.

Background

The RAMP and BAMP are the inaugural asset management plans for these asset categories. The plans have been developed to manage the Hobsons Bay municipal road network and bridge portfolio, respectively. They combine management, financial, engineering and technical practices to ensure the required level of service is provided at the most economical cost to the community.

In 2017 Council adopted the Asset Management Policy and Improvement Action Plan. The Asset Management Policy provided the framework for sound investment decision making. The Improvement Action Plan presented a list of actions to improve Council's asset management performance and maturity, including the requirement for a RAMP and BAMP.

In implementing the action plan, asset management plans are being developed to:

- demonstrate responsible management of the asset base including systems and processes
- present the financial strategy to manage the renewal gap and deliver a defined level of service
- manage asset risk through long term planning

Discussion

Road network

Council is responsible for the management of 433km of roads (surface, pavements, kerb and channel only) having a replacement value (excluding land) of approximately \$394 million. It has been estimated that an additional 23km of roads will be constructed to service new developments including an additional 46km of kerb and channel. It is projected that the replacement value of the road network will increase to \$415 million by 2037.

Overall the road network is in good condition, with a small percentage in poor condition. About 25 per cent of the network is in average condition and will need attention over the next five to 10 years.

Under the current annual funding levels, the overall condition of the road network will deteriorate, requiring significant investment to renew the roads in the future. The expenditure required to renew the roads over the next 10 years is detailed in the Financial and Resource Implications section of the report.

The RAMP recommends an affordable level of funding to manage the renewal gap and condition of the road network. The required budget to improve the overall condition of the network and reduce the number of roads in poor condition over the next 20 years is also discussed in detail in the Financial and Resource Implications section of this report.

Bridges portfolio

Council is responsible for the management of 51 bridges with an estimated replacement value of \$25 million. The bridges portfolio consists of 14 road bridges and 37 foot bridges.

The majority of bridges are in a reasonable structural condition. The priority renewal works will address risk and safety issues such as replacement of missing or damaged handrails, guards and timber decking. These works will be carried out over future financial years.

The required expenditure to address the total current backlog of renewal works is detailed in the Financial and Resource Implications section of this report.

8.3.4 West Gate Tunnel Update

Directorate: Infrastructure and City Services

Councillor Portfolio: Integrated Transport - Cr Jonathon Marsden and Cr Sandra Wilson

Appendices: Nil

Cr Michael Grech left the Council Chamber at 8:17 pm. Cr Michael Grech returned to the Council Chamber at 8:22 pm and was present for the vote on Item 8.3.4.

Cr Sandra Wilson left the Council Chamber at 8:26 pm. Cr Sandra Wilson returned to the Council Chamber at 8:26 pm and was present for the vote on Item 8.3.4.

Purpose

To provide a current status report on the West Gate Tunnel Project (the Project) and associated initiatives, projects and advocacy activities.

Motion

Moved Cr Jonathon Marsden, seconded Cr Peter Hemphill:

That Council receives this update report on the current status of the West Gate Tunnel Project and Council's advocacy on aspects of the Project.

Carried unanimously

Recommendation

That Council receives this update report on the current status of the West Gate Tunnel Project and Council's advocacy on aspects of the Project.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide a monthly update on the current status of the Project, which is managed by an authority also known as the West Gate Tunnel Project (WGTP).

This update specifically includes an overview of the West Gate Neighbourhood Fund (the Neighbourhood Fund), including submissions received and considered by Council.

This update also details items submitted by WGTP for Council approval, Council's advocacy activities, communications and engagement, and capital works to be undertaken by Council as a result of the Project. Updates on the Open Space Enhancement Package (OSEP), Hobsons Bay Transport Planning Study (HBTSP), Community Liaison Group (CLG), Traffic Management Liaison Group, Business Involvement Plan and Inner West Air Quality Community Reference Group (Inner West AQCRG) are also provided.

Background

Following on from previous status update reports, Council advocacy is currently focused on seven strategic items that are detailed in the Discussion section of this report together with a status update on each item.

On 13 November 2019 WGTP announced the Neighbourhood Fund, a \$10 million grants and partnerships program established by the Victorian Government to support communities in Melbourne's inner west during the construction of the Project. Councils and not-for-profit groups within both Hobsons Bay and Maribyrnong can access funding for projects through the Neighbourhood Fund.

The fund will run for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years, with one round of partnerships and one round of grants in each financial year. The program is designed to prioritise those who are most affected by the construction of the West Gate Tunnel.

Partnerships will provide funding for larger projects seeking over \$100,000, such as community infrastructure, capital equipment and programs that build community leadership and participation, while grants will support community-led events and projects up to \$100,000.

Discussion

The Project includes works to:

- widen the West Gate Freeway, creating express lanes between the M80 Ring Road and the West Gate Bridge
- construct a tunnel from the West Gate Freeway to the Maribyrnong River and the Port of Melbourne
- construct a new bridge over the Maribyrnong River that connects with an elevated road along Footscray Road, linking to the CBD and the north
- install new technology across the length of the Project linking it to other freeway management systems across the city

The Project includes 14km of walking and cycling paths, creating a continuous journey from Werribee to the CBD.

The Project commenced in early 2018 following an extensive Environmental Effects Statement (EES) process and is due to finish in 2022. It is a partnership between the Victorian Government and Transurban and is being built as a joint venture between construction contractors CPB Contractors and John Holland (the JV).

The West Gate Freeway section that directly interfaces with Hobsons Bay includes:

- extra lanes on the freeway between the M80 Ring Road and Williamstown Road
- entry and exit portals where the tunnels connect with the West Gate Freeway
- a ventilation structure at the tunnel exit to remove air from inside the outbound tunnel
- interchange upgrades at the M80 Ring Road, Millers Road, Grieve Parade and Williamstown Road
- ramps to Hyde Street, Spotswood to connect trucks directly with local industry
- noise walls to reduce traffic noise for residents and in open spaces
- walking and cycling paths to complete missing links in the Federation and Kororoit Creek trails and better connect communities, including new overpasses over Williamstown Road and Stony Creek
- new pedestrian overpasses replacing the existing overpasses at Muir Street, Spotswood and Rosala Avenue, Altona North
- freeway management system to support improved traffic flow and safety
- new open spaces and planting of trees and vegetation in the freeway reservation and in some surrounding sites

Council Advocacy

Throughout the design and construction stages, Council has negotiated outcomes and improvements wherever possible that are consistent with its adopted position to optimise beneficial community outcomes. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been established between Council and the then West Gate Tunnel Authority to reflect the organisational roles and responsibilities and to resource Council officers in project delivery for the term of the Project.

The following are current advocacy issues being discussed with the JV and WGTP.

1. *Muir Street and Rosala Avenue pedestrian overpasses*

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 10 December 2019, Council considered a proposal by the JV to temporarily close the two pedestrian overpasses at Muir Street and Rosala Avenue for an extended period. Council, together with the Brooklyn, Altona North, Spotswood and South Kingsville communities, is concerned that this will result in inconvenience and poor access to services, shopping, work and education.

After considering information provided by the JV on the construction problems experienced, and to reduce delays to the Project, Council resolved to endorse the temporary closure of the pedestrian overpasses for a period no greater than four months subject to the following conditions:

- the provision of a comprehensive replacement community bus service up to 9.30pm, seven days per week (to be reviewed by Council and the JV after one month of service)
- additional transport arrangements on offer for residents requiring specific transport assistance for the full duration of the closures
- construction of the missing section of footpath connecting Fogarty Avenue, Yarraville with The Avenue, Spotswood prior to the closure of the Muir Street overpass
- a resolution of the Hall Street, Spotswood streetscape design that preserves the existing on-street parking on both sides of Hall Street and includes a shared use path (SUP) consistent with Council standards

Decisions on the closures, timing and any conditions are yet to be resolved by the JV and WGTP. A further report will be tabled with Council in April 2020 detailing the final proposal by JV in response to Council's December 2019 resolution. Council is also seeking further information from the WGTP regarding the location of the pillars required for the Muir Street pedestrian overpass. This is in response to concerns recently raised by residents in immediate proximity to the new pillars which are currently under construction.

2. *Hall Street streetscape design*

The current JV design for the Hall Street SUP results in a loss of up to 30 parking spaces and does not incorporate Council's desired streetscape and drainage requirements. Currently there are 60 parking spaces. However, the proposed design reduces the capacity to 30 parking spaces. Council requires a resolution of the design that preserves the car parking on both sides of Hall Street to service the Spotswood Activity Centre.

Council seeks a coordinated approach with WGTP to achieve an optimal outcome for the Hall Street streetscape, SUP alignment, road design cross section and the drainage outfall design. Alternative designs are currently being developed by the JV for Council consideration.

3. Kororoit Creek shared use path

Following Council's advocacy, WGTP has now approved the variation to the Project Scope Requirements to include the missing section of the new SUP under Grieve Parade. This will match the new concrete path constructed by Council at GJ Hosken Reserve, Altona North (start of Stage 2 of the Kororoit Creek Trail).

Outstanding issues in relation to the Kororoit Creek area include the proposed public art, tree planting and landscaping, trail design alignment at the Bluestone Bridge, cultural interpretation and wayfinding. Discussions to resolve these issues continue between Council officers, Friends of Lower Kororoit Creek, WGTP's heritage consultant and other design specialists.

4. AusNet easement – overhead 66KV powerlines at southern tunnel

Council has accepted the temporary alignment of overhead powerlines in The Avenue Reserve, Spotswood and the northern boundary of the Precinct 15 site in the AusNet easement along Watson Street, Altona North. This temporary approval was granted on the understanding that the JV was continuing to progress the freeway widening works. The Project objective and initial designs submitted through the EES indicated that the powerlines would be placed underground within the easement. The JV is expected to confirm the underground alignment and complete these works prior to September 2022.

5. Play space and public art – southern tunnel portal

Council has requested that the JV relocate the play space and public art from the new open space area at the northern end of New Street, South Kingsville to Donald McLean Reserve, Spotswood as a more appropriate location, given the significant infrastructure surrounding the New Street site.

Council will commence the design process for the open space located on the western boundary of Donald McLean Reserve in the first quarter of 2020 and has sought the JV's commitment to contribute to the open space development within the reserve.

6. Landscape plans and tree replacement

Current tree offset planting numbers for Hobsons Bay are less than the stipulated five new trees for every one removed within the total project area. Council has previously submitted a request for WGTP to consider additional locations within Hobsons Bay and continues to nominate appropriate locations.

Landscape plans for public information have been developed for key areas including Kororoit Creek, the New Street southern tunnel portal area, Stony Creek and the Hyde Street area. Offset planting for the Pipeline Reserve (Federation Trail) in Brooklyn has now been confirmed by the JV.

7. Paringa Road at Millers Road

Council has provided approval for the temporary closure of Paringa Road, Altona North until mid-2020.

A permanent closure of Paringa Road at Millers Road is in the current JV design. This permanent closure will impact the shops located from 84-122 Millers Road, also known as the "16 shops". Council is seeking a resolution with the JV to mitigate this impact.

West Gate Neighbourhood Fund

Council has received and considered the following twenty project proposals:

- Brooklyn Community Hall redevelopment
- Hobsons Bay and Maribyrnong Cities Urban Forest, encompassing Brooklyn, Altona North, Spotswood and South Kingsville in the Hobsons Bay municipal area
- Establishment of a dog off-leash park at Marsh Street, Altona North
- GJ Hosken Reserve Master Plan implementation
- Pipeline Reserve, Brooklyn redevelopment to include further landscaping, seating and a dedicated pedestrian pathway
- South Kingsville Community Centre renewal
- Significant gateway artwork in Spotswood
- Sculpture prize event along Spotswood, Newport, Williamstown and Altona waterfront
- Williamstown Beach jetty refurbishment
- Kororoit Creek Bluestone Bridge Development works
- Freeway Underpass/Millers Road, coloured lighting project
- Continuation of Public Art along the Kororoit Creek Trail Stage 1
- Eames Avenue, Brooklyn Creative Spaces
- Chasing Ferrets augmented reality telling the stories of Brooklyn
- Brooklyn Community Garden
- Spotswood Music in art
- Altona Gate music on the rooftop
- Altona Gate vertical garden
- Constructed wetland systems within the Altona North industrial precincts
- Born in a Taxi, community theatre program focusing on recycling

At the time of writing, several community clubs and regional not-for-profit agencies have contacted Council to discuss project proposals, some of which seek Council support for their project. Not all of these proposed funding submissions seek a financial contribution from Council. In these cases, Council would provide a letter of support where the proposal is consistent with Council core objectives.

In light of the impending closing date, Council will continue to field enquiries relating to the Neighbourhood Fund partnerships program and support projects accordingly.

The grants program under the Neighbourhood Fund will support community-led projects that improve community access and participation. Not-for-profit community organisations can apply directly to WGTP for funding in three categories:

- Up to \$10,000 for a one-off project that aims to improve community connectedness and participation
- Up to \$20,000 for festivals, events, and installations that bring local people together
- Up to \$100,000 for improvements to local community, sporting and recreation facilities, and local environments.

Applications for the grants program are expected to open over the coming months.

Further information on the Neighbourhood Fund can be sourced via the Project website at: <http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/community/grants>

Construction Activity

The JV has undertaken key works at the freeway interchanges at the M80 Ring Road, Grieve Parade and Millers Road during the January summer construction blitz.

This work included rebuilding ramps that go over the West Gate Freeway at the M80 Ring Road interchange with new frames to allow space for the freeway widening works. New entry and exit ramps at Millers Road have also been constructed and more barriers have been placed to prepare for continued freeway widening works during 2020.

During this time, freeway ramps were temporarily closed around the West Gate Freeway and M80 Ring Road interchange, with traffic delays of up to 30 minutes recorded.

Key construction activities being undertaken by the JV in the western section include:

- works to widen the West Gate Freeway between Chambers Road, Altona North and Grieve Parade, and the installation of new noise walls
- construction of retaining walls and bridge structural works, including excavation and piling at various locations
- 220KV and 66KV powerline relocations along the edge of the freeway
- construction of two new pedestrian overpasses replacing those at Muir Street and Rosala Avenue
- Kororoit Creek and Newport-Sunshine Rail Bridge widening works
- Millers Road and Williamstown Road bridge structure widening and traffic lane switches, adjusting the alignment of the freeway to allow preparation for the inbound tunnel entry

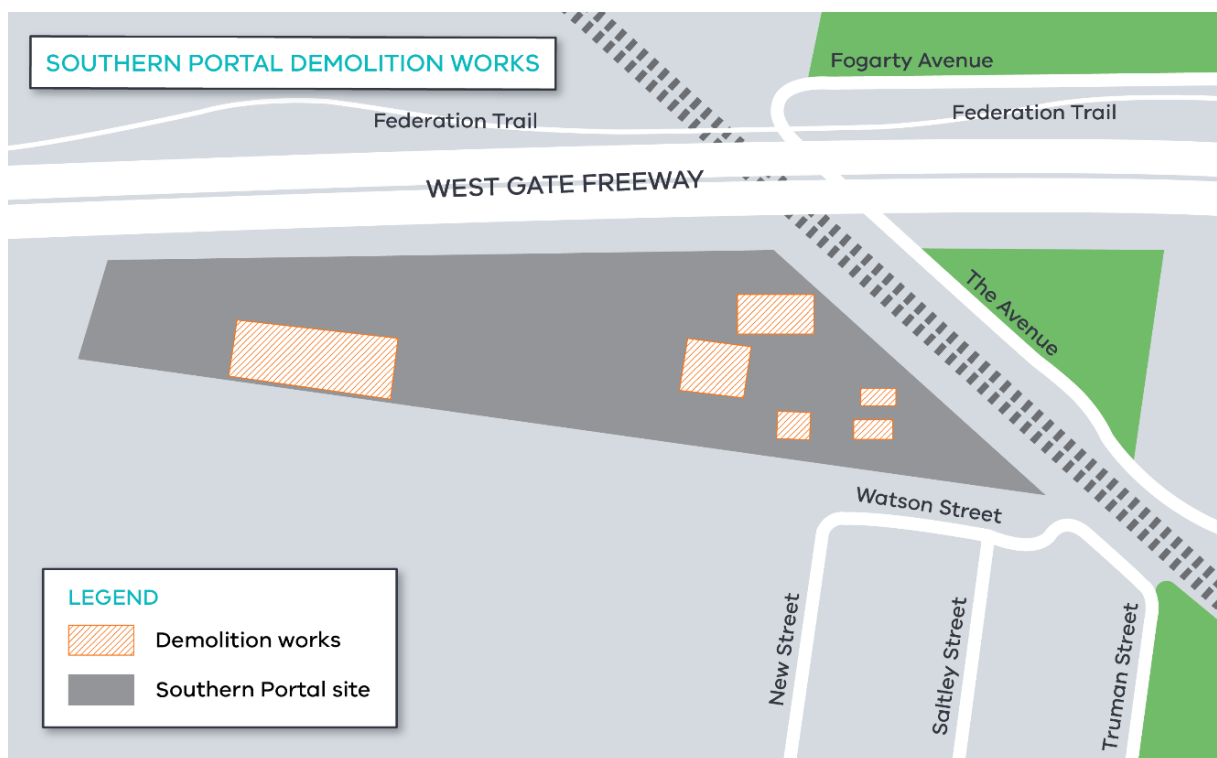


Figure 1: Southern portal site works

Works continue at the southern portal site, where the outbound tunnel will meet the West Gate Freeway, to establish the construction site at the end of New and Watson Streets (Figure 1). An increase in vehicle movements around the site due to demolition works as well as some additional construction traffic on Kyle Road, Altona North due to ongoing outbound southern portal site works has been observed.

Three low-rise brick buildings and two steel sheds containing asbestos cladding have been demolished within the site. All asbestos was removed in accordance with approved procedures and standards by a fully licensed asbestos removal contractor.

The following measures have been taken by the JV to minimise impacts on surrounding residents.

- all heavy construction vehicles to enter and exit the site using Kyle Road
- vehicle movements to and from the site to be coordinated by a traffic controller
- all demolition materials to be loaded by an excavator within the site boundary
- dust control measures including site water points, wetting down of open areas, covered trucks and street sweeping
- a 1.8m high temporary fence installed around the site boundary during demolition
- signage placed per requirements to advise of demolition works, construction vehicles and other general construction hazards
- notification of key construction activity to be distributed in the surrounding area

Construction Traffic Impacts and Disruptions

Major roads disruptions in the current reporting period include:

- 13 Jan to 17 February – Millers Road outbound on and off-ramps to West Gate Freeway closed
- 13 Jan to 28 February – Geelong Road to Princes Freeway outbound ramp closed
- 13 Jan to 28 February – M80 Ring Road to West Gate Freeway inbound ramp closed

Some additional night time and freeway ramp closures have been programmed, with detailed traffic management and communications plans to be implemented in the lead up to closures.

Further details on traffic disruptions are available at:

<http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/travel disruptions>

Property Impacts

The JV is occupying a number of sites along the Project corridor for compounds, storage site offices and staff parking. The JV has recently entered into licence agreements with Council for temporary occupation of the northern section of The Avenue Reserve for construction access purposes, and a section of GJ Hosken Reserve adjacent to the existing construction compound for parking purposes. The acquisition and divestment of small Council-owned land parcels for the Project freeway widening works are being finalised by WGTP.

Open Space Enhancement Package

The OSEP was endorsed at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 13 February 2018 and is supported by the Victorian Government through a \$5 million contribution, and \$2.86 million contributed by Council. The current status of the OSEP is described below.

Item	Status
DN Duane Reserve, Brooklyn improvements	Detailed design and documentation completed and contract awarded. Construction has now commenced with completion expected in mid-2020.
Brooklyn Reserve improvements	
Rowan Avenue Reserve, Brooklyn improvements	The scoping of redevelopment options for the Brooklyn Community Hall has commenced.

WLJ Crofts Reserve, Altona North
Master Plan, pavilion and improvement
works

The design and construction contract for the pavilions and car parking have been awarded and works will commence early 2020 for expected completion in early 2021.

Donald McLean Reserve, Spotswood
Improvement Plan, pavilion review and
works

Upgrades of Oval 1 and the multiuse courts are well advanced at the Donald McLean Reserve.

A separate report considering a petition that raised concerns with the relocation of the cricket practice nets is tabled for Council in February 2020.

Hobsons Bay Transport Planning Study

The Department of Transport (DoT) is leading the HBTPS in partnership with Council. A project report for the study area has been completed by project consultant WSP. This will be used to guide community engagement, defining issues and opportunities previously identified by the community and respective agencies. The HBTPS will consider findings from the Transport Corridor Study, also led by the DoT, to identify and address key transport impacts of the Project on the Williamstown Road and Millers Road corridors.

A project brief has been prepared for the development of the Local Area Movement Plans (LAMPs) for Brooklyn, Altona North, Spotswood, South Kingsville and Williamstown North. These LAMPs will be developed consistent with the objectives of the HBTPS and Council's Integrated Transport Plan.

It is anticipated that both the HBTPS and the Spotswood LAMP will be available for the purposes of undertaking community engagement in March 2020.

Community Liaison Group

The last West CLG meeting was a joint meeting with the North CLG held on 12 December 2019. The agenda included an overview of the Schools Engagement Program, a summary of the year's activities from WGTP and a construction update from the JV.

Further information on the CLG including copies of meeting notes and presentations can be found at: <http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/clg/>

Traffic Management Liaison Group

The last meeting of the Traffic Management Liaison Group on 14 November 2019 provided an update on various traffic management aspects of the Project. Traffic monitoring across the network continues, especially during the summer construction blitz. While expected delays have occurred, no major issues have been identified with the recent major freeway lane and ramp temporary closures. Council officers continue to raise community concerns regarding project trucks operating in residential streets, particularly in Spotswood and South Kingsville, and congestion issues at the Millers Road interchange ramps.

Business Involvement Plan

The Project has social and economic requirements and targets to support local businesses and provide local employment opportunities. An Industry Capability Network has been established, with Hobsons Bay businesses invited to participate. An online trader directory has been in place since 2018, and the JV Business Engagement team has been working closely with Council's Economic Development unit to connect local businesses to the Project.

Inner West Air Quality Community Reference Group

The Inner West AQCRG provides community members with the opportunity to provide community insight and input to future improvements for air quality in the inner west. The Inner West AQCRG will complete its report to the Honourable Lily D'Ambrosio MP, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change in March 2020.

The last meeting was held on 18 December 2019 when the Inner West AQCRG continued to review the draft of the report, focusing on:

- monitoring, analysis and reporting
- next steps
- appendices
- planning

Further information can be found at:

www.environment.vic.gov.au/sustainability/inner-west-air-quality-reference-group

Air quality monitoring for the Project has been established at six Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations to develop baseline data from current local conditions (see link below). This baseline will be used to measure any changes once the tunnel opens in 2022. Monitoring will continue for up to five years following the opening of the tunnel.

The air quality report for October 2019 has been published on the Project website at:

<http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/about/keytopics/tunnel-ventilation-and-air-quality>

9 Delegates Report

Nil.

10 Notices of Motion

Nil.

11 Supplementary Public Question Time

Louise Keramaris

Q. Given the massive port development to 2030, can Council include this as an Advocacy Priority for next year, and every year to 2030?

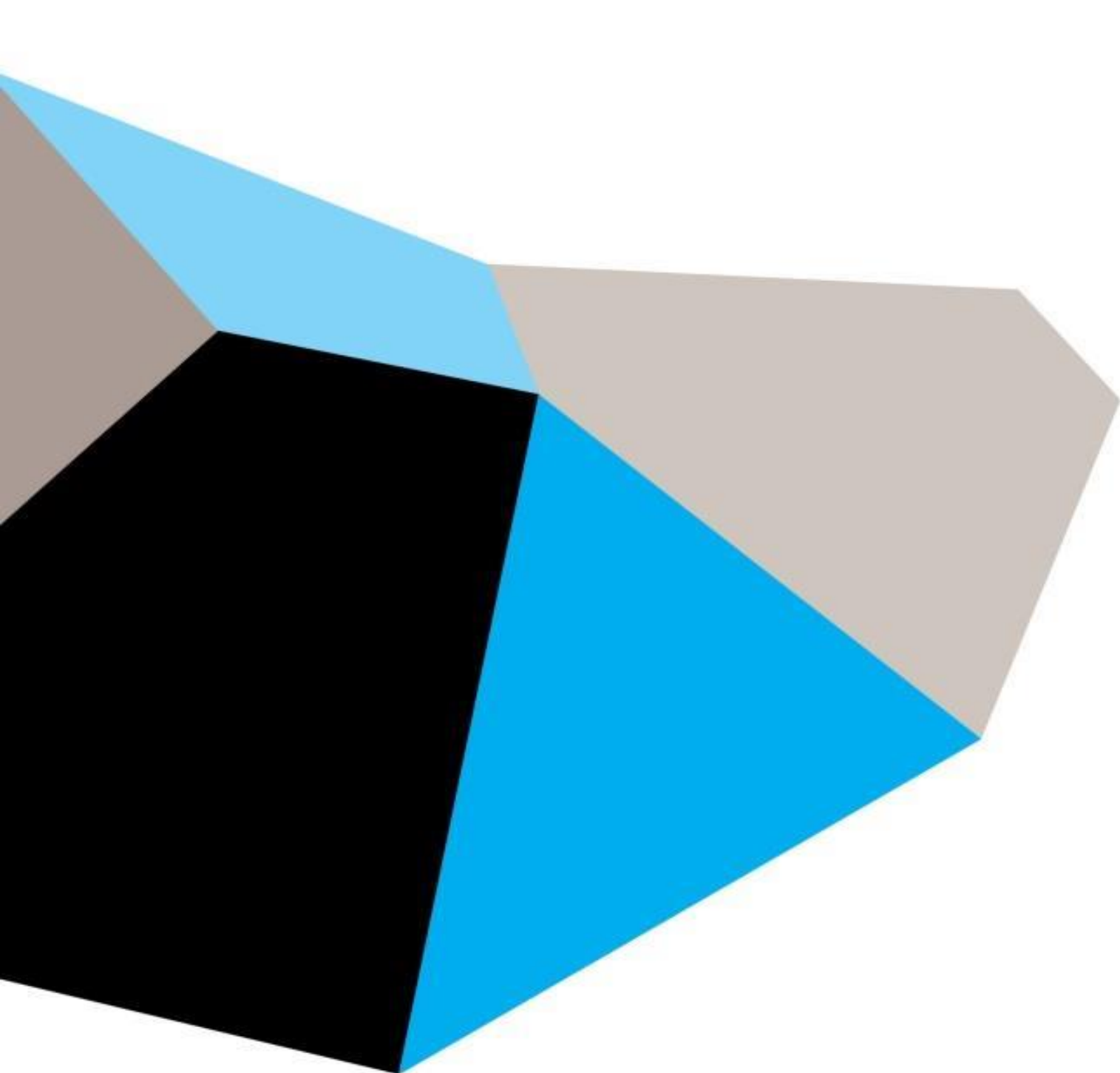
A. Council has adopted its Advocacy Priorities for 2020, but this item could certainly be considered by Council in the development of advocacy priorities for future years.

12 Urgent and Other Business

Nil.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 8.29pm.

Chairperson – Cr Colleen Gates
Signed and certified as having been confirmed.
10 March 2020



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