



# Council Meeting Agenda

Tuesday 9 March 2021  
Commencing at 7.00 PM

Council Chamber  
Hobsons Bay Civic Centre  
115 Civic Parade, Altona

**HOBSONS**  
**BAY CITY**  
COUNCIL



## OUR 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 Jonathon Marsden (Mayor)

Strand Ward

### Councillors:

Cr Daria Kellander (Deputy Mayor)

Cherry Lake Ward

Cr Tony Briffa JP

Cherry Lake Ward

Cr Peter Hemphill

Strand Ward

Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud

Strand Ward

Cr Diana Grima

Wetlands Ward

Cr Matt Tyler

Wetlands Ward

Aaron van Egmond  
Chief Executive Officer  
Hobsons Bay City Council

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1 Council Welcome and Acknowledgement.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2 Apologies .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3 Disclosure of Interest .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4 Confirmation of Minutes .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4.1 Confirmation of Minutes .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5 Councillor Questions .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>6 Public Question Time .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>7 Petitions and Joint Letters.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>7.1 Petitions and Joint Letters Received.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>8 Certificate Presentations .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>8.1 Certificate of Recognition - Mr Kim Walsh .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>9 Business.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>9.1 Office of the Chief Executive .....</b>	<b>7</b>
9.1.1 Chief Executive Officer's Report on Operations.....	7
<b>9.2 Corporate Services.....</b>	<b>9</b>
9.2.1 Council Plan Initiatives and Local Government Performance Reporting Framework - Half Year Progress Update 2020-21.....	9
9.2.2 Road Discontinuance - 8 Simcock Avenue, Spotswood .....	12
<b>9.3 Sustainable Communities.....</b>	<b>15</b>
9.3.1 Hobsons Bay City Council's Emissions Reduction Pledge .....	15
9.3.2 Hobsons Bay Business has Heart Outdoors Consultation.....	18
<b>9.4 Infrastructure and City Services .....</b>	<b>25</b>
9.4.1 Draft Hobsons Bay Coastal and Marine Management Plan .....	25
9.4.2 West Gate Tunnel Project Update .....	30
<b>10 Delegate Reports .....</b>	<b>39</b>
10.1.1 Truganina Explosives Reserve Advisory Committee .....	39
10.1.2 Metropolitan Transport Forum .....	40
<b>11 Notices of Motion.....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>12 Supplementary Public Question Time .....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>13 Urgent Business .....</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>14 Close of Meeting .....</b>	<b>41</b>

## **1 Council Welcome and Acknowledgement**

The Chairperson will welcome members of the gallery and acknowledge that Council is gathered on the traditional land of the Kulin nation and offers its respect to elders past and present.

## **2 Apologies**

The Chairperson will call for apologies received from Councillors who are unable to attend this meeting.

## **3 Disclosure of Interest**

In accordance with sections 127 and 128 of the *Local Government Act 2020* Councillors are required to disclose a general or material conflict of interest. A conflict of interest must be disclosed in accordance with rule 15.3 of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules.

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

## **4 Confirmation of Minutes**

### **4.1 Confirmation of Minutes**

Confirmation of the minutes of the Council Meeting of Hobsons Bay City Council held on 9 February 2021 and the minutes of the Unscheduled Council Meeting of Hobsons Bay City Council held on 22 February 2021 (copies previously circulated).

## **5 Councillor Questions**

## **6 Public Question Time**

Public Question Time provides an opportunity for the public to ask questions related to items on the agenda of the Council meeting or any other matter within Council's responsibility. Questions must be put in writing and received by 12pm on the day before the Council meeting.

## **7 Petitions and Joint Letters**

### **7.1 Petitions and Joint Letters Received**

No petitions or joint letters were received at the time of printing the Council Meeting agenda.

## **8 Certificate Presentations**

### **8.1 Certificate of Recognition - Mr Kim Walsh**

**Directorate:** Corporate Services  
**Responsible Officer:** Governance Officer  
**Reviewer:** Director Corporate Services  
**Attachments:** Nil

#### **Purpose**

To present a Certificate of Recognition to Mr Kim Walsh.

#### **Recommendation**

**That Council presents a Certificate of Recognition to Mr Kim Walsh in recognition of his extraordinary contribution to the community of Hobsons Bay through his role as President of the Altona Village Traders Association for 20 years.**

#### **Summary**

At the Council Meeting held on 8 December 2020, Council resolved to recognise Mr Kim Walsh for his extraordinary contribution to the Hobsons Bay community through his role as President of the Altona Village Traders Association.

The presentation of the Certificate of Recognition was originally to be held at the Council Meeting on 9 February 2021 but was postponed due to restrictions during the February COVID-19 snap lockdown.

The Mayor will present the certificate to Mr Walsh at the Council Meeting held on 9 March 2021.

## 9 Business

### 9.1 Office of the Chief Executive

#### 9.1.1 Chief Executive Officer's Report on Operations

<b>Directorate:</b>	Office of the Chief Executive
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Chief Executive Officer
<b>Attachments:</b>	1. CEO Report on Operations [9.1.1.1 - 35 pages]

#### Purpose

To present the Chief Executive Officer's (CEO's) Report on Operations (Attachment 1).

#### Recommendation

**That Council receives and notes the Chief Executive Officer's Report on Operations, including details of recent issues and initiatives undertaken by the organisation.**

#### 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 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.

In accordance with rule 10.7.1 of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules, Council maintains records of meetings attended by Councillors in the CEO's Report on Operations to ensure transparency and equity of information. A summary of meetings for the period between 1 February 2021 and 28 February 2021 is provided in this month's report.

#### Strategic Alignment

Council provides a wide range of services to the community of Hobsons Bay as well as developing and delivering actions to ensure community assets are maintained and service the needs of the community. Each month this report highlights these activities, initiatives and projects and provides a high-level performance summary.

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

#### Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

**Priority 2:** Community wellbeing and inter-connection.

## **Council Plan 2017-21**

### **Goal 4: A Council of excellence**

- 4.3 Provide excellent customer service while ensuring all our communications are clear and easy to understand.

## **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

Council staff involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.



## 9.2 Corporate Services

### 9.2.1 Council Plan Initiatives and Local Government Performance Reporting Framework - Half Year Progress Update 2020-21

<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Corporate Improvement, Planning and Reporting Officer
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Corporate Services
<b>Attachment:</b>	1. Half Year Progress Report - Council Plan Initiatives and LGPRF 2020-21 [9.2.1.1 - 15 pages]

#### Purpose

To provide Council with an update on the progress of the initiatives that are included in the annual budget to support the achievement of the Council Plan 2017-21, as well as to report on the half-year results of the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) indicators.

#### Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Notes the progress made on the 2020-21 initiatives and major initiatives for the Council Plan 2017-21.**
2. **Notes the half-year results for the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework indicators.**

#### Summary

Each financial year, Council's performance is measured against the progress of initiatives and the indicators prescribed in the LGPRF. This half-year progress report provides updates on how Council is progressing on both these measures for the period from July to December 2020, for the 2020-21 financial year.

As of 31 December 2020, of the 24 initiatives that were committed to this year, three have been completed and one is marked as behind schedule, while the remaining 20 projects are progressing on plan.

The LGPRF half-year results indicate that Council is tracking to achieve similar or better results compared to the same period of the last financial year in 25 of the indicators (45 per cent) and will need to improve on 27 (49 per cent) to achieve similar results as the previous year.

#### Background

The Council Plan is developed every four years and reviewed annually in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020*. It guides the work of Council over the period of four years by setting goals and objectives that are achieved through the delivery of Council services and initiatives.

The Council Plan 2017-21 is made up of four goal areas, each comprising five objectives which describe what Council will do for the period. The initiatives are identified annually through the budget process to support the delivery of each objective.

The LGPRF is a mandatory system of reporting requiring all councils to report on their service performance in a consistent format as a part of their Annual Report and via Local Government Victoria's Know Your Council website (<https://knowyourcouncil.vic.gov.au>). The framework consists of several performance indicators that are comparable between councils.

The half-year reporting of LGPRF consists of three sets of indicators: service performance, financial performance and sustainability. The half-year report is an internal reporting tool for Council to monitor and manage progress, while the annual results are published in December every year on the Know Your Council website.

## Discussion

The 2020-21 Annual Budget included 24 projects, of which 10 were carried over from the previous year. Of the 24 projects, 15 projects are classed as initiatives and nine as major initiatives (priority projects).

As of 31 December 2020, three initiatives have been completed: the implementation of the Youth Digital Engagement Strategy, the creation of the Mayoral Program short film series and the new Library Management System (LMS) planning, implementation and integration with current library technologies.

One initiative (the co-design, planning and delivery of the Creative Technology Hub at Seaworks) is marked as behind schedule due to COVID-19 restrictions, while the remaining 20 projects are progressing on plan. The attached document provides details of the projects and their status.

The LGPRF half-year report consists of a total of 52 performance indicators, including a set of service performance, financial performance and sustainability indicators. Of the 52 indicators, Council is tracking to achieve similar or better results compared to the same period last year in 25 indicators (48 per cent) and will have to improve in 27 indicators (52 per cent) in order to achieve similar results as the previous year. The relevant Coordinators have been advised of how they are tracking compared to last year so corrective action can be taken.

Care should be taken when interpreting the data contained within the LGPRF report, particularly for financial and sustainability results, as the timing of revenue or expenditure recognition may not be uniform throughout the year.

## Strategic Alignment.

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

### Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

This report relates to all six priorities in the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision.

## Council Plan 2017-21

### Goal 4: A Council of excellence

**Objective 4.2:** Be a more efficient and effective organisation by having a strong focus on continuous improvement, innovation, strategic planning and responsible financial management.

## Policies and Related Council Documents

The Council Plan 2017-21 was adopted at the Council Meeting on 27 June 2017.

The Annual Budget for the financial year ending 30 June 2021, which included the initiatives and services for the year, was adopted at the Council Meeting on 25 August 2020.

## Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

The annual reporting of the progress of the major initiatives is required by section 98(3)(b) of the *Local Government Act* 2020, while the LGPRF reporting is mandated under the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.

## Financial and Resource Implications

The initiatives and services are funded through Council's annual budget.

## Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

The delivery of the initiatives and services supports Council in achieving the four goal areas of the Council Plan 2017-21 which aim to address the environmental, social and economic issues affecting the municipality.

## Consultation and Communication

The Council Plan 2017-21 was developed through consultation with the community, stakeholders and Council. The initiatives and major initiatives were derived from the list of projects and the budgets proposed by Directors, Managers and Coordinators.

## Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act* 2020 requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

Council staff involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## 9.2.2 Road Discontinuance - 8 Simcock Avenue, Spotswood

<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Coordinator Property and Insurance
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Corporate Services
<b>Attachments:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Road Proposed to be Discontinued and Sold - 8 Simcock Avenue, Spotswood [9.2.2.1 - 1 page]</li><li>2. Survey Plan - 8 Simcock Avenue, Spotswood [9.2.2.2 - 1 page]</li></ol>

### Purpose

To consider discontinuing the 5.64m wide road adjoining 8 Simcock Avenue, Spotswood, and selling the land to the adjoining property owner.

### Recommendation

#### That Council:

1. Having considered the matters detailed in this report and being of the opinion that the road adjoining 8 Simcock Avenue, Spotswood is not reasonably required as a road for public use, discontinues the road in accordance with section 206 and clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
2. Directs that a notice be published in the *Victoria Government Gazette*.
3. Directs that the land from the road be sold by private treaty to the owner of the abutting property in accordance with Council's policy.
4. Signs all documents relating to the sale of the land from the discontinued road to the owner of the abutting property.
5. Directs that arrangements be made to remove the road from Council's Register of Public Roads once the discontinuance is gazetted.

### Summary

Council resolved on 8 December 2020 to commence procedures for the discontinuance and sale of the road adjoining 8 Simcock Avenue, Spotswood, shown hatched in Attachments 1 and 2.

Public notice of the proposed discontinuance and sale of the road was given in the *Maribyrnong and Hobsons Bay Star Weekly* newspaper and on Council's website on 20 January 2021. The adjoining owner and the registered proprietor of the land were also notified in writing of the proposal with submissions to be received within 28 days of the date of the notice.

No submissions have been received.

## Background

Council has received a request from Henry Trucking Pty Ltd, the owner of the land surrounding the road at 8 Simcock Avenue, Spotswood, for the discontinuance and sale of the 5.64m wide road adjoining the property.

The road has not been constructed and does not appear to have been used for access for many years. However, the road is listed on Council's Register of Public Roads. If the discontinuance is approved arrangements will be made to remove the road from the register.

Given that the applicant owns all of the surrounding land, the road is considered to be no longer reasonably required for public use and accordingly its discontinuance and sale is recommended.

## Discussion

The land from the road remains in the name of ACI Operations Pty Ltd, which had previously owned the surrounding land since 1981.

Council's road discontinuance procedures under the *Local Government Act 1989* (the LG Act 1989) apply to the land.

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

### Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

**Priority 3:** Growth through innovation, access to local jobs, technology and education

### Council Plan 2017-21

#### Goal 2: A great place

**Objective 2.3:** Support the growth of our local economy and encourage business investment that creates and maintains local jobs.

## Policies and Related Council Documents

The discontinuance and sale of the road is in accordance with Council's Policy for the discontinuance, closure and sale of rights of way/roads.

## Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

The statutory process to discontinue and sell the road has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the LG Act 1989.

The implications of this report have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Charter for Human Rights and Responsibilities.

## **Financial and Resource Implications**

The applicant has agreed to acquire the land at its current market value of \$170,500.00 (including GST) as assessed by Council's contract valuer, as well as reimbursing Council its reasonable costs incurred in undertaking the road discontinuance procedures.

## **Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts**

There are no environmental, social or economic impacts resulting from the proposal.

## **Consultation and Communication**

All necessary Council departments and service authorities have been consulted in respect to the proposal and no objections have been received.

Neither Council nor any of the service authorities have any assets within the road or requirements over the land.

Furthermore, public notice of Council's intentions has been given and no submissions have been received.

## **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

Council staff involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## 9.3 Sustainable Communities

### 9.3.1 Hobsons Bay City Council's Emissions Reduction Pledge

<b>Directorate:</b>	Sustainable Communities
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Sustainability Officer - Spatial Analyst
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Sustainable Communities
<b>Attachment:</b>	1. Hobsons Bay Climate Pledge Climate Change Act 2017 [9.3.1.1 - 2 pages]

#### Purpose

To make an emissions reduction pledge (Attachment 1) under Victoria's *Climate Change Act 2017* (the CC Act) demonstrating Council's contributions to reducing the state's emissions.

#### Recommendation

**That Council submits a voluntary pledge as attached under Victoria's *Climate Change Act 2017* to the Victorian Government.**

#### Summary

Council has a strong commitment to addressing climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, including through significant direct action such as the Virtual Solar project.

Council can submit a voluntary pledge to the Victorian Government showcasing the actions Council is taking to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The pledge will be showcased on the Victorian Government website along with the other council pledges.

#### Background

The CC Act legislates a target of net zero emissions by 2050 and provides a clear signal to all sectors of the Victorian economy for sustained and significant actions to reduce emissions.

The Act invites voluntary council pledges to reduce emissions in line with interim targets. Council pledges are submitted to the Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and Minister for Solar Homes.

#### Discussion

Voluntary council pledges under the CC Act seek to acknowledge the substantial efforts of local governments on climate change. Council pledges are intended to recognise actions Council is taking that help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Hobsons Bay experiences a range of adverse effects of climate change as a result of a coastal location, extensive industrial footprint, and frequent flooding. Council recognises has a strong commitment to taking actions to address climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This is clearly articulated in the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision.

Over the next five years Council is committed to reducing its own direct emissions through Virtual Power (a large-scale solar program), retrofitting existing buildings, LED street lighting installations, and transitioning Council's fleet to electric and low emission vehicles. Council's commitment through these actions meets the requirements of a council pledge.

Council is also in the process of finalising a Climate Change Plan that supports these actions and others that will strengthen community resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Making this pledge acknowledges Council's emission reduction efforts to date and reinforces Council's commitment to acting strongly for the changes necessary to respond to climate change.

## **Strategic Alignment**

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

### **Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision**

**Priority 5:** Activate sustainable practices

### **Council Plan 2017-21**

**Goal 3: A well designed, maintained and environmentally sustainable place**

**Objective 3.5:** Work with the community, businesses and all levels of government to actively and innovatively address climate change and promote sustainable living.

## **Policies and Related Council Documents**

The Community Greenhouse Strategy 2013-30 was adopted at the Council Meeting on 22 October 2013.

The process for fast tracking the installation of solar panels on Council buildings, including the proposed procurement approach and approved funding to be brought forward via the Infrastructure Reserve, was endorsed at the Council Meeting on 8 October 2019.

An update on the solar installation program was provided at the Council Meeting on 25 August 2020, including the endorsement of further work to expand opportunities for the Hobsons Bay community to be part of the Virtual Power Plant.

## **Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk**

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council is required to:

- give priority to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations
- promote the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks
- ensure its decisions, actions, and information are transparent



In accordance with the CC Act, Council is required to have regard to the potential impacts of climate change and consider the long and short-term economic, environmental, health and other social impacts, of climate change.

The CC Act legislates a target of net zero emissions by 2050 and provides a clear signal to all sectors of the Victorian economy for sustained and significant actions to reduce emissions. The Act requests pledges to reduce emissions in line with interim targets. Voluntary council pledges are associated with actions that will reduce emissions related to the performance of a council's powers and duties under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

## **Financial and Resource Implications**

There is no direct financial impact arising from this report.

## **Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts**

Council's pledge supports Council's commitment to achieve zero net emissions. It also further enables the achievement of an aspirational target to assist the Hobsons Bay community to achieve zero net emissions by 2030.

## **Consultation and Communication**

During the development of the Hobsons Bay Community Vision 2030, a representative sample of the community came together to shape the community's many voices into a vision for 2030. One of the six priorities in the vision, "activate sustainable practices", states the community's need for Council to lead and support the community in addressing greenhouse gas emissions.

## **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

Council staff involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

### 9.3.2 Hobsons Bay Business has Heart Outdoors Consultation

<b>Directorate:</b>	Sustainable Communities
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Coordinator Economic Development and Social Policy
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Sustainable Communities
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

#### Purpose

To provide an overview of the Hobsons Bay Business has Heart Outdoors program and outline options for next steps of the program.

#### Recommendation

##### That Council:

1. **Extends individual Hobsons Bay Business has Heart Outdoors extended trading areas to 31 May 2021 for any businesses that wish to extend.**
2. **Ceases Council servicing of communal areas at the end of March, with the option for furniture to be retained where benefiting businesses agree to service the communal area.**
3. **Reallocates \$100,000 (one hundred thousand dollars) from Council's third Community Support Package to fund the extended outdoor trading initiative until 31 May 2021.**
4. **Consults with participating businesses and impacted community members to inform a proposal for a longer term extended trading program, to be presented to Council in May 2021.**

#### Summary

Since October 2020, Council has implemented 43 extended trading areas across the municipality, including extended footpath trading zones, parklets, barriers and one road closure. A total of 193 businesses have participated in the program.

The program was run as a six month initiative in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, with extended trading areas due to be removed on 31 March 2021, but initial feedback from traders and community members indicates that there is significant support for the program to continue beyond this date.

Further consultation needs to be undertaken to determine what the future of extended outdoor trading will look like. It is recommended that an initial two month extension of individual business trading areas is supported, while future options are explored.

## Background

### Establishment of the Hobsons Bay Business has Heart Outdoors program

During the first 2020 lockdown Council ran a number of roundtables with local businesses from a number of sectors. In the hospitality group, one of the key opportunities identified was around encouraging residents to reconnect with their local shopping strips and cafes as the lockdown eased, supporting local connections and enabling local businesses to diversify their operations during the initial recovery period. Work commenced on a grants program, Hobsons Bay Business has Heart, for groups of businesses to run local activities and events, which was funded as part of Council's August Budget.

On 14 September 2020 the Victorian Government announced measures to assist the hospitality industry to reopen following COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. With the support of a significant Victorian Government grant, Council was able to broaden the Hobsons Bay Business has Heart program to deliver an outdoor dining activation. The activation allowed Council to both provide immediate support to businesses impacted by the pandemic and create inviting public spaces that would bring the community back to activity centres.

The outdoor dining program was run as a one-off six month recovery support package, timed to maximise the benefit of Hobsons Bay's outdoor spaces during the summer season. Council took a broader approach to outdoor dining and offered the program to all businesses, not only hospitality businesses. The six month program was offered to businesses free of charge to support recovery from the impacts of the pandemic. All businesses were advised of the program in early October with the program very actively promoted across the municipality to ensure businesses were aware of the opportunity. Businesses were invited to register their interest to participate in the program through a range of options including footpath trading, parklets, and communal public space. Officers met with the four Hobsons Bay trader associations providing information on the six month program and how businesses could participate.

Over 230 submissions were received from businesses, either requesting an outdoor trading area or expressing their support for other businesses. A small number of submissions opposed outdoor trading in their precinct with concerns about negative effects on parking, foot traffic or access to their businesses.

Wherever possible, Council utilised local suppliers. In a positive outcome, local business Pallets with Purpose, which had operated as tour operator Get Lost Travel Group prior to the pandemic, was engaged as a key supplier of this project. Using a local business to deliver a project which in turn supported other local businesses, ensured that Council invested directly, not only in the local economy, but in supporting the recovery of a local business that had pivoted their operations dramatically in 2020.

Delivery commenced on 19 October 2020 with installation of decking at Harrington Square, Altona; Eames Avenue, Brooklyn; and Challis Street, Newport. By 18 January 2021, 43 precincts had been rolled out, including 18 extended footpath trading areas, seven parking areas converted into parklets, two shared spaces, one road closure, four areas on private property and eleven precincts where a combination of car spaces, footpath trading and shared areas were put in place.

### Program costs

The outdoor dining program has been a considerable financial investment. It was made possible with a significant grant from the Victorian Government, with Council supplementing

operational budget and diverting resources from the City Services team. The capital cost of the six month program is about \$1.6 million, including \$1.4 million on the purchase and set up of infrastructure and \$0.2 million on hiring costs.

In addition, the operational cost of Council servicing communal areas has been approximately \$45,000 per month.

The full capital cost of \$1.6 million has now been fully committed. There is also no provision for ongoing operational costs that could be absorbed by the City Services area for a short period but will begin to impact on the delivery of other core services across the municipality.

Any extension of the program will require a commitment of additional funding. In the context of over \$7 million in unplanned emergency COVID-19 support package costs in the current budget (with more expected in the coming financial year), additional funding is not available to allocate so alternative funding models will need to be considered.

## Discussion

### Feedback and community response to date

While the program was initially designed as a quick response, short term measure, it has received overwhelmingly positive feedback from many businesses and community members. The majority of feedback from businesses has been supportive of the program, with informal discussions to date suggesting many businesses are hoping to be able to extend outdoor trading beyond 31 March 2021.

To inform consideration of options, an initial survey has been running on Council's website, capturing quick feedback to gain an idea of the general sentiment around extended trading. At the time of writing, over 1,000 responses have been received including:

- **946 community responses:** 913 support the program happening again, 26 do not support the program happening again
- **55 business responses:** 51 support the program happening again, of which 33 are businesses that participated in the original program
- **110 visitor responses:** 90 visitors stated outdoor trading was their primary reason for visiting Hobsons Bay, 107 support outdoor trading, and only 1 respondent does not support the program continuing

This feedback clearly indicates a significant level of community support to continue the program. However, a next phase of consultation is recommended to inform consideration of longer term options, weighing up potential models, funding sources, and timeframes.

### Potential future models

Potential future models need to weigh up a number of factors including:

- confirming locations and scenarios where outdoor trading will offer the greatest benefit to the community – what business types, what outdoor trading models (individual businesses versus communal areas, etc)
- optimal timeframes in which to consider future outdoor trading – short term (6 months), medium term (2-3 years), long term (5-10 years), or permanent
- seasonal models – outdoor dining is particularly popular during the warmer months, and less utilised in winter

- design outcomes – the current program was procured and delivered in six weeks and while the look and feel of the Hobsons Bay program has been at the higher end of temporary programs delivered across Melbourne councils, the materials and design are temporary. A longer term or permanent program would need to consider more enduring materials and higher quality design
- building in flexibility to adapt to potentially significant changes in community expectation and economic and social need over the coming years of economic and social recovery from the pandemic
- equity across the municipality, recognising that the outdoor trading is a costly program and primarily benefits hospitality and tourism businesses, which are an important part of the Hobsons Bay economy, but by no means the only sector impacted
- funding alternatives

### **Extension options**

To enable a more extensive consultation program it is recommended that the current program be extended for two months on the following basis:

- Individual areas only to be extended, with communal areas decommissioned as they are costly to maintain and there will be less tourism and demand during the cooler April-June quarter
- Businesses to confirm with Council that they have received significant benefit from the program and that they are keen to continue the program. Locations that have been less successful to be decommissioned
- At this stage there is no commitment to businesses that the free program will extend beyond 31 May 2021
- A report to be considered by Council in May 2021 on the future of the program

### **Funding of program extension**

In 2020 Council allocated \$0.1 million to support neighbourhood activation through its events unit, as part of a COVID-19 recovery package. Due to the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, including the second lockdown which impacted on people's ability to gather and required a number of existing programs to be postponed or cancelled, the project has not been committed. As the aim of it was to support local celebration and activation, the rollout of the Outdoors program across the city and existing programs are helping to meet similar needs. It is recommended that this budget be re-allocated to extending the Outdoors project, which aligns with similar objectives to get residents outside, connecting in and enjoying their neighbourhoods.

The Victorian Government has recently announced a second round of funding, which Council has lodged an application for. If Council's application is successful, this would contribute to the extension. However, this is a competitive grants program (as opposed to the initial funding which was provided to all interested councils), and if Council's application is unsuccessful, funds will need to be committed through the upcoming budget process.

### **Decommissioning of communal areas**

There are eight shared trading areas. Council has supplied picnic tables and umbrellas at each location and has been maintaining and cleaning these areas. The public cost of maintaining these areas is significant. For the two month extension period, it is recommended that benefiting businesses be offered the option to retain the furniture and

maintain and clean it themselves, and if not that they be removed. A list of shared trading areas is provided below.

Based on initial discussions, some businesses have already indicated a preference for taking ownership of their trading area if the program continues, however all impacted businesses will be consulted to determine their preferences. All cleaning of the area, packing down of umbrellas and other daily servicing would become the responsibility of benefiting businesses.

Shared space	Location	Suburb	No. of participating businesses
Pier Street Central	West side of Pier Street, between Queen and Blyth Streets  Note: This block of Pier Street also includes a public space and three individual businesses.	Altona	3
Harrington Square	9 Harrington Square	Altona	3
Alma Avenue	42 Alma Avenue	Altona Meadows	N/A – removed by business
Borrack Square East	2 Borrack Square	Altona North	3
Borrack Square North	18 Borrack Square	Altona North	3
Borrack Square West	7 Borrack Square	Altona North	6
Railway Avenue	87 Railway Avenue	Laverton	3
Blackshaws Road	113 Blackshaws Road	Newport	2
Nelson Place	225 Nelson Place	Williamstown	3

## Next steps

If the program is extended, more detailed consultation will be undertaken with the community and businesses to seek feedback on the potential future models – such as locations and format, costs and funding, seasonality, and design outcomes. The preferences of participating businesses will be confirmed so that any required decommissioning can be undertaken (e.g. in locations where there has been little benefit from the infrastructure, or where benefiting businesses indicate they would like communal infrastructure to be removed).

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

### Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

**Priority 3:** Growth through innovation, access to local jobs, technology and education

## **Council Plan 2017-21**

### **Goal 2: A great place**

**Objective 2.3:** Support the growth of our local economy, and encourage business investment that creates and maintains local jobs.

## **Policies and Related Council Documents**

There are no previous Council reports relating to the Hobsons Bay Business has Heart outdoor dining program.

## **Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk**

The Outdoors program was planned and delivered with consideration to meeting Council's legal and statutory obligations, in particular ensuring the Footpath Trading Code of Practice was adhered to and that all extended trading areas were compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act.

## **Financial and Resource Implications**

The cost of the program implementation was about \$1.6 million including materials, with some being purchased and some leased. This is now fully committed. Extension of the program would cost approximately \$32,000 per month for the hire of infrastructure and \$5,000 per month to cover operating costs, including maintenance and cleaning of business areas only (excluding shared areas). It is recommended that this funding be reallocated from the budget provided in Council's third Community Support Package to support neighbourhood activation.

## **Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts**

The full social and economic impact of the Outdoors program is still to be determined, but initial feedback indicates there has been a significant positive impact for participating businesses, with some indicating that the program has ensured the survival of their business and others indicating turnover has increased as much as 30 per cent.

Anecdotally, the program has had significant social impacts, providing free, accessible outdoor spaces for the local community and encouraging people to visit their local activity precincts.

Reviewing these impacts in more detail will be an objective of the upcoming stakeholder consultation.

## **Consultation and Communication**

An initial survey has received over 1,100 submissions to date. If the program is extended, further detailed consultation will be undertaken.

## **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

Council staff involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.



## 9.4 Infrastructure and City Services

### 9.4.1 Draft Hobsons Bay Coastal and Marine Management Plan

<b>Directorate:</b>	Infrastructure and City Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Manager Active Communities and Assets
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Infrastructure and City Services
<b>Attachments:</b>	1. Draft Hobsons Bay Coastal and Marine Management Plan [9.4.1.1 - 88 pages]

### Purpose

To seek Council's endorsement of the Draft Hobsons Bay Coastal and Marine Management Plan (CMMP) (Attachment 1) to be placed on public exhibition for four weeks from 15 March 2021.

### Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Endorses the Draft Hobsons Bay Coastal and Marine Management Plan to be placed on public exhibition for four weeks between 15 March 2021 and 11 April 2021.**
2. **Receives a further report to adopt the Hobsons Bay Coastal and Marine Management Plan following the public exhibition period.**

### Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the Draft CMMP.

The CMMP will provide:

- a strategic framework that reflects community and stakeholder sentiment, and aligns with legislative direction for the management of coastal and marine areas
- outcomes that convey the values and future aspirations for coastal and marine areas
- current and emerging issues, including those that may potentially threaten community values
- priority actions over the next ten years including an implementation pathway and monitoring framework.

### Background

The Hobsons Bay foreshore extends for over 20km from Stony Creek Backwash near the West Gate Bridge in Spotswood, to Skeleton Creek in Altona Meadows. The management of the foreshore is a shared responsibility between Hobsons Bay City Council, and other agencies including Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), Parks Victoria, Melbourne Water and the Port of Melbourne. Traditional Owners also continue to play a significant role.

The CMMP is being developed to provide a strategic direction for the management of coastal and marine areas within the municipality over the next ten years. This plan will ensure that our community can continue to enjoy using our beaches and open public spaces along the coast and be assured that these areas will be protected well into the future against increasing pressures from urban growth and a changing climate and environment.

The development of the CMMP commenced in late 2018, with preliminary consultation with Council staff, followed by community events and stakeholder consultation in early 2019. The introduction of the new Victorian coastal legislation resulted in a pause of CMMP development, while the *Marine and Coastal Act* 2018 and related policies were adopted and implemented. Work to develop the CMMP resumed in early 2020 and a second stage of community consultation was completed in August 2020.

The CMMP is a ten-year plan that will include a formal review after five years as specified in the *Marine and Coastal Act*.

## Discussion

The CMMP includes extensive feedback, perspectives and experiences gained from consultation with the community, agencies, and key stakeholders. Coastal and marine areas are highly valued by the local community however there are complexities with the management of these areas between several agencies and authorities. A summary of the values, issues and opportunities with the marine and coastal environment is included within the Draft CMMP.

A set of outcomes have been developed to define what success looks like from a coastal and marine management direction. These outcomes are consistent with the *Marine and Coastal Policy*, and are based on feedback from the community, agencies, and other key stakeholders. To achieve these outcomes, a suite of prioritised actions has been established to guide investment priorities over the next ten years. Actions are either Council-wide or specific to one of the five precincts that have been developed along the Hobsons Bay foreshore.

The priority of actions may shift throughout the life of the CMMP depending on factors such as funding opportunities, new research becoming available or collaboration opportunities with other projects or partners.

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

### Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

**Priority 4:** Proactive enrichment, expansion, and conservation of the natural and urban environment

### Council Plan 2017-21

**Goal 3:** A well designed, maintained and environmentally sustainable place

**Objective 3.3:** Protect and enhance our coastal environment, biodiversity, and natural areas in partnership with major stakeholders and the community.

## Other Council strategy

The CMMP will be integrated into existing plans and strategies, with several actions being primarily delivered through other planning mechanisms including the Urban Forest Strategy 2020, the Biodiversity Strategy 2017-22, and the Open Space Strategy 2018-28. Furthermore, the CMMP has been developed concurrently with the Climate Change Plan to ensure actions particularly in coastal areas are aligned.

## Policies and Related Council Documents

The Hobsons Bay Asset Management Policy 2017 is an overarching document that confirms Council's commitment to best practice asset management and provides principles for sound asset investment decision making. The policy provides a long-term planning framework to help manage Council's Asset Portfolio. The principles within the AMP have helped guide future investment priorities along the Hobsons Bay foreshore.

## Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

Coastal management reform in Victoria is led by DELWP and has included the release of several pieces of legislation, policies, and guidance material over recent years. The Draft CMMP has been structured to align closely with these coastal and marine legislation guidelines and government policies.

## Financial and Resource Implications

The CMMP is being delivered by the Active Communities department with assistance from coastal planning specialists. Actions within the Draft CMMP have been prioritised as short-term, medium-term or long-term. Funding ranges for each action are included within Attachment C of the Draft CMMP.

Many actions within the Draft CMMP are included either within existing staff time, in support of the delivery of other council strategies, or are included with current projects in Council's Draft Ten Year Capital Works Program. The funding allocations for projects in foreshore areas within Hobsons Bay are summarised below:

Priority	Timeframe	Cost Estimate
Short	0-2 years	\$22 million
Medium	3-5 years	\$7 million
Long	6-10 years	\$2 million
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$31 million</b>

The above figures represent the estimated total project costs. External funding has been received to support the delivery of some short-term projects and will be pursued for future works in the Capital Works Program.

The above funding allocations include projects within the below programs:

- Foreshore Renewal and Upgrade
- Community Parks and Playgrounds
- Pier Street Stage 4 and Esplanade Closure
- Biodiversity Strategy
- Gross Pollutant Trap Program
- Bridge Renewal Program
- Car Park Renewal Program
- new Cultural Heritage program
- Shared Trails Renewal Program
- Community Submissions

The above funding allocations do not include:

- Elm Tree Management Program
- Urban Forest Strategy

## Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

Council has obligations under the *Health and Wellbeing Act* 2008 to seek, protect, improve and promote public health and wellbeing. The provision of managed environments and infrastructure that encourage the community to participate in recreation activities is a fundamental role of Council.

Coastal and marine areas are valued, and facilities exist to allow enjoyment of the environmental, social, cultural, recreational, and economic benefits of the coast.

Actions within the CMMP will help improve the resilience of Council's coastal and marine areas to pressures and future changes, which could include natural hazards such as coastal erosion, climate change impacts such as sea level rise, and population growth.

## Consultation and Communication

The development of the CMMP has been guided by two stages of community consultation and numerous workshops with external agencies, key stakeholders, community clubs and Portfolio Advisory Committees.

Stage 1 consultation commenced in early 2019 with the community and key stakeholders. The consultation included:

- community drop-in sessions – 575 people attended these events
- completion of 364 surveys – both hard copy and online
- 412 visits to the CMMP page on the Hobsons Bay Participate website
- workshops held with key community groups, clubs, and key agencies
- workshops held with Council's Portfolio Advisory Committees

In total over 10,000 separate items of feedback were received during the Stage 1 consultation period. Following the completion of the consultation, development of the CMMP was paused while the Victorian Government progressed the development of the Marine and Coastal Policy. In early 2020, the project recommenced and consultation with relevant

coastal and marine agencies and other key stakeholders continued to help inform the CMMP.

In August 2020, Stage 2 community consultation sought feedback on key values and key challenges that had been raised throughout previous engagement activities. The community was also asked to provide their perspectives on what they love about the Hobsons Bay coastline, what level of importance they placed on long term objectives being used in the CMMP, and what they would like to see in the CMMP. The 35 responses to this survey helped inform actions to achieve the long-term objectives of the CMMP.

The Draft CMMP is currently being professionally laid out to provide a polished document for the purposes of public exhibition. While the look and feel of the document will change, the content of the Draft CMMP to be placed on public exhibition will remain as attached.

## **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act* 2020 requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

Council staff involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

### 9.4.2 West Gate Tunnel Project Update

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services  
**Responsible Officer:** Senior Technical Advisor  
**Reviewer:** Director Infrastructure and City Services  
**Attachments:** Nil

#### Purpose

To provide a detailed report on the West Gate Tunnel Project (the Project) including the current status of advocacy activities, project initiatives and operational progress.

#### Recommendation

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

#### Summary

This report includes updates on:

- offset tree planting
- location and progress of the noise wall installation
- Local Area Movement Plans (LAMPs) and the Hobsons Bay Transport Planning Study (HBTPS)
- Sports and Open Space Enhancement Package
- Project construction progress including traffic management arrangements

#### Background

The Project commenced in 2018 and is expected to be completed in 2024. The Project is delivered through a partnership between the Victorian Government and Transurban (Project Co), managed by the West Gate Tunnel Project – Major Transport Infrastructure Authority (WGTP MTIA) and built by construction contractors CPB Contractors and John Holland as a joint venture (the JV).

Monthly reports providing updates on various aspects of the Project are tabled through Council Meetings. Previous reports can be accessed via the Council website.

Project operational updates including live traffic disruption information can be accessed via: <https://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/disruptions>

## Discussion

### Offset Tree Planting

The Project has a requirement to plant five trees for every tree that is removed because of the Project works pursuant to Environmental Performance Requirement - EP6 Landscape Plan.

The EPR explicitly states that “The plan must achieve a minimum tree replacement ratio of 5:1 and replacement trees should be planted in areas determined in consultation with the relevant Councils and authorities. Tree reinstatement and offset planting should take into account the amenity, shade and heritage value of the canopy trees to be removed for local residents. Tree replacement to be undertaken to benefit such residents rather than offset elsewhere in the Project.”

### Summary of proposed WGTP tree planting

- total trees to be planted Project-wide = 25,040 (4,351 trees removed by Project)
- total trees to be planted within Hobsons Bay area = 12,923 (2,580 trees removed by Project)
  - total trees to be planted within Hobsons Bay inside Project area = 6,371
  - total trees to be planted within Hobsons Bay outside Project area = 6,552 (offsets)
- Project-wide mature tree canopy coverage proposed = 65.23Ha (10.18Ha removed)

An offset tree plan has been developed with input from Council and community stakeholder groups, which identifies the following suitable locations for offset tree planting within the Project corridor.

- Altona Memorial Park (M80 interchange and West Kororoit Creek interfaces) – 623 trees
- Urban Forest Triangle (between Grieve Parade and Kororoit Creek) Reserve – 648 trees
- M80 construction site compound reinstatement (Geelong Road) – 443 trees
- Federation Trail (between Geelong Road and Millers Road) – 564 trees
- WLJ Crofts Reserve, Altona North – tree numbers to be confirmed
- GJ Hosken Reserve, Altona North – tree numbers to be confirmed
- Stony Creek (reserve interfaces) – tree numbers to be confirmed
- Westgate Golf Course, Spotswood – 593 trees

The total number of proposed offset trees within the Westgate Golf Course is 593, of which 452 will be within Hobsons Bay boundary (403 Bushland Tree Mix and 49 Recreational Tree Mix) and the remainder within Maribyrnong City Council.

In addition to the above sites, Council nominated the following offset tree planting sites (based on the 2017 Hobsons Bay Vegetation Loss Assessment and Offset Opportunities Plan) that have not been included in the Project:

- along outside boundary of the West Gate Freeway corridor
- various streets, including Grieve Parade, Millers Road, Melbourne Road, The Avenue (Spotswood) and Booker Street (Spotswood)
- surrounding the Brooklyn Terminal Station (BTS)

- electricity easement between BTS and New Street
- DELWP and VicRoads land adjacent to Beevers Street, Altona North
- planting in private property near the West Gate Freeway (where agreed by property owner)

The key reasons provided by Project Co/JV for not including the above sites include VicRoads and utility clearance restrictions, and that the number of trees allocated to Hobsons Bay to meet offset requirements have been exhausted.

Returned works schedules will be included in the final design package indicating exact planting quantities for each planting location outside the Project area.

## Noise Walls

Concerns have been raised by Brooklyn residents about the location, length and timing of new noise walls proposed to mitigate freeway noise in Brooklyn.

WGTP MTIA has advised that the timing and location of areas where new noise walls can be installed is subject to several factors including accessibility to the area and availability of prefabricated panels. Approximately 1000 concrete noise wall panels have been installed to date.

WGTP MTIA has provided information to residents on the location and timing for noise walls in Brooklyn, specifically between Buchanan Road and Millers Road on the northern verge. Noise walls in this area will run from just west of Lynch Road on Buchanan Road, east to the Millers Road exit ramp. The installation of noise walls has been delayed along sections of the freeway because of prefabrication delays with the Project's Victorian supplier. The latest information available is that new noise walls in this section will be installed between June 2021 and March 2022. This is because the area is being utilised as freeway lanes and will only become available after the next stage of the traffic lane switch, expected in mid-2021. The temporary timber walls will remain until the installation of permanent walls.

It is noted that the new walls do not extend past the industrial properties on the north side of the freeway between Millers Road and Grieve Parade. The new wall will extend approximately 1050m west of Millers Road on the north side (to cover all the residential area) and the full length between Millers and Grieve Parade on the south side to cover the residential area and WLJ Crofts Reserve (approximately 1,570m). This is consistent with the Project requirement to noise mitigate residential areas and open space, but not industrial areas. The decision to include open space areas was made after community and Council advocacy during the initial design approval process. Council has also advocated for improved tree/landscape barriers between the freeway and the industrial land in Brooklyn along the northern boundary of the freeway.

## Hobsons Bay Transport Planning Study

The Local Area Movement Plans (LAMPs) for Brooklyn, Altona North, Spotswood, South Kingsville, Newport and Williamstown North are under development, consistent with the objectives of the HBTPS and Council's Integrated Transport Plan. Initial community engagement for the LAMPs was completed in January with over 1300 contributions and submissions received including items logged onto the interactive map. These submissions identified issues and suggestions are currently being reviewed for the purposes of developing the draft LAMPs. The next phase of engagement for the draft LAMPs is scheduled late March. The Spotswood/South Kingsville LAMP will form a part of the Better Places project.



### Sports and Open Space Enhancement Package

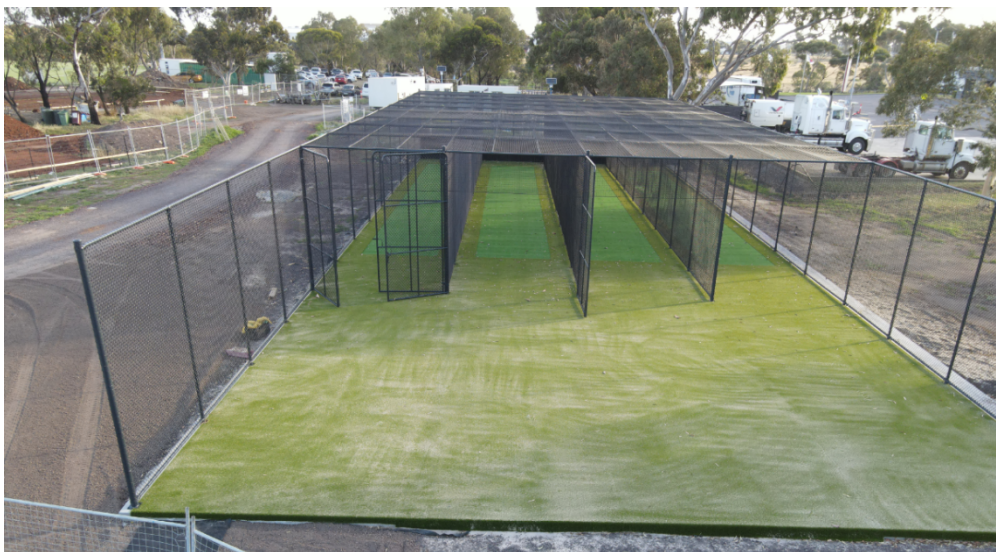
Works have commenced on the construction of the new sporting club pavilion, WH Couch Pavilion at Donald McLean Reserve, Spotswood. The new cricket practice nets at WLJ Crofts Reserve are complete and the redevelopment of the two northern ovals near completion with the turf laid and irrigation installed. Refer to Figures 1, 2 and 3.



**Figure 1: Concrete slab for the new WH Couch Pavilion at Donald McLean Reserve**



**Figure 2: WLJ Crofts Reserve sports ground construction**



**Figure 3: WLJ Crofts Reserve new cricket practice nets**

Further details and updates on each of these projects can be accessed via Council's Participate Hobsons Bay website at <https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/>

### Traffic Management Plan Extensions

The JV is seeking Council approval for a further extension of several currently implemented long-term traffic management setups in order to retain the current arrangements on site. Reasons attributed to the delays to the program include the coronavirus pandemic and delays in relocating utility assets, delays in material supplies and delays in finalising soil disposal.

While the existing temporary traffic management arrangements have now been in place since 2019 and local community access is maintained, it is noted that the works program timeline has already been extended with ongoing local inconvenience. The table below shows the locations and Council extension dates. Some extensions have been requested for longer periods than may be required. Council will continue to review of progress of the works and consider local impacts and possible mitigation treatments as required.

Location	Initial End Date	JV Proposed End Date	Council Recommended End Date	Comments
Freemans Road to Chambers Road long-term site access (Altona North)	2020	December 2021	30 June 2021	No known local concerns with temporary closure. Review progress and issues after 6 months.

Location	Initial End Date	JV Proposed End Date	Council Recommended End Date	Comments
Kororoit Creek Trail path closure	Jan 2021	December 2022	31 December 2021	Current construction program has KCT completed early 2022.  Review progress and issues after 12 months.
The Avenue side road closure for construction access (Spotswood)	Ongoing	December 2022	30 June 2021	No known local concerns with temporary closure. Question reason for such long extension.  Review progress and issues after 6 months.
Long-term one-way arrangement on Paringa Road (Altona North)	2020	December 2022	31 December 2021	No known local concerns with temporary closure. Question reason for such long extension.  Review progress and issues after 12 months.
Cawley Road long-term site access (Maribyrnong City Council)	2020	December 2021	30 June 2021	Consistent with MCC approval.
Fogarty Avenue site gate between Highgate Street and Delaware Street (Maribyrnong City Council)	2020	December 2021	30 June 2021	Consistent with MCC approval.

### Project Works Update

The West Gate Tunnel Project summer works program has seen a lot of construction occurring in the West Zone, with extensive works underway at the Grieve Parade bridge and the M80/Western Ring Road interchange area (Figure 4). Other works progressing include road and bridge widening; noise wall construction; interchange works at Williamstown Road, Millers Road; installation of the pedestrian overpasses; Hyde Street ramps and the southern tunnel portal works.





**Figure 4: M80 Interchange works**

Updates on construction activity and works notifications can be accessed via the Project website: <http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/>

### Other Items

A joint meeting of the Community Liaison Group - West and North Groups (CLG) was held on 25 February 2021 which included an update briefing on construction activities and planned traffic disruptions. Further information on the CLG, including copies of meeting notes and presentations, can be found at: <http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/clg>

WGTP MTIA recently sought additional community representatives for the CLG from Point Cook, South Kingsville, Footscray, Docklands and neighbouring suburbs to fill existing vacancies with expressions of interest closing in late February.

As part of the environmental management requirements for the Project, air monitoring from six temporary air quality monitoring stations is undertaken monthly. The West Gate Tunnel Project air quality monitoring report for November 2020 has been published at: <https://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/about/keytopics/tunnel-ventilation-and-air-quality>

The Project's six-monthly Environmental Audit Report for March 2020 to August 2020 was released in December 2020 by the Independent Reviewer and Environmental Auditor (IREA). This report is available on the WGTP website: [https://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0011/484769/WGT-IREA-audit-report-March-August-2020.pdf](https://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0011/484769/WGT-IREA-audit-report-March-August-2020.pdf)

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

### Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

**Priority 6:** An accessible and connected community

### Council Plan 2017-21

**Goal 3: A well designed, maintained and environmentally sustainable place**

**Objective 3.1:** Work with all levels of government, key stakeholders and the community to ensure urban development is appropriate and considers neighbourhood character and heritage.

**Objective 3.5:** Work with the community, businesses and all levels of government to actively and innovatively address climate change and promote sustainable living.

## Policies and Related Council Documents

On 26 August 2016 Council adopted the updated Hobsons Bay City Council's Adopted Position and Recommendations for the then Western Distributor Project.

Several Council policies and strategies were considered in the establishment of the adopted position on the Project and have been considered to inform the design and Environmental Effects Statement (EES). Council has received numerous reports regarding officer assessments of the Project design development, community engagement and advocacy activities undertaken in response to the Project.

## Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

Legal and statutory obligations and risks have been identified throughout Council's review and input to the Project. These obligations and opportunities will continue to be monitored and assessed.

A report and formal submission on the preferred design and EES was adopted by Council at the Council Meeting on 27 June 2017. This report considered legal, risk and statutory obligations for the Project. A statutory process for the acquisition of Council land has commenced.

## Financial and Resource Implications

Design packages are still being reviewed and requests received to consider and respond to construction works. A Memorandum of Understanding has been established between Council and WGTP MTIA to provide for Council staff to assist in the management and delivery of the Project and the West Gate Neighbourhood Fund.

## Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

The environmental, social and economic impacts of the Project to the Hobsons Bay community have been described in detail through the EES and will be monitored and mitigated through the implementation of the Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs) for the Project and audited by the IREA.

## Consultation and Communication

Throughout the design and construction stages, Council has advocated for outcomes and improvements wherever possible that are consistent with its adopted position to optimise beneficial community outcomes. Items recently discussed with Project Co, the JV and WGTP MTIA include the Hall Street SUP, Kororoit Creek SUP, relocation of cricket practice nets at the Donald McLean Reserve and designs for the offset tree planting.

Council has assisted in sharing information on planned traffic disruptions through its website and social media. Council officers continue to assist the community where possible in responding to or referring requests and issues relating to the Project. Recent concerns include the impacts of the traffic detours on residents, particularly traffic noise at night and wind noise from the new pedestrian overpass perforated metal panels. The JV have installed temporary panels on the overpass to overcome the problem pending a permanent solution.

Construction issues and impacts arising from the JV works such as noise, vibration and dust are being closely monitored by the WGTP MTIA and the IREA to detect and respond to any exceedance of permitted levels.

Notifications to directly impacted areas prior to works commencing are ongoing. Latest notifications can be found at:

<https://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/construction/work-notifications>

## Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

Council staff involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## 10 Delegate Reports

### Purpose

To consider reports by Councillors who have been appointed as delegates to Council and community committees.

### Recommendation

**That Council receives and notes the recent Delegate Reports.**

### Truganina Explosives Reserve Advisory Committee

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Councillor Delegate:** Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud

**Date of Meeting:** Wednesday 10 February 2021

The restoration of the Under Keeper's Quarters roof is due to commence in February 2021.

The Hobsons Bay Wetlands Centre facilitated a World Wetlands Day event on Saturday 6 February 2021 to promote the importance of wetlands across the globe.

World Wetlands Day was also an opportunity for the group to showcase the signed MOU for the collaborative support of building a dedicated wetland centre in Hobsons Bay. Signatories were in attendance to officially promote this opportunity including Hobsons Bay, Birdlife Australia, Deakin University, City West Water, Cirqit Health, Melbourne Water and Ecolinc. The Wetland Centre Group passed on a big thank you to Council officers for their assistance on the day, and their continued support. The vision of the centre and the group is to connect people with nature.

On Sunday 7 February 2021 the Truganina Explosives Reserve Preservation Society (TERPS) first open day for the year was held with about 125 community members in attendance. The TERPS was pleased with Council's support and the involvement of the Friends of Truganina Explosives Reserve which helped to attract a large number of visitors.

The TERPS discussed the option of having a booking system for the Under Keeper's and Keeper's Quarters once the restoration works have been completed. The group will consider developing criteria for clarity on approved signage.

## Metropolitan Transport Forum

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Councillor Delegate:** Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden

**Date of Meeting:** 3 February 2021

Mark Rowland, Transport and Highways Advisory Leader at Arup, presented on transitioning towards zero-emission buses. Arup recently contributed to the Zero Emissions Bus Forum coordinated by the International Association of Public Transport in Australia and New Zealand. A report released from this forum focused on how and why Australia can, and should, transition to a zero-emission bus fleet. The negative impacts of diesel buses on public health, liveability, and climate change are now well known and a shift to zero-emission buses also has the potential to stimulate the economy and further develop advanced manufacturing capabilities. Already 17 per cent of buses globally are electric. Within Australia, NSW has a goal of 8,000 electric buses within its public transport fleet by 2030 and is procuring 50 in 2021. Meanwhile, Victoria has committed \$20 million for a three-year trial of electric buses to plan for a potential future rollout.

Zero-emission buses are now well developed in terms of their battery range and speed of recharging. Although zero-emission buses are more expensive upfront, they are much cheaper over the life span of the vehicle and require less maintenance. The Zero Emissions Bus Forum report highlighted that different models of ownership for zero-emission buses should be considered to counteract the higher upfront costs and the often time-limited contract terms public transport operators work under which can make electric buses less feasible. The high cost and challenge of installing adequate charging infrastructure was also highlighted. However, electric buses can increasingly be used as a stationary battery when not in operation to feed power back into the energy grid.

### Advocacy and other business

Greg Day, Metropolitan Transport Forum's strategic transport advocacy consultant is currently reviewing how the advocacy work of the Metropolitan Transport Forum should operate in the lead up to the next State Election. Previously town hall style meetings including the candidates of each major political party would answer community questions focused on transport matters.

Councillors also discussed how they are progressing with including transport related matters in their respective council plans. Banyule Council, City of Boroondara, Wyndham City Council and Yarra City Council all highlighted that they will be focusing on improving cycling infrastructure to build on increased demand over 2020.



## **11 Notices of Motion**

No notices of motion were received.

## **12 Supplementary Public Question Time**

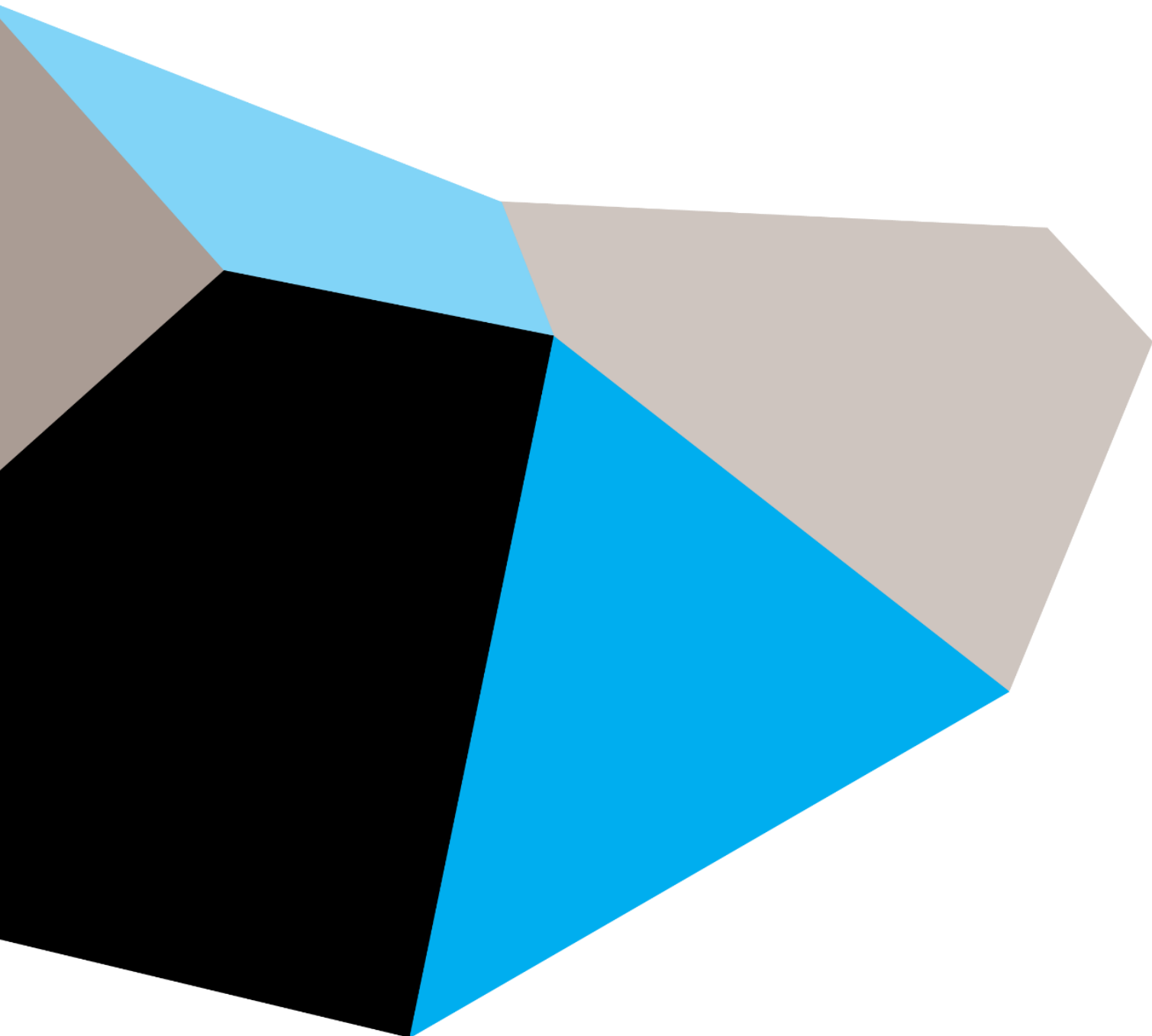
Supplementary Public Question Time provides an opportunity for the public to ask questions directly related to items on the agenda that have arisen during the evening's proceedings.

Where it is not possible to provide a response during the meeting, a written response to the question will be provided promptly.

Written public questions received during the Council Meeting that are not related to items on the agenda will be taken on notice and responded to in writing by the appropriate Council officer, or referred to the next Council Meeting for a public response if so requested by the questioner.

## **13 Urgent Business**

## **14 Close of Meeting**



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**HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL**

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115 Civic Parade, Altona

PO Box 21, Altona 3018

Phone (03) 9932 1000

Fax (03) 9932 1039

NRS phone 133 677 and quote 03 9932 1000

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