



Council Meeting Minutes

29 June 2021

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

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1 Council Welcome and Acknowledgement

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

2 Apologies

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

Nil

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.

Nil

4 Confirmation of Minutes

4.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Confirmation of the minutes of the Council Meeting of Hobsons Bay City Council held on 8 June 2021 (copy previously circulated).

Motion

Moved Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud, seconded Cr Matt Tyler:

That Council confirms the minutes of the Council Meeting of Hobsons Bay City Council held on 8 June 2021.

Carried unanimously

5 Councillor Questions

Cr Daria Kellander noted that a percentage of the content of park bins audited in earlier in 2021 was determined to potentially be residential waste and asked what the percentage of potential residential waste was.

Ms Pene Winslade, Director Sustainable Communities, responded that, in an audit of public realm (street and park) bins undertaken by Council's bin inspection provider MRA, 53 per cent of the waste volume was landfill, 28 per cent was bagged and 19 per cent was recyclable. Ms Winslade stated that the audit did not attempt to determine whether the

bagged material was from residential use or from regular use, such as picnickers or people with babies in nappies using public facilities. Ms Winslade added that it would be normal to assume that some of that volume came from regular use and not residential use.

Cr Daria Kellander asked what the annual operational saving was as a result of Council's decision in in 2018-19 to discontinue providing in-home care services.

Ms Pene Winslade, Director Sustainable Communities, responded that in-home care services are funded by the Australian and Victorian governments, and this was previously implemented by directly funding Council to deliver the services, but this changed some years ago when the Australian Government signalled that it would instead competitively tender. Ms Winslade stated that Council decided in 2018-19 to transition the delivery of the service to an external provider in order to avoid a shock switchover that could result in significant staff redundancies and interruptions to the service, though it was also estimated that there would be some cost savings to Council.

Ms Winslade went on to say that following a tender process and a smooth transition to Uniting AgeWell in 2019-20, a review of costs indicated that the ongoing cost saving to Council was in the order of \$1.3 million a year.

Cr Matt Tyler, observing that the budget documents noted Victorian Government funding had been announced for the design and development of the Queen Street Bridge, requested clarification as to what the Victorian Government had committed to, including timeframes to complete the design.

Mr Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Director Infrastructure and City Services, responded that Council officers had met with the Department of Transport and confirmed budget allocation for the design works. Mr Manivasagasivam added that while there was no timeline given, Council officers were seeking a further meeting to discuss the timeframe and offer assistance in fast-tracking the design process.

Cr Matt Tyler requested clarification as to whether the funding was to support design only, rather than construction.

Mr Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Director Infrastructure and City Services, responded that this was correct: the funding allocation was only for design works, and there is currently no money allocated for construction.

6 Public Question Time

No public question time responses were read out, as no submitters of questions were in attendance.

7 Petitions and Joint Letters

7.1 Petitions and Joint Letters Received

Nil

8 Business

8.1 Office of the Chief Executive

8.1.1 M9 Group of Councils

Directorate:	Office of the Chief Executive
Responsible Officer:	Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer
Reviewer:	Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	Nil

Purpose

To consider Hobsons Bay City Council joining a group of inner-city councils for the purpose of shared advocacy, with a working title of "M9".

Motion

Moved Cr Matt Tyler, seconded Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud:

That Council:

1. Agrees to join an expanded group of inner-city councils for the purpose of shared advocacy, with a working title of M9.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with other participating councils to establish the new entity and its operating principles.
3. Receives further information on proposed advocacy priorities.

Carried

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Agrees to join an expanded group of inner-city councils for the purpose of shared advocacy, with a working title of M9.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with other participating councils to establish the new entity and its operating principles.
3. Receives further information on proposed advocacy priorities.

Background

The Inner Melbourne Action Plan (IMAP) group of councils comprises the cities of Maribyrnong, Port Phillip, Stonnington, Yarra and Melbourne. A recent review of IMAP determined that while there is a commitment to continuing to work together, expanding the membership of the group to include the cities of Darebin, Moreland, Moonee Valley and Hobsons Bay would enhance the group's effectiveness. This group of nine councils would be referred to as "M9".

The intended focus of M9 would be to undertake joint advocacy and issues that are commonly shared priorities of the region. It is envisaged that this would maintain a sharp focus on a limited number of key strategic issues (likely limited to three).

To achieve the context, objectives and operative rules of engagement this expanded coalition of councils will be established under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). It is anticipated that the governance of M9 would involve the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) from each member council meeting four times per year to set and monitor strategy.

Discussion

Hobsons Bay currently is a contributor to and member of the LeadWest forum of councils whose purpose is to advocate for the interests of the western region of Melbourne. IMAP was established with a view to doing the same for inner Melbourne.

IMAP in its current form has been regarded as valuable to its member groups for both its stability and longevity. However, a recent review of the structure and objectives of the group has identified that the primary focus of IMAP moving forward should be advocacy, with a sharp focus on a limited number of key strategic issues.

Given this narrowed priority, establishing a coalition of the nine innermost councils with a shared vision for Melbourne has the potential to create a much stronger influence on Victorian and Australian Government policy and funding. It is proposed to expand the group to include Hobsons Bay, Moonee Valley, Moreland and Darebin councils to better represent the inner city and Greater Melbourne. Collectively, the councils would represent about 18 per cent of the Victorian population, almost 1.2 million people.

The coalition, given the working title of "M9", will be established under an applicable MOU and Terms of Reference.

Advocacy efforts would be formalised and include issues such as affordable housing and homelessness, economic recovery and job creation, and would be subject to discussion and determination by members. Regular engagements with key ministers such as the Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Local Government would be sought to progress these priorities.

The administrative model and resourcing requirements would depend on the final agreed scope of M9, which will be determined over the next few months.

Some investment would be required in establishing and administering M9, including activities such as a new brand, name and website to appropriately reflect a vibrant inner-city vision and the purpose of the group. The amounts of such funding will similarly be determined over the coming few months.

It is in Council's interest to maintain involvement in advocacy that has the potential to benefit both the City of Hobsons Bay and the broader regional community. Joining the M9 coalition while continuing to contribute and participate with LeadWest will further increase Council's capacity for advocacy at a state and federal level.

8.2 Corporate Services

8.2.1 COVID-19 Community Support Package 2021-22

Directorate:	Corporate Services
Responsible Officer:	Chief Financial Officer
Reviewer:	Director Corporate Services
Attachments:	1. COVID-19 Community Support Package 2021-22 [8.2.1.1 - 7 pages]

Purpose

To present the recommendations of the Community Support Package Focus Group as provided in the COVID-19 Community Support Package 2021-22 report (Attachment 1).

Motion

Moved Cr Matt Tyler, seconded Cr Tony Briffa:

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Community Support Package Focus Group's report on the COVID-19 Community Support Package 2021-22.
2. Acknowledges the work of the Community Support Package Focus Group in developing the recommendations contained in the report.
3. Notes that the recommendations in the COVID-19 Community Support Package 2021-22 report have been incorporated into the Annual Budget 2021-22.

Carried unanimously

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Community Support Package Focus Group's report on the COVID-19 Community Support Package 2021-22.
2. Acknowledges the work of the Community Support Package Focus Group in developing the recommendations contained in the report.
3. Notes that the recommendations in the COVID-19 Community Support Package 2021-22 report have been incorporated into the Annual Budget 2021-22.

Summary

The Proposed Annual Budget 2021-22 included a \$2 million COVID-19 Community Support Package consisting of \$1.35 million in targeted rate relief and \$650,000 in community program support.

A Community Support Package Focus Group was formed to recommend to Council how best to distribute the allocated \$2 million. The focus group's report has provided a number of recommendations in relation to targeted rate relief including upfront waivers, waivers via application, eligibility criteria, evidence required and the amounts to waive. The group has also recommended that the community program support be reallocated evenly among the identified sectors.

The recommendations of the Community Support Package Focus Group have been included in the recommended Annual Budget 2021-22.

Background

The Proposed Annual Budget 2021-22 was endorsed at the Council Meeting on 20 April 2021 and placed on public exhibition until Sunday 23 May 2021. The proposed budget included Council's COVID-19 Community Support Package 2021-22 to respond to the community's needs.

As a result, the Community Support Package Focus Group was formed to assist Council in further developing the package as part of the four-week proposed budget consultation.

Discussion

The focus group's purpose was to recommend to Council how best to allocate the \$2 million Community Support Package, including \$1.35 million in targeted rate relief and \$650,000 of community program support to target sectors continuing to be impacted, backed by recent research.

The focus group's recommendations in relation to the \$1.35 million in targeted rate relief can be summarised to:

- extend the current interest free rate deferral (estimated \$450,000) process until 31 December 2021, and then interest free repayment plans be established thereafter
- provide upfront waivers of interest on rates since 1 July 2019 (estimated \$375,000) to ratepayers with a good payment history prior to COVID-19
- have a closing date of 30 November 2021 (in line with the second rate instalment) for residential and business ratepayer to apply for rate and interest waivers (estimated \$525,000) and determine the exact amounts to waive when the quantity of applications is known

The focus group also recommends easing the eligibility criteria for residential and business rate waivers to make it more accessible to ratepayers and increase the amounts that would be waived in certain instances. Discussions took place in relation to promoting the rate relief contained in the Community Support Package, to ensure that the community is informed and that the number of applications is reflective of the money available within the budget.

The focus group's recommendations in relation to the \$650,000 Community Program Support are to allocate it evenly among the identified sectors:

- \$162,500 targeted business support
- \$162,500 youth support
- \$162,500 Make It Happen community grants
- \$162,500 for artists in a similar program to Art Apart

The full recommendations are outlined in the focus group's report (Attachment 1).

8.2.2 Adoption of Annual Budget 2021-22 and Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25

Directorate:	Corporate Services
Responsible Officer:	Chief Financial Officer
Reviewer:	Director Corporate Services
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Annual Budget 2021-22 [8.2.2.1 - 77 pages]2. Fees and charges 2021-22 [8.2.2.2 - 30 pages]3. Detailed Capital Works Program 2021-22 [8.2.2.3 - 6 pages]4. Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025 [8.2.2.4 - 47 pages]

Purpose

To adopt the Annual Budget 2021-22 (Attachments 1-3) and Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25 (Attachment 4) and declare rates and charges for the year ending 30 June 2022.

Motion

Moved Cr Peter Hemphill, seconded Cr Matt Tyler:

That Council, having given public notice of the preparation of a Proposed Annual Budget and having considered submissions received pursuant to section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

1. Adopts the Annual Budget 2021-22 annexed to this report as Attachments 1-3, in accordance with section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
2. Adopts the Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25 annexed to this report as Attachment 4 in accordance with section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give public notice of the decision to adopt the Annual Budget 2021-22 and Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25.
4. Declares Rates and Services Charges totalling \$117.352 million (one hundred and seventeen million, three hundred and fifty-two thousand dollars) (refer to section 4.1.1 of Annual Budget 2021-22) for the year ending 30 June 2022 in accordance with section 158(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* as follows:
 - a. Declares general rates in respect of the 2021-22 financial year, raised by the application of differential rates as follows:
 - i. A general rate of 0.2222 cents in the dollar on capital improved value (CIV) of all rateable residential properties
 - ii. A general rate of 0.3555 cents in the dollar on CIV of all rateable vacant residential properties

- iii. A general rate of 0.5111 cents in the dollar on CIV of all rateable commercial properties
 - iv. A general rate of 0.7555 cents in the dollar on CIV of all rateable industrial properties
 - v. A general rate of 0.8888 cents in the dollar on CIV of all rateable petrochemical properties
 - vi. A rating concession of 0.1000 cents in the dollar on CIV of all rateable recreational properties
- b. Provides a waiver, under section 171(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, of:
- i. \$100 for all residential properties occupied by a ratepayer who is an eligible Department of Veteran Affairs Gold card recipient;
OR
 - ii. \$75 for all residential properties occupied by a ratepayer who is an eligible Centrelink pension card recipient (excluding healthcare)
- c. Declares an annual service charge on properties, in accordance with section 158(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* for the collection, disposal and processing of garbage, recycling, food organics and garden organics (FOGO) and hard waste for the year ending 30 June 2022 to be raised as follows:
- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| \$250.00 | Standard (base waste service charge for four bins: 120L garbage, 120L FOGO, 120L glass, 240L mixed recycling) |
| \$212.00 | Shared (properties in multi-unit dwellings/apartments/villages with shared bins) |
| \$99.00 | U1 (upsized to 240L rubbish bin) |
| \$33.00 | U2 (upsized to 240L food and garden bin) |
| \$0.00 | UF1 Free Upsize Waste |
| \$0.00 | UF2 Free Upsize Medical |
| \$253.00 | A1 (additional 240L garbage bin) |
| \$154.00 | A2 (additional 120L garbage bin) |
| \$99.00 | A3 (additional 240L recycling bin) |
| \$154.00 | A4 (additional 240L FOGO bin) |
| \$121.00 | A5 (additional 120L FOGO bin) |

\$66.00 A6 (additional 120L glass bin)

5. In accordance with section 158(4) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, requires that general rates and annual service charge must be paid by four instalments made on or before the following dates:

Instalment 1	30 September 2021
Instalment 2	30 November 2021
Instalment 3	28 February 2022
Instalment 4	31 May 2022

6. In accordance with section 172 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, requires persons to pay interest on any general rate or annual service charge, which that person is liable to pay and which has not been paid by the date specified for payment.
7. Authorises the Revenue Administrator of Council to levy and recover the general rates, annual service charges and interest where applicable in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.
8. Responds in writing to all submitters to the budget under the signature of the Director Corporate Services.

Carried

Division

For: Cr Matt Tyler, Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud, Cr Peter Hemphill, Cr Jonathon Marsden

Against: Cr Diana Grima, Cr Tony Briffa, Cr Daria Kellander

Carried

Recommendation

That Council, having given public notice of the preparation of a Proposed Annual Budget and having considered submissions received pursuant to section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

1. Adopts the Annual Budget 2021-22 annexed to this report as Attachments 1-3, in accordance with section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
2. Adopts the Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25 annexed to this report as Attachment 4 in accordance with section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give public notice of the decision to adopt the Annual Budget 2021-22 and Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25.
4. Declares Rates and Services Charges totalling \$117.352 million (one hundred and seventeen million, three hundred and fifty-two thousand dollars) (refer to section 4.1.1 of Annual Budget 2021-22) for the year ending 30 June 2022 in accordance with section 158(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* as follows:
 - a. Declares general rates in respect of the 2021-22 financial year, raised by the application of differential rates as follows:
 - i. A general rate of 0.2222 cents in the dollar on capital improved value (CIV) of all rateable residential properties
 - ii. A general rate of 0.3555 cents in the dollar on CIV of all rateable vacant residential properties
 - iii. A general rate of 0.5111 cents in the dollar on CIV of all rateable commercial properties
 - iv. A general rate of 0.7555 cents in the dollar on CIV of all rateable industrial properties
 - v. A general rate of 0.8888 cents in the dollar on CIV of all rateable petrochemical properties
 - vi. A rating concession of 0.1000 cents in the dollar on CIV of all rateable recreational properties
 - b. Provides a waiver, under section 171(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, of:
 - i. \$100 for all residential properties occupied by a ratepayer who is an eligible Department of Veteran Affairs Gold card recipient; OR
 - ii. \$75 for all residential properties occupied by a ratepayer who is an eligible Centrelink pension card recipient (excluding healthcare)
 - c. Declares an annual service charge on properties, in accordance with section 158(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* for the collection, disposal and processing of garbage, recycling, food organics and garden organics (FOGO) and hard waste for the year ending 30 June 2022 to be raised as follows:

\$250.00	Standard (base waste service charge for four bins: 120L garbage, 120L FOGO, 120L glass, 240L mixed recycling)
\$212.00	Shared (properties in multi-unit dwellings/apartments/villages with shared bins)
\$99.00	U1 (upsized to 240L rubbish bin)

\$33.00	U2 (upsized to 240L food and garden bin)
\$0.00	UF1 Free Upsize Waste
\$0.00	UF2 Free Upsize Medical
\$253.00	A1 (additional 240L garbage bin)
\$154.00	A2 (additional 120L garbage bin)
\$99.00	A3 (additional 240L recycling bin)
\$154.00	A4 (additional 240L FOGO bin)
\$121.00	A5 (additional 120L FOGO bin)
\$66.00	A6 (additional 120L glass bin)

5. In accordance with section 158(4) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, requires that general rates and annual service charge must be paid by four instalments made on or before the following dates:

Instalment 1	30 September 2021
Instalment 2	30 November 2021
Instalment 3	28 February 2022
Instalment 4	31 May 2022

6. In accordance with section 172 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, requires persons to pay interest on any general rate or annual service charge, which that person is liable to pay and which has not been paid by the date specified for payment.
7. Authorises the Revenue Administrator of Council to levy and recover the general rates, annual service charges and interest where applicable in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*.
8. Responds in writing to all submitters to the budget under the signature of the Director Corporate Services.

Summary

Council's recommended Annual Budget 2021-22 and Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25 are provided as attachments to this report and are presented for adoption.

The budget as presented has been amended since it was proposed and advertised for public comment. Changes have been made to reflect adjustments required to operating and capital items. In addition, changes have been made in response to submissions made by the community.

The recommended budget is based on an operational surplus of \$31.199 million for the year, although this does not include Council's significant investment in capital expenditure of \$62.089 million for 2021-22.

Operating surpluses are required to ensure that Council remains financially viable to fund current and future commitments, including the Ten Year Capital Works Program. After funding capital works and other non-operational or non-cash items, a balanced Available Funding Result has been calculated.

Despite the predicted operational surplus and balanced Available Funding Result, Council's cash and investment reserves are expected to decline by \$8.818 million during 2021-22.

The financial results continue to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The budget includes \$2 million of targeted community support for community members most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The package includes \$1.35 million in targeted rate relief and \$650,000 towards an evidence-based focus on business, young people, community grants and the arts. Over 125 per cent of the general rate increase is delivered straight back to the community in the form of targeted relief for those who truly need help.

The Annual Budget 2021-22 and Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25 are based on an increase to general rates of 1.5 per cent, in accordance with the Victorian Government rate cap legislation.

Waste service charges are exempt from the rate cap and an increase of 10 per cent is planned for the base waste service charge. The charges for 2021-22 do not cover the cost of providing the waste service as Council has decided to recoup its considerable investment in expanding its waste service progressively over a number of years. Council has also transferred an amount of \$435,000 (equivalent to additional rates to be raised, compared to the Proposed Annual Budget 2021-22) to the waste reserve, which will reduce the reserves deficit and future waste charges.

Rates in 2021-22 will be based on new 2021 valuations, meaning rate increases will vary across the differential rating categories and individual properties. The overall average property valuation in Hobsons Bay has increased by 0.28 per cent, while the average residential property valuation has increased by 0.46 per cent.

There is a common misconception that as properties are revalued, Council receives a "windfall gain" of additional revenue. This is not the case, as the revaluation process results in a redistribution of the rate burden across all properties in the municipality. Total income from rates (excluding waste service charges) is determined by the rate cap. In simple terms, as property values increase, the rate in the dollar is reduced.

While the 2021-22 budgeted operational surplus is a strong result, there is a shortfall in the funding available for the Ten Year Capital Works Program. The program has therefore been reduced in line within the current financial limitations. Council is working to reduce this funding gap, but a few projects in future years remain unfunded now.

Council has a strong history of being financially sustainable and managing service delivery within its means. As revenue constraints outside of Council's control are applied and as the level of organisational maturity increases in asset management, a higher degree of work is required on service planning. This work should ensure that Council remains in a reasonable financial position throughout the duration of its Long Term Financial Plan and delivers the most relevant mix of services to support the Hobsons Bay community.

Background

The annual budget process commenced in late 2020 when Council undertook its 2021-22 pre-budget consultation, providing an opportunity for community members to submit their ideas. The proposed budget brings together all the elements that have influenced its development, including the community consultation process, strategic priorities, Capital Works Program, Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25 and rate modelling, operational budget, and fees and charges.

The Proposed Annual Budget 2021-22 and the Proposed Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25 were endorsed by Council on 20 April 2021. Submissions were invited from the public and Council received 56 submissions in relation to the proposed budget. The submissions were presented to Council on 8 June 2021 and ten submitters who requested to do so, spoke in support of their submissions.

The Victorian Government has implemented an inflation-based rate cap, the Fair Go Rates System, which has been overseen by the Essential Services Commission since 2016-17. The rate cap for 2021-22 is 1.5 per cent, down from 2 per cent in 2020-21.

Discussion

The recommended Annual Budget 2021-22 as attached has been changed since it was proposed and advertised for public comment. The operational surplus of \$31.199 million has increased by \$3.819 million since the proposed budget due to increased budgeted income. Changes made to budgeted income include:

- rates to be raised have been increased by \$435,000 due to the finalisation of the 2021 annual revaluation process
- waste charges have increased by \$44,000, reflecting the increased uptake of the service
- fees and charges decreased by \$34,000 generally to reflect a 20 per cent discount applied to Footpath Furniture Trading Permits when compared to 2020-21, recognising the continued uncertainty for hospitality businesses with reopening and permitted dining numbers
- operating grants have increased by \$68,000 due to an additional grant included for "Women in Building" (\$75,000) and a reduction in Victorian Grants Commission funding (\$7,000)
- capital grants have increased by \$3.305 million due to grants originally expected to be received in 2020-21 that are now expected to be received in 2021-22 (\$3.65 million) and verification of grants that will not be received (\$345,000)

Capital works expenditure of \$62.089 million is a reduction of \$1.402 million from the proposed budget, including:

- additional projects (\$1.664 million) that are expected to be completed early and brought forward into 2021-22
- additional net expenditure (\$264,000) included in the program

Fifty-six responses were received as a result of the legislated public exhibition process in relation to the Proposed Annual Budget 2021-22 and Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-22 to 2024-25. All submitters will receive an individual response following Council consideration of the final budget.

Valuation changes

The average rateable property's capital improved value (CIV) in Hobsons Bay has increased by 0.28 per cent in the past twelve months. Property valuation changes can vary considerably across the differential rating categories and individual properties in a revaluation year.

The overall average CIV increase is 0.28 per cent, but this varies for each rating category as follows:

- residential ▲ 0.46 per cent increase
- residential vacant land ▲ 1.41 per cent increase
- commercial ▼ 2.29 per cent decrease
- industrial ▲ 0.36 per cent increase
- petrochemical ▼ 6.69 per cent decrease
- cultural and recreational ▼ 1.09 per cent decrease

Rate changes

The average general rate increase is 1.5 per cent, consistent with the rate cap, but this varies for each rating category as follows:

- residential ▲ 1.93 per cent increase
- residential vacant land ▲ 2.86 per cent increase
- commercial ▼ 0.89 per cent decrease
- industrial ▲ 1.79 per cent increase
- petrochemical ▼ 5.33 per cent decrease
- cultural and recreational ▲ 0.32 per cent increase

The one-off rate adjustment in 2020-21 has been removed in 2021-22. The removal of the adjustment is not considered in the rate variations above and is not included in the rate cap. It is acknowledged that its removal could be considered to increase the overall rate increase in 2021-22. Last year's rate adjustment has been replaced by \$1.35 million in targeted rate relief, included in the COVID-19 Community Support Package.

The rate notice will include service charges for the collection, disposal and processing of garbage, recycling, glass, garden and food waste and hard waste. These service charges are not subject to the rate cap; rather, they should be based on the cost to provide the service. The charges have been increased by 10 per cent in 2021-22 but still do not cover the cost of providing the waste service. Council has decided to recoup its considerable investment in expanding its waste service progressively over future years.

Rate notices will also include the fire services property levy that Council collects on behalf of the Victorian Government. This levy is not regarded as Council income and is not included within the figures outlined in the Proposed Annual Budget 2021-22.

Should further financial assistance be required, it can be provided through Council's Financial Hardship Policy and/or COVID-19 Financial Assistance Policy.

8.2.3 Proposed Lease to Optus at Paisley Park, 217 Mason Street, Altona North

Directorate:	Corporate Services
Responsible Officer:	Coordinator Property and Insurance
Reviewer:	Director Corporate Services
Attachments:	1. Lease Plan - Paisley Park, 217 Mason Street, Altona North [8.2.3.1 - 1 page] 2. Location Plan - Paisley Park, 217 Mason Street, Altona North [8.2.3.2 - 1 page]

Purpose

To advise Council of the outcome of the statutory procedure pursuant to section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the LG Act 2020) and to commence preparation of documentation with Optus Mobile Pty Ltd for a new lease for the premises at Paisley Park, 217 Mason Street, Altona North.

Motion

Moved Cr Peter Hemphill, seconded Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud:

That Council:

1. Notes that in accordance with section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Council resolution made on 9 February 2021, a notice of intention to lease to Optus Mobile Pty Ltd (Optus) at Paisley Park, 217 Mason Street was published on 17 February 2021.
2. Notes that no submissions were received in response to the public notice to lease to Optus.
3. Resolves to appoint Optus as the tenant for the new lease:

Premises: 217 Mason Street, Altona North as shown on the attached lease plan

Permitted use: For the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating a telecommunications network and telecommunications service including but not limited to installing, storing, operating, repairing, maintaining, altering and replacing telecommunications equipment consistent with the evolving nature of telecommunications services

Commencement: Following approval by Council and after receipt of the Grant and Purpose from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)

Length of term: 11 years with 2 x 5 year rights of renewal

Rent: The commencing rent is to be \$30,000 (thirty thousand dollars) per annum plus GST

4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to undertake the necessary tasks required to facilitate the lease to Optus including the execution of the lease document.

Lost

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes that in accordance with section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Council resolution made on 9 February 2021, a notice of intention to lease to Optus Mobile Pty Ltd (Optus) at Paisley Park, 217 Mason Street was published on 17 February 2021.

2. Notes that no submissions were received in response to the public notice to lease to Optus.

3. Resolves to appoint Optus as the tenant for the new lease:

Premises: 217 Mason Street, Altona North as shown on the attached lease plan

Permitted use: For the purpose of constructing, maintaining and operating a telecommunications network and telecommunications service including but not limited to installing, storing, operating, repairing, maintaining, altering and replacing telecommunications equipment consistent with the evolving nature of telecommunications services

Commencement: Following approval by Council and after receipt of the Grant and Purpose from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)

Length of term: 11 years with 2 x 5 year rights of renewal

Rent: The commencing rent is to be \$30,000 (thirty thousand dollars) per annum plus GST

4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer or delegate to undertake the necessary tasks required to facilitate the lease to Optus including the execution of the lease document.

Summary

It is proposed to offer a lease to Optus on commercial terms to erect a monopole and associated ground-based equipment to operate a telecommunications network and telecommunications service from Paisley Park, Altona North. It is proposed to offer Optus a lease for a total of 21 years on an 11+5+5 basis. This is the maximum term of lease permitted under section 17D of the *Crown Lands (Reserves) Act 1978* (CLR Act).

At the Council Meeting held on 9 February 2021, Council resolved to commence the statutory process to grant a new lease to Optus. Council is required to give public notice of the proposal to lease the Premises and invite and hear submissions in accordance with section 115 of the LG Act 2020.

Council published a public notice in the *Maribymong and Hobsons Bay Star Weekly* on 17 February 2021. The submission period was for 28 days and expired on 19 March 2021. No submissions were received.

This report is presented to Council seeking approval to proceed with the granting of the lease.

Background

The subject land is Crown land described as Crown Allotment B2, Section 3, Parish of Cut-Paw-Paw and is temporarily reserved for recreation. Hobsons Bay City Council is the appointed Committee of Management (CoM) for the site. The grant and purpose have been approved for the proposed lease under section 17D of the CLR Act, which permits a lease period of up to 21 years.

The proposed telecommunications site is located within the PJ Lynch Reserve and Paisley Park, south of Mason Street and east of Mills Street, Altona North. The proposed site is situated at the southern end of the existing lacrosse courts and is accessed from Mason Street via an internal road. The lease area is 102m² as shown on the attached plan. The lease area is adjacent to the lacrosse field and the position has been agreed in consultation with other Council departments.

The proposed location is near a monopole and ground-based equipment shed owned by Telstra. Telstra leases the area from Council. The proposed pole is at a sufficient distance from the Telstra pole not to interfere with Telstra's equipment. The Telstra pole is overloaded with equipment and there is no capacity for any more equipment on this pole. Telstra has made enquiries to locate equipment on the proposed new Optus pole. Telecommunications companies are required to share space on their poles under the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

Paisley Park incorporates various recreational facilities including the Altona Lakes Golf Course, Altona North Bowling Club, Altona Badminton Centre, lacrosse courts, and indoor swimming and fitness centres. Bayside P-12 College is located nearby.

Utilities complementing the subject property can be found within 500m, including the main entry to Paisley Park off Mason Street, Altona North.

The site is located close to various primary and secondary arterial roads including Mason and Mills Street, Altona North. The proposed telecommunications site is centrally located and adjoins the residential areas of Altona North, Newport, South Kingsville and Williamstown North.

Discussion

It is proposed to offer a lease of the area shown on the attached plan on the following terms and conditions:

Tenant:	Optus Mobile Pty Ltd
Term:	21 years (11 years with 2 x 5 year rights of renewal)
Commencement:	Following approval by Council and grant and purpose approval by DELWP
Commencing rental:	\$30,000 (plus GST)
Rent reviews:	Five-yearly market rent reviews and annual rental increases of 3%
Lease document:	The lease will be a standard DELWP section 17D Leases with special conditions to tailor the lease for this site

8.3 Sustainable Communities

8.3.1 Kerbside Waste and Recycling Service Review

Directorate:	Sustainable Communities
Responsible Officer:	Manager Strategy, Economy and Sustainability
Reviewer:	Director Sustainable Communities
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. One Year Review Hobsons Bay Kerbside Waste and Recycling Services [8.3.1.1 - 32 pages]2. 2021 Hobsons Bay Kerbside Collection Services Review Survey Summary Report [8.3.1.2 - 167 pages]3. Kerbside Collection Services Review Business Survey Report [8.3.1.3 - 51 pages]4. Kerbside Waste and Recycling Review Performance Data [8.3.1.4 - 11 pages]5. Kerbside Review Additional Performance Slides [8.3.1.5 – 10 pages]

Cr Peter Hemphill raised a point of order, requesting an opportunity to discuss and ask questions on the motion moved by Cr Daria Kellander before seeking a seconder. Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden replied that this was his intention, in order for Councillors to be able to make an informed decision before voting on or supporting the motion.

Cr Tony Briffa raised a point of order in relation to Cr Peter Hemphill’s statement that “some of the Councillors” did not receive the motion until a few minutes before entering the Council Chamber. Cr Briffa stated that Cr Hemphill’s remark was irrelevant, and added that as far as she knew, all Councillors received the motion just before the meeting. Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden concluded that the discussion was out of order and requested Councillors return to questions on the substance of the motion.

Cr Daria Kellander raised a point of order in relation to the Chief Executive Officer’s remark that the budget impact of the motion had not been specifically modelled, stating that it had been modelled in the slide pack. Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden did not accept the point of order as valid and directed Councillors to refer to the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules when raising points of order in future.

Cr Peter Hemphill raised a point of order in relation to the amended motion, stating that the mover of an amendment has the right to be able to speak to the amendment. Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden agreed and allowed Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud, as the mover, five minutes to speak to the amendment.

Following the call for division on the Amended Motion, Cr Peter Hemphill raised a point of order to remind Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden to call any abstentions from a vote during a division. Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden conceded the point and stated Cr Peter Hemphill as an abstention.

Purpose

To present the findings of the Kerbside Waste and Recycling One Year Review.

Motion

Moved Cr Daria Kellander, seconded Cr Matt Tyler:

- 1. Thanks the community for their feedback and shares the engagement results with the community as part of communication related to any changes to the service as a result of the review.**
- 2. Implements changes to the residential service to:**
 - a. Reinstate weekly general waste collection for all households.**
 - b. Revert Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) collection back to fortnightly for all households.**
 - c. As part of a trial, extends the use of compostable paper bags for FOGO to all households who opt-in.**
- 3. Develops and introduces a more tailored option for businesses to utilise only the bins they need or share, alongside consideration of improved education and compliance activities to address amenity impacts where businesses are not meeting their obligations.**
- 4. Prepares a report that:**
 - a. Explores mechanisms to continue to reduce landfill volumes and meet households waste and FOGO needs, while also minimising costs.**
 - b. Explores opportunities to increase disposal of food organics in the FOGO bin, noting that this is currently only 2-6% of total FOGO volume.**
 - c. Explores mechanisms that reduces the need to rollout additional bins as part of down-sizing / upsizing in order to reduce capital costs, and the environmental impacts of rolling out additional bins and/or disposing of returned bins.**
 - d. Recommends service charges for all upsized and additional bins in future, based on an initial one off capital cost, followed by ongoing operating costs, rather than a flat fee paid every year (i.e. explore a reduction in charges in the second and subsequent year after the capital cost of a new bin has been incurred).**
 - e. Explores educational options that continue to increase ongoing awareness to reduce contamination rates and improve environmental outcomes.**

5. Immediately suspends the “Pilot of Vented Caddies for FOGO” of \$25,000 (as noted in the Annual Budget 2021-22) until the report in item 4 (above) is considered.
6. Extends the free garbage upsize program for households who currently have a 240L bin under the Covid Upsize Program until the report in item 4 (above) is considered.
7. Notes the potential financial implications of changes to the service provision which would be accounted for through forecast adjustments in 2021-22.

Carried

Division

For: Cr Matt Tyler, Cr Diana Grima, Cr Tony Briffa, Cr Daria Kellander

Against: Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud, Cr Jonathon Marsden

Abstained: Cr Peter Hemphill

Carried

Deferral Motion

Moved Cr Peter Hemphill, Cr Tony Briffa:

To defer the motion until the next Council Meeting.

Lost

Amended Motion

Moved Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud, seconded Cr Peter Hemphill:

1. Thanks the community for their feedback and shares the engagement results with the community as part of communication related to any changes to the service as a result of the review.
2. Implements changes to the residential service to:
 - a. Reinstate weekly general waste collection for all households.
 - b. Retain Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) as a weekly collection for all households.
 - c. As part of a trial, extends the use of compostable paper bags for FOGO to all households who opt-in.

3. Develops and introduces a more tailored option for businesses to utilise only the bins they need or share, alongside consideration of improved education and compliance activities to address amenity impacts where businesses are not meeting their obligations.
4. Prepares a report that:
 - a. Explores mechanisms to continue to reduce landfill volumes and meet households waste and FOGO needs, while also minimising costs.
 - b. Explores opportunities to increase disposal of food organics in the FOGO bin, noting that this is currently only 2-6% of total FOGO volume.
 - c. Explores mechanisms that reduces the need to rollout additional bins as part of down-sizing / upsizing in order to reduce capital costs, and the environmental impacts of rolling out additional bins and/or disposing of returned bins.
 - d. Recommends service charges for all upsized and additional bins in future, based on an initial one off capital cost, followed by ongoing operating costs, rather than a flat fee paid every year (i.e. explore a reduction in charges in the second and subsequent year after the capital cost of a new bin has been incurred).
 - e. Explores educational options that continue to increase ongoing awareness to reduce contamination rates and improve environmental outcomes.
5. Immediately suspends the “Pilot of Vented Caddies for FOGO” of \$25,000 (as noted in the Annual Budget 2021-22) until the report in item 4 (above) is considered.
6. Extends the free garbage upsize program for households who currently have a 240L bin under the Covid Upsize Program until the report in item 4 (above) is considered.
7. Notes the potential financial implications of changes to the service provision which would be accounted for through forecast adjustments in 2021-22.

Lost

Division

For: Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud, Cr Jonathon Marsden

Against: Cr Matt Tyler, Cr Diana Grima, Cr Tony Briffa, Cr Daria Kellander

Abstained: Cr Peter Hemphill

Lost

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Thanks the community for their feedback and shares the engagement results with the community as part of communication around any changes to the service as a result of the review.**
2. **Notes the outcomes of the Kerbside Waste and Recycling One Year Review with an average rating of 7.4 out of 10 being “good” to “very good” community satisfaction levels, though identifying several clear areas for improvement.**
3. **Implements two key changes to the residential service to:**
 - a. **Extend the current “free upsize” to a 240L garbage bin to all households**
 - b. **Pilot a compostable paper bag trial for food organics and garden organics (FOGO) kitchen caddies as a precursor to extending to all households**
4. **Develops and introduces a more tailored option for businesses to utilise only the bins they need or share bins alongside consideration of stronger enforcement to address amenity impacts where businesses are not meeting their obligations.**
5. **Notes the potential financial implications of changes to the service provision which would be accounted for through forecast adjustments in 2021-22.**

Summary

Council’s new kerbside recycling and waste service commenced in February 2020. Following a full year of the new service an extensive review has been undertaken. The review incorporates in-depth analysis of extensive community feedback on the program and performance outcomes of all four streams of the service. The review achieved a high rate of community engagement with more than 6,000 respondents. The majority of respondents report “good” to “very good” satisfaction levels with the overall service, the average rating being 7.4 out of 10.

Key performance outcomes of the first year of the service include a 33 per cent reduction in landfill and a 124 per cent increase in FOGO waste. There has been an increase in comingled recycling of 11 per cent; however, there are significant contamination issues in the comingled stream. Key areas of concern for the community relate to the volume of the fortnightly garbage stream and the smell and mess of the FOGO stream.

Background

Council’s new kerbside recycling and waste service was developed in response to the SKM recycling crisis and strong community feedback seeking that Council act quickly to develop a sustainable recycling solution for Hobsons Bay. On 8 October 2019, Council endorsed the immediate rollout of a revised waste and recycling service that included four bins for kerbside source separation, a focus on local recycling and resource use, a revised kerbside collection schedule and an intensive community engagement program.

This brought forward key elements of the Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025, including introducing a FOGO service and improving kerbside source separation. The new service is in line with the directions of the Victorian Government's circular economy policy *Recycling Victoria: a new economy*, announced in February 2020.

Discussion

Council introduced a four-bin kerbside waste and recycling service in February 2020 in response to the significant changes in the waste and recycling sector. The service is aligned with new Victorian Government requirements and meets Council's core objective to divert waste from landfill.

This review was undertaken following a full year of the new service. The review incorporates in-depth analysis of extensive community feedback on the program and performance outcomes of all four streams of the service. In its first year the new kerbside waste and recycling service:

- reduced landfill by 33 per cent (7,000 tonnes)
- increased FOGO by 124 per cent (9,500 tonnes)
- increased comingled recycling by 11 per cent (once adjusted for glass)
- highlighted contamination issues in the comingled stream
- introduced a dedicated glass recycling stream, collecting 2,968 tonnes with contamination rates of less than 5 per cent

A majority of residents report "good" to "very good" satisfaction levels with the overall service with the average rating being 7.4 out of 10.

Engagement

The review achieved a high rate of community engagement, with more than 6,000 individual responses. The cornerstone of the review was a statistically representative phone survey undertaken with 500 residents providing feedback with a 95 per cent confidence interval. An opt-in version of the survey was also offered, with a letter sent to all households and ratepayers to ensure that all residents had the opportunity to be heard. A similar survey was undertaken with Hobsons Bay businesses. In place consultations and targeted focus groups were also held.

The survey feedback is positive overall but there were some clear areas of frustration identifying opportunities for improvement. A key observation from the survey was the difference between the statistically significant phone survey of a random sample of residents, and the opt-in online version of the survey. There is a noticeable and consistent difference between the two surveys, with respondents to the opt-in survey on average less satisfied than the random sample. Council engaged consultant research specialists Metropolis to design and conduct the surveys; Metropolis advise that the random sample survey is the most representative of the community feedback.

Service change and performance

The new service introduced significant change, including introduction of FOGO to all households, a new dedicated glass bin, revised frequency of collection for the garbage stream and reduced items accepted in the comingled stream. Given the extent of change,

the performance outcomes of the initial months indicate a transitional period borne out in the data across all streams. Extensive engagement programs were undertaken to inform and educate the community on the changes; however, these were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown restrictions in 2020.

Setting aside the first few transitional months, the new service has seen a reduction in landfill of 7,000 tonnes (or 33 per cent) in the first year, alongside a significant increase in FOGO.

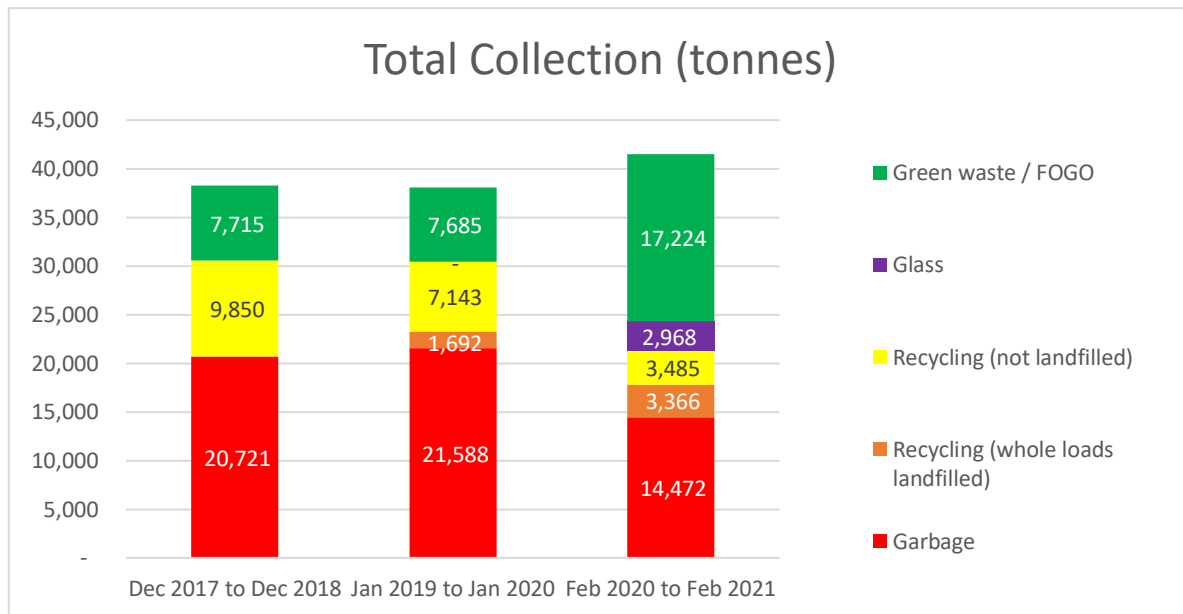


Figure 1: Total collection volumes, showing a decrease in landfill and increase in recycling outcomes

Garbage

Based on community feedback, one of the most impactful changes of the program was the change to the collection frequency of the garbage stream. With the increase in recycling collections, including a weekly FOGO and four-weekly glass collection, the new program changed the collection of garbage from weekly to fortnightly. This change has elicited the highest amount of feedback. Bin fullness checks indicated that about 80 per cent of garbage bins had sufficient capacity. Given that the base service is based on 120L bin capacity, further analysis of the bin fullness checks was undertaken to adjust the results to include households who have upsized to a 240L bin with more than 50 per cent as full. When adjusted about 40 per cent of households are struggling with the 120L bin capacity. This aligns with presentation rates showing that the vast majority of households present their rubbish bin every collection cycle.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns in 2020, a free upsize to a 240L bin was offered to all large households of four or more and those with medical needs. Of the approximately 8,400 eligible households that qualify for a free upsize, 59 per cent (about 5,000) have responded to the offer.

The feedback indicates that the majority of residents are satisfied with the garbage stream service (63 per cent satisfied with size, 66 per cent satisfied with frequency), with the current system the most preferred by respondents. However, a proportion of respondents are

dissatisfied with the size of the garbage bin, and not all are prepared to pay additional individual (user pays) costs for a larger bin.

FOGO

The service introduced the collection of food organics across the municipality and the collection of garden organics to all households. The previous service only provided for collection of garden organics as an opt-in service. The number of FOGO bins in service increased by 47 per cent with the introduction of the new service.

There has been a good uptake of FOGO, resulting in a significant reduction in the volume of landfill. Figure 1 indicates an increase of 9,500 tonnes or 124 per cent in the first year. Other influences on increased FOGO volumes are that lockdowns resulted in more people at home, and that 2020 was an unseasonably wet summer resulting in more garden waste. The weekly 120L FOGO service is preferred by the majority of residents.

While the uptake of FOGO has been high, there are concerns about odour and mess, particularly as the service does not accept compostable bags. This is exacerbated by the fact that some other councils (with alternative FOGO recycling partners) do accept compostable bags.

Comingled recycling

The new kerbside service did not change the volume or collection frequency of the comingled recycling stream. However, the items that were accepted in the comingled bin did change. The review has highlighted the need for significant ongoing work to reduce contamination in this stream. Education and contamination assessment programs including bin inspections, truck audits and communication campaigns are resulting in improved contamination outcomes (on average from 38 per cent to 33 per cent contamination through two cycles of bin inspections, equating to a 13 per cent improvement); however, it will take time.

Glass recycling

The service introduced a new glass-only bin for all households. After the initial transitional months where glass contamination was high in the comingled stream, the glass service has been positive. The glass waste stream has very low contamination rates and high community satisfaction levels. The presentation rates are low for glass bins, with 58 per cent of residents not presenting their bin each month, indicating that there may be an opportunity for sharing options for some households, such as multi-unit developments, that may not require a bin per unit. There is also an opportunity to continue to explore higher end use of the collected glass.

Businesses

Council's kerbside service is tailored to meet the needs of residents. However, it is also offered to businesses as an opt-in service. Many businesses do not use Council's waste and recycling services as their needs differ from residential users. Businesses who do use the service indicate higher utilisation of the garbage and comingled recycling bins. Contamination assessments of comingled commercial bins indicate similar contamination levels to residential bins, although with a slightly higher level of glass. Some businesses have an issue with storing the bins and there are frequent complaints about visible

contamination, amenity issues, and bins accessible in laneways leading to increased contamination and illegal dumping.

It is recommended to offer businesses a more tailored option to utilise only the bins they need or share bins with other businesses, alongside the possibility of stronger enforcement to address amenity impacts where businesses are not meeting their obligations.

Opportunity for change

A range of opportunities for change were considered following community and Council feedback. These include options (and combinations of options) such as reintroducing a weekly garbage service for part or all of the year, switching FOGO to a fortnightly service for all or part of the year, extension of the limited access (for example to all households with three or more people instead of the current four) to a free garbage bin upsize, and a free upsize of any one stream for each household.

Two main changes are recommended to the current service:

- extend the current “free upsize” to a 240L garbage bin to all households
- pilot a compostable paper bag trial for FOGO kitchen caddies as a precursor to extending to all households

A further change is recommended around tailoring the service to participating businesses to allow them to opt out of streams they are not using, and also to increase enforcement for businesses that are not managing their waste.

These options address the greatest pain points of the system for the community, being volume in the garbage stream and use of bags in the FOGO stream, while still meeting the need to reduce landfill and not significantly increase operational costs.

8.3.2 Extension of COVID-19 Free Garbage Bin Upsize Program

Directorate: Sustainable Communities
Responsible Officer: Manager Strategy, Economy and Sustainability
Reviewer: Director Sustainable Communities
Attachments: Nil

Purpose

To extend the free upsize bin program introduced as part of Council's COVID-19 package to accommodate the review of Council's kerbside waste and recycling program.

This Council report and the motion moved by Cr Tony Briffa and seconded by Cr Daria Kellander were deferred from the 20 April 2021 Council Meeting for subsequent debate and resolution by Council at the Council Meeting to be held on 29 June 2021.

The report's recommendations may be superseded by Council's resolution on Item 8.3.1 Kerbside Waste and Recycling Service Review.

Motion

Moved Cr Tony Briffa, seconded Cr Daria Kellander:

That Council extends the optional free garbage bin upsize program to 30 June 2022 for all households.

Lapsed

Recommendation

That Council extends the free garbage bin upsize program to 30 June 2022 for eligible households.

Summary

Council introduced the Recycling 2.0 kerbside waste and recycling program in February 2020. The program has had some positive outcomes in the food organics and garden organics (FOGO) and glass streams. A key area for improvement is high comingled recycling contamination levels. Although garbage volumes have reduced overall, there is still pressure on garbage bin volumes for some households.

The COVID-19 pandemic has also substantially impacted household waste volumes, with more people at home generating additional waste for their kerbside bins.

An interim review of the program was completed in June 2020 and a further review is currently underway of the first year of operation. Due to the timing of the current review, it is proposed that the free upsize bin program be extended by one year to 30 June 2022.

Update from original April report: As the consideration of this report was deferred until 29 June 2021, in April 2021 Council contacted all participants in the COVID-19 free bin upsize program to advise that there would be some extension of time. This was required to ensure that households did not begin to return upsized bins, prior to a decision being taken about the future of the program.

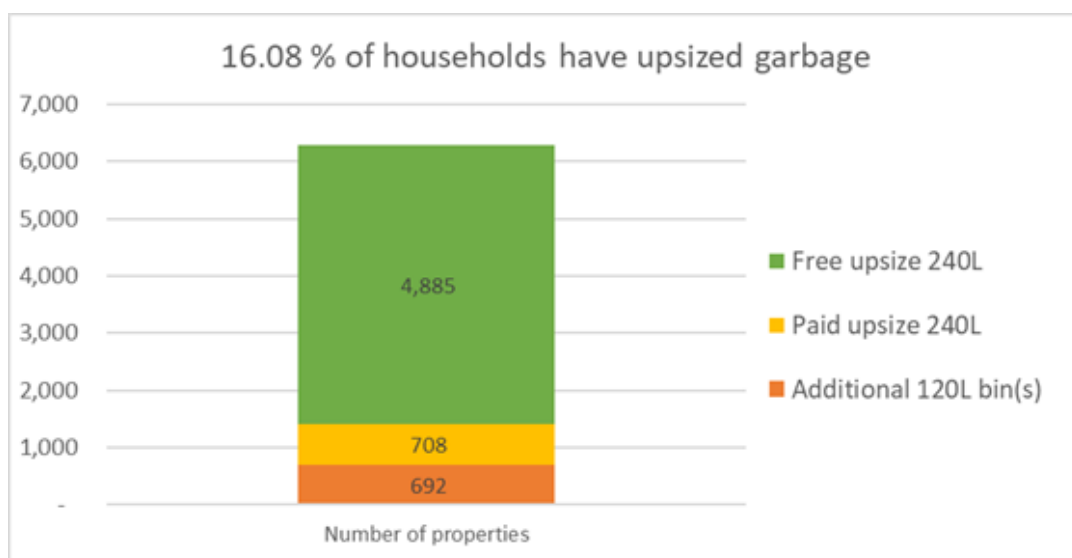
Background

Recycling 2.0 was developed in response to the SKM recycling crisis and strong community feedback seeking that Council act quickly to develop a sustainable recycling solution for Hobsons Bay. On 8 October 2019, Council endorsed the rollout of a revised waste and recycling service that included four bins for kerbside source separation, a focus on local recycling and resource use, a revised kerbside collection schedule and an intensive community engagement program. The program brought forward key elements of Council's Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025 (adopted in August 2019), such as introducing a FOGO service and improving kerbside source separation, and is in line with the directions of the Victorian Government's circular economy policy.

The Recycling 2.0 program has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which amplified pressure on garbage bins with more people at home generating additional waste. Council's response to this challenge included a free 240L garbage bin upsizing program for eligible households. These included larger households of four or more people and those with significant volumes of nappies or medical waste needs. The interim upsized garbage bin program is due to expire on 30 June 2021.

Discussion

As at February 2021, about 16 per cent of households have chosen to have either an upsized garbage bin or an additional garbage bin (Figure 1). Of this number, about 4,900 households (or about 57 per cent of eligible households) have applied for the COVID-19 free upsize.



Council is currently undertaking a review of its kerbside waste and recycling program, with a report to be considered by Council in mid-2021. This review will cover all four streams of the service to households and businesses and will analyse key areas of the program including the capacity and scheduling of each stream, the frequency of collections and community attitudes and behaviours.

Due to the timing of the review, it is proposed that the free upsize bin program be extended by one year to 30 June 2022. The outcomes and potential recommendations of the review which looks at a full year of the new service are still to be determined. Extending the free upsize program will minimise potential recommendations being impacted by changeover or returns of upsized bins.

8.4 Infrastructure and City Services

8.4.1 Draft Place Guide - Better Places Spotswood and South Kingsville

Directorate:	Infrastructure and City Services
Responsible Officer:	Manager Active Communities and Assets
Reviewer:	Director Infrastructure and City Services
Attachments:	Draft Place Guide - Better Places Spotswood and South Kingsville [8.4.1.1 - 95 pages]

Cr Briffa left the meeting at 9.08pm and was not present for the vote on Item 8.4.1.

Cr Diana Grima left the meeting at 9.10pm and was not present for the vote on Item 8.4.1.

Purpose

To seek Council's endorsement of the Draft Place Guide for Better Places Spotswood and South Kingsville (BPSSK) to be placed on public exhibition.

Motion

Moved Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud, seconded Cr Peter Hemphill:

That Council:

1. Endorses the Draft Place Guide for Better Places Spotswood and South Kingsville to be placed on public exhibition for six weeks from 30 June to 11 August 2021.
2. Receives a further report to adopt the Place Guide for Spotswood and South Kingsville at a future Council Meeting.

Carried

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Endorses the Draft Place Guide for Better Places Spotswood and South Kingsville to be placed on public exhibition for six weeks from 30 June to 11 August 2021.
2. Receives a further report to adopt the Place Guide for Spotswood and South Kingsville at a future Council Meeting.

Summary

The Draft Place Guide for BPSSK includes projects and initiatives identified as part of the visioning phase for Spotswood and South Kingsville. Some projects can be funded and implemented under existing implementation budgets, while others will require future funding to be secured. All projects identified in the Draft Place Guide will have further consultation and involvement from the community. The guide steps the reader through the Better Places process from start to finish to show how the outcomes were determined.

Background

The Better Places model is focused on a design-led and place-based approach to projects. It helps provide a clear vision and understanding of the elements required to make better places, and therefore provides better outcomes for the community. It is ultimately about providing a more collaborative and multi-disciplinary approach that moves away from the traditional model of delivering projects as “pieces” to an approach where the whole “place” is considered and driven by a community vision for the suburb. It focuses on innovation with the aim of delivering better outcomes for the community.

Better Places Laverton was the pilot project for this new approach to planning projects and working with the community. This approach provided the community with greater ownership of their neighbourhood by encouraging them to be actively involved in steering the future direction of their suburb.

Spotswood and South Kingsville are places with varied neighbourhood characters, transitioning from the industrial areas to the east to the mixed use and varied densities of central Spotswood, through to the more suburban character of South Kingsville.

The development of the Better Places Place Guide commenced in October 2020 with preliminary consultation undertaken with Council officers.

Discussion

General community consultation and key stakeholder group workshops were undertaken in November 2020. The community was asked to share their thoughts and ideas on three key themes of love, change and ideas. This feedback was sourced through a survey that was mailed out to residents and hosted on Participate Hobsons Bay. Over 3,200 responses were received across the consultation mediums and groups in total.

From the feedback received, the community views were shaped into a shared vision for Spotswood and South Kingsville which was supported by the below key themes:

- Remembering Our Past, Shaping Our Future
- Changing How We Move into The Future
- Improving and Greening Our Spaces and Places
- Enhancing Our Village Lifestyle

These themes describe what the Spotswood and South Kingsville community value most, as well as the elements that they want to see protected and improved into the future. For each of the key elements, potential projects and initiatives were identified within the community.

The shared vision, the four key themes for potential projects and initiatives were collated into a Draft Vision Summary document that was published for community comment and feedback from 22 February to 29 March 2021.

Feedback from this consultation was overwhelmingly positive with some comments and suggestions adopted into the current draft place guide. The Draft Place Guide is the result of the Better Places process that starts with wide-ranging, open-ended questions then narrows down to a set of projects and programs designed to help the local community move towards a shared vision for the future.

Based on community, Councillor and Council officer feedback, the BPSSK guide now also includes a “next steps” section that helps define exactly how each project will transition from planning into implementation.

9 Delegate Reports

Cr Briffa and Cr Grima were still absent from the meeting and neither was present for the vote on Item 9.

Purpose

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

Motion

Moved Cr Peter Hemphill, seconded Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud:

That Council receives and notes the recent Delegate Reports.

Carried

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: 14 April 2021

The Truganina Explosives Reserve Preservation Society was successful in a Make It Happen grant application that will assist the group in running open days and events. Funding was received on 23 April 2021.

A big thanks was passed on to Council for the major roof restoration works carried out at the Under Keeper's Quarters.

It was noted that the Open Day in May 2021 would be included as part of the Heritage Hobsons Bay program, co-hosted by the Inner West Branch of the National Trust. The event would be held on Sunday 2 May between 11am and 4pm and would include an art show, children's attractions, barbecue and afternoon tea.

The Hobsons Bay Wetlands Centre is expecting advice from the Australian Taxation Office that donations to the centre would be tax deductible.

RoadSafe Westgate Community Road Safety Council

Directorate: Infrastructure and City Services

Councillor Delegate: Cr Diana Grima

Date of Meeting: Wednesday 19 May 2021

Council officers are undertaking the second-round consultation to develop Local Area Movement Plans (LAMPs) for the northern area of Hobsons Bay, encompassing the suburbs of Brooklyn, Altona North, Newport, Williamstown North, Spotswood and South Kingsville. These LAMPs aim to improve the way the community travels throughout the city. The Northern LAMPs will deliver a future framework to guide Council's infrastructure planning to help maintain a safe, well-connected transport network.

Construction work for 10 raised platforms and 40 pram crossings along May and Cresser Streets in Altona North are currently under construction to maintain lower vehicle speeds and improve pedestrian access in this vicinity. The construction works will be completed by early July 2021.

Construction of new traffic islands and a bike lane to improve safety and amenity along Victoria Street, Altona Meadows between Queen Street and Hall Avenue is nearing completion.

New footpath kerb ramps to improve access at Sargood Street and The Esplanade intersection, Altona were completed in early May 2021.

10 Notices of Motion

No notices of motion were received.

11 Supplementary Public Question Time

Cr Tony Briffa returned to the meeting at 9.14pm.

Nil

12 Urgent Business

Cr Diana Grima returned to the meeting at 9.14pm.

Nil

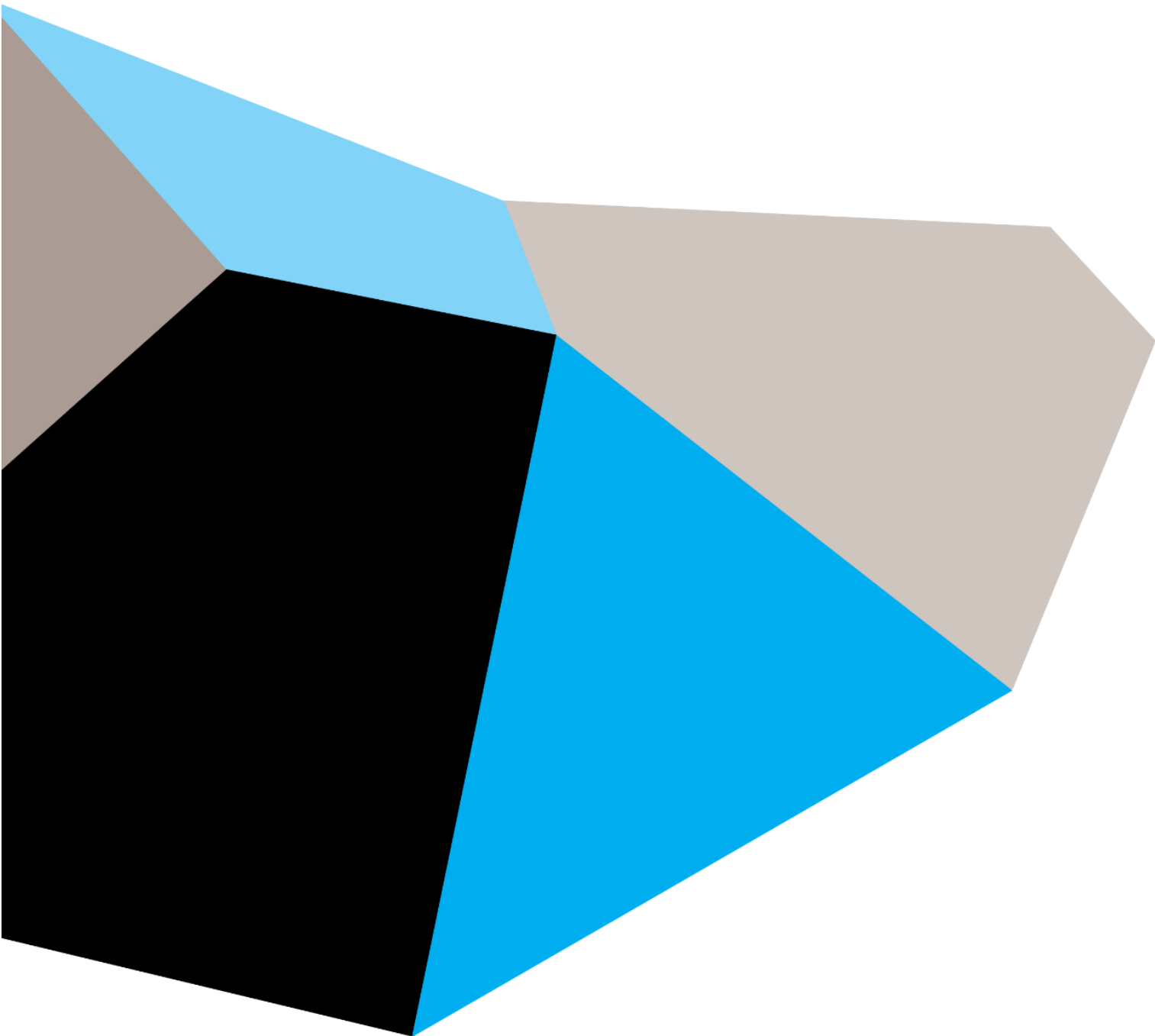
13 Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 9.14pm.

Chairperson – Cr Jonathon Marsden

Signed and certified as having been confirmed.

13 July 2021



HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL

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