



# Council Meeting Agenda

Tuesday 10 August 2021  
Commencing at 7.00 PM

Virtual Meeting

**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 Matt Tyler

Wetlands Ward

Cr Diana Grima

Wetlands Ward

Aaron van Egmond  
Chief Executive Officer  
Hobsons Bay City Council

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## 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 Virtual Meeting Protocols

Due to current COVID-19 restrictions, this Council Meeting is being conducted virtually in accordance with subsection 4.6 of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules, and will be livestreamed on the Council website at <http://webcast.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au>

### 2.1 Voting Method

Voting will be conducted by show of hands, as in the Council Chamber.

### 2.2 Absence From Meeting

If a Councillor leaves the meeting at any time for any reason other than for a conflict of interest, the Councillor will stand to indicate their intention to leave and then walk away.

If a Councillor needs to leave the meeting due to a declared conflict of interest, the Chairperson will remove the Councillor from the virtual meeting until the matter under discussion has been resolved. The Chairperson will then invite the Councillor back into the meeting.

If a Councillor cannot be seen or heard due to technical issues and cannot carry on as a participant in the meeting, the meeting will continue as long as a quorum remains.

If the quorum is lost, the meeting will be adjourned until the quorum can be returned.

The time that any Councillor leaves and returns to the meeting will be recorded in the minutes regardless of the reason for absence.

## 3 Apologies

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

## 4 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.

## **5 Confirmation of Minutes**

### **5.1 Confirmation of Minutes**

Confirmation of the minutes of the Urgent Council Meeting of Hobsons Bay City Council held on 8 July 2021 and the minutes of the Council Meeting of Hobsons Bay City Council held on 13 July 2021 (copy previously circulated).

## **6 Councillor Questions**

## **7 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.

## 8 Petitions and Joint Letters

### 8.1 Petitions and Joint Letters Received

#### 8.1.1 Joint Letter - Decision to Reinstate Weekly Garbage Collection

The motion moved by Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud and seconded by Cr Peter Hemphill to receive the joint letter at the Council Meeting held on 13 July 2021 was deferred from that Council Meeting for subsequent debate and resolution by Council at the next Council Meeting, to be held on 10 August 2021.

Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud tabled a joint letter containing nine signatories which read as follows:

“On the afternoon of Tuesday 6 July, Better West Inc initiated a petition that asks Council –

- rescinds (or overturns) the decision made on 29 June to reinstate weekly garbage collection and to reduce the FOGO collection to fortnightly
- listens to the positive community feedback from the statistically valid community survey
- finds a better, affordable and sustainable solution for those households who need more than a 120L bin with a fortnightly collection; and
- continues to advocate to reduce waste and assist households adjusting to the waste service

Better West Inc did not have the opportunity to present the petition at the Urgent Council Meeting on 8 July. In approximately 48 hours up to the time of the Urgent Council Meeting more than 1,600 signatures were collected. Approximately (80%) of those signatures were valid local signatures as per section 12.1.5 of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules.

We, the undersigned, acknowledge the Council decision made on 29 June regarding the Kerbside waste service outlined in the Resolution.

We now ask that Council:

1. In thanking the community for their feedback in the Kerbside Waste and recycling review, share the engagement results with the community, including 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
2. Publicly congratulate Council’s staff and contractors for the achievements of the Recycling 2.0 over the past 18 months, including a reduction in waste to landfill of 33 per cent; and
3. Make the review and survey easily and clearly accessible on Council’s website for the community and for other councils who are moving to the four bin system

We ask that the Report asked for in point 4 of the adopted Motion for Item: 8.3.1 Kerbside Waste and Recycling Service Review 29 June 2021 (the Motion):

1. Be developed by Council officers
2. Consider options that are comprehensive and examine the merits of returning to garbage collections on a fortnightly basis should landfill costs escalate, alongside a weekly food and garden organic collection

3. Is evidence based and builds upon the 2021 Waste Services Review and the results of the community survey
4. Is consistent with the endorsed Waste and Litter Strategy 2025 and recommits Council to the targets within that Strategy including the target to divert 54% of waste from landfill by June 2022, and by 66% by 2025
5. Includes a monitoring and accountability schedule to report progress towards these targets and periodically report this performance to the community through a range of available media and including some visual information on progress towards these goals
6. The final recommendations in the Report are presented to Councillors after community consultation, including clear information of the impact of the intervention in meeting waste reduction targets in the Strategy and cost-benefit analysis
7. The final recommendations are presented to Councillors prior to any changes made to the weekly FOGO collection”

## **Motion**

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

**That Council:**

1. **Receives and notes the joint letter in relation to the decision to reinstate weekly garbage collection.**
2. **Subject to a review of the validity of the joint letter in accordance with the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules, receives a further report on this matter at a future Council meeting.**

**Deferred**

## **Deferral Motion**

**Moved Cr Tony Briffa, seconded Cr Daria Kellander:**

**That Council defers the motion to the next Council Meeting.**

**Carried**

## **Division**

**For: Cr Tyler, Cr Grima, Cr Briffa, Cr Kellander**

**Against: Cr Sutton-Legaud, Cr Hemphill, Cr Marsden**



## 8.1.2 Revised Joint Letter - Decision to Reinstate Weekly Garbage Collection

<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Governance Officer
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Corporate Services
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

### Purpose

To receive a joint letter containing nine signatories, requesting that Council share the engagement results of the Kerbside Waste and Recycling Service review with the community, publicly congratulate Council's staff and contractors for the achievements of Recycling 2.0, and make the review and survey easily accessible on Council's website. The joint letter further makes specific requests regarding the report to be prepared as part of Council's resolution at the Council Meeting on 29 June 2021 on the Kerbside Waste and Recycling Service Review.

### Recommendation

#### That Council:

- 1. Receives and notes the revised joint letter in relation to the decision to reinstate weekly garbage collection.**
- 2. Receives a further report on this matter at a future Council meeting.**

### Summary

The joint letter, which is a revised copy of the joint letter tabled by Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud at the Council Meeting on 13 July 2021, was received on 30 July 2021. The joint letter has been updated to include the full addresses of signatories, in accordance with the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules.

The revised letter has been reviewed to verify that it meets the requirements of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules.

The letter reads as follows:

"On the afternoon of Tuesday 6 July, Better West Inc initiated a petition that asks Council –

- rescinds (or overturns) the decision made on 29 June to reinstate weekly garbage collection and to reduce the FOGO collection to fortnightly
- listens to the positive community feedback from the statistically valid community survey
- finds a better, affordable and sustainable solution for those households who need more than a 120L bin with a fortnightly collection; and
- continues to advocate to reduce waste and assist households adjusting to the waste service

Better West Inc did not have the opportunity to present the petition at the Urgent Council Meeting on 8 July. In approximately 48 hours up to the time of the Urgent Council Meeting more than 1,600 signatures were collected. Approximately (80%) of those signatures were valid local signatures as per section 12.1.5 of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules.

We, the undersigned, acknowledge the Council decision made on 29 June regarding the Kerbside waste service outlined in the Resolution.

We now ask that Council:

3. In thanking the community for their feedback in the Kerbside Waste and recycling review, share the engagement results with the community, including 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
4. Publicly congratulate Council’s staff and contractors for the achievements of the Recycling 2.0 over the past 18 months, including a reduction in waste to landfill of 33 per cent; and
5. Make the review and survey easily and clearly accessible on Council’s website for the community and for other councils who are moving to the four bin system

We ask that the Report asked for in point 4 of the adopted Motion for Item: 8.3.1 Kerbside Waste and Recycling Service Review 29 June 2021 (the Motion):

1. Be developed by Council officers
2. Consider options that are comprehensive and examine the merits of returning to garbage collections on a fortnightly basis should landfill costs escalate, alongside a weekly food and garden organic collection
3. Is evidence based and builds upon the 2021 Waste Services Review and the results of the community survey
4. Is consistent with the endorsed Waste and Litter Strategy 2025 and recommits Council to the targets within that Strategy including the target to divert 54% of waste from landfill by June 2022, and by 66% by 2025
5. Includes a monitoring and accountability schedule to report progress towards these targets and periodically report this performance to the community through a range of available media and including some visual information on progress towards these goals
6. The final recommendations in the Report are presented to Councillors after community consultation, including clear information of the impact of the intervention in meeting waste reduction targets in the Strategy and cost-benefit analysis
7. The final recommendations are presented to Councillors prior to any changes made to the weekly FOGO collection”

### 8.1.3 Petition - Altona North Pump Park

<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Governance Officer
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Corporate Services
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

#### Purpose

To receive an electronic petition containing 505 valid signatories, of whom 215 identify as residents of Hobsons Bay, in support of developing pump tracks, informal BMX tracks and gravel circuits for informal recreation in Altona North.

#### Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. Receives and notes the petition in support of developing pump tracks, informal BMX tracks and gravel circuits for informal recreation in Altona North.**
- 2. Receives a further report on this matter at a future Council meeting.**

#### Summary

The petition was received on 3 August 2021 and has been reviewed to verify that it meets the requirements of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules.

The petition reads as follows:

#### “Background

The 2021 Mayoral program has a focus on promoting active transport with the community, includ[ing] the development of recreation cycling areas for young people. As the Mayoral Focus report states:

*‘there is scope for developing pump tracks, informal BMX tracks and gravel circuits in suitable locations to cater for children and young people in order to meet community demand for safe off-road riding.’*

In Altona North there is a lack of informal recreational space for children and teenagers. This leads to our roads being used inappropriately and unsafely for fun. We think there are many sites that, with investigation and involvement from the local community, could be suitable for these facilities. Can you please investigate the suitability of sites like:

- the Eastona Primary School site,
- the hilled area next to the Paisley Park playground,
- Crofts Reserve, and;
- the reserves along Kororoit Creek,

for their suitability for a pump park. And, please also consider facilities like climbing walls and other informal recreation in Altona North too.

**Petition**

We the undersigned, support the development of pump tracks, informal BMX tracks and gravel circuits in Altona North. We ask Hobsons Bay City Council to investigate suitable locations for these in our area.”

### **8.1.4 Joint Letter - Implementation of Council Resolution to Reinstatement General Waste Services and Proposed Environmental Initiatives**

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

#### **Purpose**

To receive a joint letter containing 33 valid signatories, all identifying as Hobsons Bay residents, requesting that Council implement its resolution to reinstate weekly general waste collections as quickly as possible and provide communication about the implementation before the end of August. The letter also requests that Council commit to gaining ISO 14001:2015 certification by the end of 2022.

#### **Recommendation**

##### **That Council:**

- 1. Receives and notes the joint letter in relation to the implementation of weekly general waste services and proposed environmental initiatives.**
- 2. Receives a further report on this matter at a future Council meeting.**

#### **Summary**

The joint letter was received on 6 August 2021 and has been reviewed to verify that it meets the requirements of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules.

The letter reads as follows:

“Dear Mayor Marsden, Councillors and CEO

##### **Joint Letter – Implementation of Council resolution to reinstate weekly general waste services and proposed environmental initiatives.**

We are very pleased our Council has listened to the concerns of the majority of residents and resolved to reinstate weekly general rubbish collections. We are also pleased that environmentally progressive and responsible steps such as the four bin system continues to be supported and that the council will trial new biodegradable bags and seek to further increase what materials can be recycled. We also support the council continuing to raise awareness about the importance of reducing waste and increasing recycling.

Now the council has resolved to reinstate weekly general waste collections, we ask that council implements this as quickly as possible and provides communication about the introduction of the weekly collection before the end of August. Residents need certainty that the Council is indeed listening to them.

To further add to the progressive environmental initiatives of the council, we also request the council commits to gaining ISO 14001:2015 certification throughout the council's organisation and services by the end of 2022. We also ask the council to encourage other local governments to do the same."

## 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 - 38 pages]

#### Purpose

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

#### 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 July 2021 and 31 July 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 and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

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



## 9.2 Corporate Services

### 9.2.1 Draft Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25

<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Coordinator Legal and Performance Reporting Services
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Corporate Services
<b>Attachments:</b>	1. Draft Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25 [9.2.1.1 - 39 pages]

#### Purpose

To seek approval for the Draft Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25 to be placed on public exhibition for four weeks.

#### Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. Places the Draft Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25 (with an incorporated Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) on public exhibition for four weeks from 11 August 2021 to 8 September 2021.**
- 2. Receives and considers submissions made before finalising the Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25 for adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on 12 October 2021.**
- 3. Notes the review of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision.**

#### Summary

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* (the LG Act 2020), Council is required to develop and maintain a Community Vision and prepare the Council Plan via its deliberative engagement practices with the community. From January 2021 to July 2021, Council engaged with 1,477 members of the public through a range of activities and received 4,887 ideas about the Community Vision and what the community thinks Council should be focusing on over the next four years. The majority of respondents agreed that the Community Vision still accurately describes their aspirations for the future of Hobsons Bay.

Councils are also required to develop a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan every four years in accordance with section 27 of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* (PHW Act). Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan, which focuses on improving the health and wellbeing of the people of Hobsons Bay, has been integrated into the Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25.

#### Background

Council has a legislative requirement to prepare and approve a Council Plan by 31 October 2021 in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices. The Council Plan is guided by the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision and its six priorities.

Under section 90 of the LG Act 2020 the Council Plan must outline:

- the strategic direction of Council
- strategic objectives for achieving the strategic direction
- strategies to achieve the objectives
- strategic indicators for monitoring achievements
- a description of Council's initiatives and priorities

The Council Plan is based on a planning framework that aligns the Vision to the planning, development, allocation of resources and provision of services to the Hobsons Bay community. The implementation of the Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25 will be achieved through Council's annual business plans and the delivery of services and initiatives funded through the annual budget process.

Council's Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan was previously incorporated into the Council Plan 2017-21 and Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision. In this reporting cycle the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan will be integrated into the Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25 and is required to be adopted by 24 October 2021.

As required by the PHW Act, the incorporation of the health and wellbeing plan has considered an examination of local health status and determinants, objectives and strategies for achieving health and wellbeing and consideration of actions to prevent and respond to family violence. The plan specifies how Council will work in partnership with the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing and other public health and wellbeing agencies. It has also considered the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023 and the *Climate Change Act 2017*.

The community engagement activities undertaken in the development of the Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25 are in line with the Hobsons Bay Community Engagement Policy 2021, which articulates the principles, commitments and various levels of engagement that Council is committed to delivering to ensure a clear process for community engagement in Council's decision-making processes.

## Discussion

### Community consultation

Through extensive community consultation including the distribution of 40,000 reply-paid postcards to households and businesses, 11 facilitated community workshops and a Hitting the Streets campaign, 1,477 people were engaged to help shape the Council Plan.

The Hitting the Streets team visited 14 separate locations across the city and spoke with nearly 500 people. With many people cautious of live events due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Council worked hard to be present in the community and accessible.

Council asked the community whether the Community Vision still describes the community's aspirations for the future of the municipality. The majority of community members agreed that the Vision is still relevant, while the responses that said it was no longer relevant were varied and there was no strong theme for specific change.

Some suggestions related to actions for Council to consider in the development of the Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25.

## Strategic objectives

In response to the community's feedback and in accordance with the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision, five objectives have been developed to guide Council's strategic direction for the next four years.

### 1. Community – Healthy, equitable and thriving communities

Be a city where all members of the community can participate equitably, feel safe, connected and achieve good health and social wellbeing.

### 2. Environment – Valuing our environment

Foster a sustainable way of living in response to climate change through active involvement in alternative energy use, reduction of waste, and enhancement and conservation of our natural environment.

### 3. Place, Recreation and Economy – Vibrant place and economy

Support a resilient local economy that facilitates job growth and retention, promoting Hobsons Bay as a place to live, work, invest, recreate and visit.

### 4. Community Infrastructure – Visionary community infrastructure and urban planning

Develop and maintain infrastructure to promote liveability, planning for the future need and growth of the community, while preserving heritage, environment and neighbourhood character.

### 5. Organisation – A high performing organisation

Delivering value for money through efficient processes, digital transformation and continuous improvement with a willingness to try new approaches as to how we do, what we do. We will be transparent and responsive to the needs of the community through meaningful communication and engagement.

## Health and wellbeing priorities

The Council Plan incorporates four health and wellbeing priorities informed by the broader Council Plan community engagement activities and targeted engagement with 21 public health and wellbeing stakeholders including the Victorian Government, health and wellbeing networks and community health organisations.

The four health and wellbeing priorities identified are:

1. Increasing participation in the community
2. A safe, healthy and equitable society
3. Active living
4. Climate change and its impact on health

## Implementation process

The implementation of the Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25 will be achieved through Council's annual business plans and the delivery of services and initiatives funded through the annual budget process.

The Draft Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25 will be placed on public exhibition and made available on Council's website from 11 August 2021 and written submissions will be invited from the community until 8 September 2021. Council will consider all submissions and finalise the Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25 and integrated Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan for adoption before the required legislative date of 24 October 2021.

The community will be informed of the progress made in implementing the Council Plan through quarterly progress reports and the Annual Report. Through Council's Community Engagement Policy 2021, Council commits to meaningful and effective participation to ensure the community voice will guide how to deliver on this Council Plan and respond to changing circumstances.

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

### Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

This report relates to all priorities within 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 Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision was developed in 2017 through extensive consultation with the Hobsons Bay community and is operationalised into actions through the Council Plan. Each Council Plan until 2030 will show how Council will work towards achieving the community's vision for Hobsons Bay.

The Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision has been reviewed and adheres to the statutory requirements under section 88 of the LG Act 2020 for a community vision.

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

## Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

The development of the Council Plan is necessary for meeting the legislative requirements as set out in section 90 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Council is also required to develop a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan in accordance with section 27 of the PHW Act. The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan has been integrated into the new Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25.

A review of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision was undertaken as part of the community deliberative engagement in line with section 88(4) of the *Local Government Act* 2020.

## Financial and Resource Implications

The development of the Council Plan was achieved within existing operational budgets. The implementation will be achieved by way of the department business plans, major initiatives and initiatives as assigned in the annual budget.

## Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

The Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25 aims to strengthen the natural, built, social and economic environments within Hobsons Bay, as articulated within the key strategic objectives.

## Consultation and Communication

Council engaged with the community over 14 weeks to gather their feedback on the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision and to hear the community's ideas about what Council should be focusing on over the next four years. The consultation period was from Thursday 14 January 2021 to Wednesday 21 April 2021.

Council held 11 facilitated community workshops. Six were themed on the topics of environment and sustainability, youth, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, seniors, connectivity and amenity, sports and recreation; the other five were ward workshops held across the Wetlands ward, the Strand ward and the Cherry Lake ward. To encourage participation Council offered both online Zoom and face-to-face workshops. In total, 51 community members participated, suggesting 159 ideas that represent the priorities that the participants wish Council to address over the next four years.

The five-day lockdown in February 2021 and ongoing social gathering limitations meant much of the community were reluctant to attend live events. Three workshops were postponed and ultimately cancelled due to low registrations; these were on the subjects of diversity in the community, business, disability and access.

In February, Council distributed reply-paid postcards to 40,000 households and businesses to provide the opportunity to hear what the community had to say. This was the most popular engagement method for participation: 816 postcards were returned, and 3,293 ideas were suggested to help shape the Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2021-25. Council also set up market stalls at the Altona Beach Market and Altona Meadows Farmers Market where 90 people engaged with Council officers. The Spotswood and Williamstown farmers markets were cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

During March, Council developed a Schools Engagement Toolkit for the Council Plan and distributed it to every primary and secondary school in the municipality. The kit contained pre-written newsletter content and graphic art images along with an offer for a Council officer to visit the school and work with a class to discuss the future of Hobsons Bay. Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden visited Altona Meadows Primary School to meet their new student sub-

committees and hear their thoughts about what Council should be focusing on over the next four years. The uptake of this initiative was limited as schools were focused on student welfare and resettling students after extended periods of remote learning during 2020.

Over four weeks during March and April, 40 Council officers from the Corporate Services Directorate took part in the Hitting the Streets campaign. This involved the officers travelling to 14 different public locations across the municipality to ask members of the community to participate in a quick three-minute survey. Fifty-nine sessions were held, 479 people surveyed, and 1,190 ideas were collected.

Throughout the engagement period digital promotion of the engagement opportunities included 42 posts on Facebook with an average reach of 1,575 per post, LinkedIn, Twitter, signature banner on Council staff emails, on-hold messages and displays on roadside VMS boards. Updates and an online survey were available on Participate Hobsons Bay and a media release and advertising were placed in the *Hobsons Bay and Maribyrnong Star Weekly* newspaper.

By the end of April, Council had engaged with 1,477 members of the community and received 4,887 ideas. The five most common ideas from the feedback are for Council to advocate to responsible agencies on community issues, improve parks and gardens, create better public spaces, maintain and improve city amenities, and improve pedestrian accessibility and safety.

Public health and wellbeing stakeholders were invited to participate in an online survey between 7 and 17 July 2021 to provide further input on health and wellbeing priorities, identify their roles, and identify opportunities to connect, partner or advocate with Hobsons Bay City Council in the future. Twenty-one responses were received from 19 organisations including the Victorian Government, health and wellbeing networks, women's health organisations, community health organisations and local groups.

Community members and stakeholders will have a further opportunity to provide feedback during the public exhibition period.

## **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 Mayoral Focus Update

<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Coordinator Governance and Information Management
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Corporate Services
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

### Purpose

To update Councillors and the community on the initiatives and activities that were identified as focus areas for the 2020-21 mayoral term by Cr Jonathon Marsden.

### Recommendation

**That Council notes the progress made on initiatives and activities that were identified as focus areas for the 2020-21 mayoral term by Cr Jonathon Marsden.**

### Summary

In November 2020, Council elected Cr Jonathon Marsden as Mayor for the 2020-21 mayoral term.

On 9 February 2021 Council resolved to note the proposed 2020-21 Mayoral Program.

Cr Marsden identified that during his term, mayoral activities will focus on the establishment of the Virtual Power Plant (VPP), working towards reconciliation with our First Nations people, continuing to support the business community as it recovers from COVID-19, sustainability, the coastline, active transport and cycling, and placemaking.

This report provides an update on the progress made on initiatives and activities since November 2020 when Cr Marsden was elected Mayor. This is the second update provided to Council. The first update was provided on 11 May 2021.

### Background

The Mayoral Program provides an opportunity for the Mayor to support the implementation of key strategic actions that will serve the best interest of the Hobsons Bay community and align with the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision and the Council Plan 2017-21.

### Discussion

An update on the key focus areas identified by Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden as part of the 2020-21 Mayoral Program:

#### Virtual Power Plant and climate change

Council's commitment to reducing carbon emissions and lowering energy costs through direct action has seen significant progress with the large-scale solar program underway.

The program will deliver about 4MW of solar energy through the creation of a Virtual Energy Network. The network will support Council's goal of carbon neutrality by 2030, with solar infrastructure to be installed on more than 40 Council-owned buildings and the opportunity for the community to join the solar network to access low-cost green energy.

Council established a reference group including homeowners, tenants, businesses and not-for-profits to hear a broad range of perspectives on implementing community access to the solar program. The reference group has been providing input and guidance to ensure that any extension of the program to the community will meet the community's needs.

Installation of solar infrastructure and carbon track units at the Hobsons Bay Civic Centre, Bayfit Leisure Centre, libraries and community hubs is almost complete. To date approximately 500kW of the total project scope of 4MW has been installed on Council buildings.



**Figure 1: Celebrating the installation of the solar infrastructure at the Altona Lacrosse Pavilion**

## **Towards reconciliation**

In July, Council was notified of the confirmation of the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation as the Registered Aboriginal Party for Hobsons Bay.

The theme for this year's National Reconciliation Week (27 May to 3 June 2021) was "More than a word. Reconciliation takes action". Mayor Cr Marsden called upon the Hobsons Bay community to become a braver community that actively and collaboratively addresses issues of inequality, systemic racism and rights.

A suite of three videos were released during National Reconciliation Week, featuring Mayor Cr Marsden advocating for reconciliation through various themes. The first video was filmed in front of Gumbaynggirr artist Aretha Stewart Brown's mural *We are here* in Challis Street, Newport. The second video was set at Altona Beach and featured music sourced through local musician, Pitjantjatjara man Bart Willoughby and a third video featured the Lost Lands Found environmental planting by Wemba Wemba Wergaia man Dean Stewart in Logan Reserve, Altona.



NAIDOC Week (4 July to 11 July 2021) created an opportunity for all Australians to come together to celebrate the achievements, history and diverse cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The 2021 theme was “Heal Country!”

Council-supported activities included cultural awareness workshops, resources and programs including engagement with schools, early years services and businesses. Hobsons Bay Libraries supported a number of literary events celebrating First Nations peoples, history and culture over this period.

Council also hosted exhibitions showcasing and celebrating the histories of National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week at the Hobsons Bay Civic Centre foyer in Altona and at the Williamstown Library. The exhibition acknowledged 49 years from National Aborigines’ Day in 1972 to the present time.

In July, residents and visitors to Hobsons Bay would also have noticed the installation of flags printed with Womindjeka (Figure 2) at the gateway flagpole sites across the municipality: Melbourne Road (Spotswood), Millers Road (Brooklyn), Kororoit Creek Road (Altona), Queen Street (Altona Meadows) and at the corner of Railway and Pier Streets (Altona) as a COVIDSafe way of promoting First Australians’ culture. Womindjeka is a Kulin Nation word used as a welcome, translating as “Come, with purpose”.



**Figure 2: Womindjeka flags designed by Aretha Stewart Brown**

### **COVID-19 Recovery and Hobsons Bay Business has Heart**

Another priority initiative is the continuing revitalisation of Hobsons Bay’s business precincts.

Council’s Hobsons Bay Business has Heart program was launched in October 2020 to support local businesses to survive, recover and thrive. The program supports local businesses through provision of grants, precinct promotion, free marketing, communications, graphic design and web design services; and the installation of infrastructure to allow safe outside trading.

The program delivered a \$250,000 grant scheme with 20 grants provided to groups of businesses across the municipality. The grant projects encouraged the community to engage with and support local business and ranged from social media campaigns to pop-up events. The program also provided businesses with free one-on-one support from communications and marketing professionals and graphic and web designers. Promotional videos and marketing collateral for the municipality's business precincts engaged locals and visitors, restrictions permitting, to visit Hobsons Bay's great business precincts. Hobsons Bay Valentine's Day 2.0 enabled businesses to have a second chance once restrictions were eased.

The Hobsons Bay Business has Heart Outdoors program enabled more than 190 local businesses to operate within strict social distancing limitations by extending their trading areas onto footpaths, parking spaces and other public spaces. Extensive consultation with both participating and non-participating businesses and residents across Hobsons Bay indicated strong support for the program. The original pilot program has been extended for another year through to May 2022. Further work will now be undertaken to develop principles around design, cost, access and seasonality for the future of outdoor trading in Hobsons Bay.

### **Coastal and Marine Management Plan**

Another initiative on the Mayoral Focus Program is the Coastal and Marine Management Plan (CMMP). Finalisation of the CMMP is nearing completion following the public exhibition period in March. The feedback received on the Draft CMMP from the community and external agencies has informed the final plan which will be considered for final adoption by Council in September/October.

Key objectives included within the CMMP is to empower the community to play a part in the care of natural marine and coastal places. Successful applications to the Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning (DELWP) Port Phillip Bay Fund mean that projects such as the Citizen Science Drone Network Project and the CoastSnap project can be funded. These projects will help encourage the community's interaction with coastal areas.

In partnership with the University of Melbourne, a Citizen Science Drone Network project will commence along the Altona Foreshore and two CoastSnap locations have also been identified for installations (Figure 3). A nomination process to join the Drone Network will be released over the coming weeks along with more information on the CoastSnap locations.

CoastSnap is a global citizen science project that enables the community to use their smartphones to capture repeat images of the foreshore from the same location. The images are shared via the CoastSnap app and analysed to track how the foreshore changes over time due to processes such as storms, rising sea levels, human activities, and other factors.



**Figure 3: CoastSnap camera cradle**

Mayor Cr Marsden was pleased to host a visit by the Minister for Suburban Development, the Hon Shaun Leane MP, and the State Member for Altona, the Hon Jill Hennessy MP, to discuss improvement works within the Altona Foreshore Precinct. As part of the visit in July, it was announced that works within the precinct will be supported by \$4.4 million from the Victorian Government's Suburban Revitalisation Program and \$1.4 million from the DELWP. Works within the precinct occurring over the coming three years include new pedestrian access ramps at Webb Street and Mount Street, seawall and shared trail works from Webb Street to Pier Street, Pier Street Stage 4 works, improvements to Weaver Reserve, the Esplanade closure project and a new entry to Altona Pier. The pier entry project will be completed in alignment with works being undertaken by Parks Victoria to construct a new pier.

The development of preliminary concepts to inform future improvements within the Williamstown Beach Precinct are continuing. Engagement with the community on these projects will occur during the 2021-22 summer period.

### **Urban Forest Strategy**

The implementation of the Urban Forest Strategy was also included as a focus item.

The tree planting season is well underway with 3,130 semi-advanced trees so far planted. This is made up of 1,754 trees planted in reserves and open spaces and 1,376 trees planted within streets across the municipality.

Council is on track to plant 8,500 advanced trees by the end of the planting season.

The largest planting sites so far this season are:

- Laverton Creek Floodway, Altona Meadows 203 trees
- AB Shaw Reserve, Altona Meadows 120 trees
- GJ Hosken Reserve, Altona North 113 trees



**Figure 4: Council is on track to plant 8,500 advanced trees by the end of the planting season**

Stage 1 of the Urban Canopy Delivery Plan is complete. Community consultation on the plan is due to commence in August 2021. The Urban Canopy Delivery Plan will focus on directing streetscape and park planting projects in high priority planting locations including main roads, gateways and pathways in locations highly vulnerable to heat.

The internal urban forest team trucks and utes have been wrapped in the Urban Forest Strategy branding (Figure 5). This has been done to further promote the strategy, increase exposure of the work that is being undertaken and encourage interaction with team members when planting on site.



**Figure 5: Urban Forest Strategy Branding**



## Active transport and cycling

A focus in promoting active transport, which has boomed within the community during the COVID-19 lockdown as people rediscovered the beauty of Hobsons Bay by walking, cycling and rolling in their wheelchairs and scooters, is an important priority for the 2020-21 mayoral term.

Completed infrastructure projects that have improved active transport outcomes and created a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists including:

- separated bike lanes, green line marking and pedestrian refuges along Victoria Street, Altona Meadows between Hall Avenue and Queen Street
- A total of 50 pram crossings to improve north-south pedestrian connectivity in Altona North, comprising:
  - 12 pram crossings along Marion Street, Altona North
  - 18 pram crossings along May Street, Altona North
  - 20 pram crossings along Cresser Street, Altona North

The recent adoption of the 2021-22 Budget has also included a number of key cycling/pedestrian improvement projects including:

- bike lane improvements and new pedestrian refuges on Victoria Street, Williamstown
- bike lane improvements and new pedestrian crossings on Mason Street, Altona North/Newport
- bike lane improvements on Ferguson Street, Williamstown

Design work on these projects is currently underway with construction being scheduled for delivery over the coming financial year. Council's advocacy work has also resulted in the Victorian Government recently committing to design and development for a new foot/cycle bridge on Queen Street, Altona Meadows across Laverton Creek. Council will continue to work with the Department of Transport, which is responsible for delivering on this commitment, to progress this project for the purposes of construction in the near future.

## Place Making

At the 29 June 2021 Council Meeting, the Better Places Spotswood/South Kingsville Draft Place Guide was endorsed for public exhibition. The public exhibition period has seen the launch of a dedicated Better Places website (<https://better-places.com.au/>) to help promote interest in the 16 projects proposed within the Draft Place Guide. The new website provides residents with an opportunity to provide direct feedback on each project and also nominate if they would like to be kept informed on particular projects. This provides officers with early engagement opportunities on these future projects once planning on each commences. Residents still have the opportunity to view and provide feedback on the complete Draft Place Guide on Participate Hobsons Bay until 11 August 2021.

With COVID-19 restrictions limiting face-to-face contact, two online drop-in sessions were made available for the community to find out more information on projects identified within the Draft Place Guide. In total, about 45 people attended the two sessions. The public exhibition of the Draft Place Guide concludes on 11 August and the final document will be presented to council for endorsement in October 21.

A key initiative identified within the Better Places Laverton Place Guide (adopted in September 2020) was the Love Laverton Parks project, which involved the upgrade of eight open space reserves throughout Laverton as a coordinated project. Following community

consultation, works to Frank Gibson Reserve and Whittaker Avenue Reserve will start in August, and Dick Murdoch Reserve improvement works will also occur as part of the 2021-22 Capital Works Program. Community consultation to inform future upgrades to Henderson Street Reserve, Bladin Street Reserve and Cropley Crescent Reserve will also be on public exhibition throughout August. Community feedback on the concepts prepared will inform the final designs before works occur in these spaces throughout 2022.

Another project identified within the Laverton Place Guide is the McCormack Park Master Plan. Stage 1 consultation on the development of the master plan is open until 22 August 2021.

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

### Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

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

### Council Plan 2017-21

#### Goal 1: An inclusive and healthy community

**Objective 1.1:** Provide access to high quality services that enhance community health and wellbeing.

**Objective 1.2:** Deliver, support and facilitate projects and programs that encourage equity and diversity, so everyone can reach their full potential.

**Objective 1.3:** Ensure all community members will have access to quality community, sport and recreation facilities, cultural experiences and open spaces that encourage a healthy and active lifestyle.

**Objective 1.4:** Work in partnership with stakeholders to advocate to all levels of government for quality education, training and lifelong learning opportunities for all community members.

**Objective 1.5:** Understand the current and future needs of our community, and work to ensure those most vulnerable in our community are safe and have equitable and timely access to the support they need.

#### Goal 2: A great place

**Objective 2.1:** Protect and promote public health and community safety.

**Objective 2.2:** Celebrate and promote the diversity of our community.

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

**Objective 2.5:** Work with all levels of government and other stakeholders to improve our transport network and to address gaps and capacity in public transport, our roads, foot paths and cycling routes.

**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 3.2:** Deliver and maintain well-designed, accessible and environmentally sustainable community assets.

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

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

**Goal 4: A Council of excellence**

**Objective 4.1:** Collaborate with all levels of government, service providers, not-for-profit organisations and the private sector to address the concerns of our community.

**Policies and Related Council Documents**

All relevant Council policies have been taken into account in preparing the current initiatives outlined within this Mayoral Report. This report is the third in a series of updates prepared. Preceding reports were noted by Council on 9 February 2021 and 11 May 2021.

**Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk**

The Mayoral Program is an important activity: as the leader of Council the Mayor has a number of roles which are both legislative and functional. The legislative requirements are outlined in sections 18 and 19 of the LG Act 2020. The Mayor not only takes precedence at all municipal proceedings within the municipality but must also take the chair at all meetings of Council at which they are present.

As reflected in the Mayoral Program, the Mayor's role extends well beyond officiating at Council meetings or other municipal proceedings. It includes providing leadership, promoting positive relationships, and modelling good governance.

The requirements of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 have been considered when writing this report.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

The initiatives in the Mayoral Program are supported by the existing budget.

**Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts**

The Mayoral Program has a strong focus on environmental sustainability and a community focus on access and social inclusion.

## **Consultation and Communication**

Relevant Council departments have been consulted for an update on the progress on the activities and initiatives included in the 2020-21 Mayoral Program.

If community consultation is required for any part of the program it will be carried out appropriately.

## **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.



### 9.2.3 Review of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances

<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Coordinator Governance and Information Management
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Corporate Services
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

#### Purpose

To conclude the review of Mayoral and Councillor allowances as required by section 74 of the *Local Government Act* 1989 (the LG Act 1989), and to fix the allowances.

#### Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Having reviewed the Mayoral and Councillor allowances in accordance with section 74 of the *Local Government Act* 1989, resolves to:**
  - a. **Fix the Mayoral allowance at \$81,204 (eighty-one thousand, two hundred and four dollars) per annum**
  - b. **Fix the Councillor allowance at \$26,245 (twenty-six thousand, two hundred and forty-five dollars) per annum**
  - c. **Provide the Mayor and Councillors an amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee of 10 per cent of the relevant allowance**
2. **Notes that allowances for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors will in future be set by Determination of the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal (the Remuneration Tribunal) in accordance with section 39 of the *Local Government Act* 2020.**
3. **Notes that the first Determination of the Remuneration Tribunal will be made within six months of the Minister for Local Government's request, notified to Council on 29 June 2021.**

#### Summary

At the Council Meeting held on 8 June 2021, Council commenced the process to review of Mayoral and Councillor allowances. This report concludes the review and recommends fixing the allowances.

#### Background

The *Local Government Act* 2020 deems that allowances for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors will now be set by the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal (the Remuneration Tribunal). However, upon advice from Local Government Victoria (LGV) that the Remuneration Tribunal would not make an initial determination by 30 June 2021,

Council undertook a review of the Mayoral and Councillor allowances in accordance with section 74 of the LG Act 1989, which remains in effect for this purpose.

The process of review required Council to first determine the proposed allowance amounts within allowable limits and ranges determined by the Minister for Local Government and then publicly advertise its intention to pay those allowance amounts and accept submissions for a minimum of 28 days. Public exhibition of the Mayoral and Councillor allowances commenced on 9 June 2021 and concluded on 6 July 2021, with no submissions received.

On 29 June 2021, Council received advice from LGV that the Minister for Local Government had requested that the Remuneration Tribunal make its first Determination of Mayoral, Deputy Mayoral and Councillor allowances. Until the Remuneration Tribunal's Determination is made, the Mayoral and Councillor allowances will be paid at the rate resolved upon by Council as the outcome of this review.

## Discussion

The review of Mayoral and Councillor allowances was presented to Council at the Council Meeting held on 8 June 2021 with a recommendation that the allowances remain unchanged from the previous Council term, being \$81,204 for the Mayoral allowance and \$26,245 for the Councillor allowance. The Mayor and Councillors are also entitled to receive an amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee contribution, which increased from 9.5 per cent to 10 per cent from 1 July 2021.

Council resolved to advertise and receive submissions on the proposed Mayoral and Councillor allowances in accordance with section 223 of the LG Act 1989, which remains in force. The review of Mayoral and Councillor allowances was accordingly placed on public exhibition via Participate Hobsons Bay from 9 June 2021 to 6 July 2021.

As no submissions were received during the public exhibition period, it is recommended that Council fix the Mayoral and Councillor allowances at the same level as for the previous year and provide the Mayor and Councillors an amount equivalent to the current superannuation guarantee contribution.

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

### Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

This report does not relate to a specific priority of 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.

**Objective 4.4:** Actively seek the community's views by providing a range of opportunities for the community to contribute to Council's decision making.

## Policies and Related Council Documents

Council last reviewed the Mayoral and Councillor allowance on 14 March 2017.

## Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

Given the timing of advice on the delay of the Remuneration Tribunal's initial Determination, it was not possible for Council to review the Mayoral and Councillor allowances within the timeframe required by section 74 of the LG Act 1989 while also meeting the public exhibition and submission requirements of section 223. Council opted to adhere to the requirements of section 223 to ensure full and appropriate engagement with the community.

## Financial and Resource Implications

On 8 June 2021 Council resolved its intent to fix the Councillor and Mayoral allowances at the following amounts:

	Councillor	Mayor
<b>Allowance</b>	\$26,245	\$81,204
<b>Amount equivalent to superannuation guarantee contribution</b>	\$2,625*	\$8,120*
<b>Total</b>	\$28,870	\$89,324

\*An amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee contribution under Commonwealth taxation legislation (10 per cent effective from 1 July 2021), payable in addition to the allowance amounts.

The total annual cost of allowances is \$262,544, being for one Mayor and six Councillors. This amount includes the amount in lieu of superannuation at 10 per cent.

The increase in the superannuation guarantee contribution is accounted for in Council's Annual Budget 2021-22. Therefore, assuming allowances paid to the Mayor and Councillors remain unchanged following this review, there will be no impact on the budget.

The allowance decided upon by Council pursuant to the review process will apply from the date of Council's resolution and will continue to apply until the first Determination made by the Remuneration Tribunal under section 23A of the *Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal and Improving Parliamentary Standards Act 2019* comes into effect.

## Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

There are no specific environmental, social or economic impacts arising from the review of Mayoral and Councillor allowances.

## Consultation and Communication

The review of Mayoral and Councillor allowances was made available via Participate Hobsons Bay from 9 June 2021 to 6 July 2021 and promoted regularly on Council's Facebook and Instagram channels throughout the public exhibition period. Despite the review attracting 334 visits from 294 unique visitors, no submissions were 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.

## 9.2.4 Audit and Risk Committee Update - May 2021

<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Audit and Risk Advisor
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Corporate Services
<b>Attachments:</b>	1. Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes - 26 May 2021 [9.2.4.1 - 7 pages]

### Purpose

To update Council regarding issues considered at the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 26 May 2021.

### Recommendation

**That Council notes the matters considered by the Audit and Risk Committee at the meeting held on 26 May 2021.**

### Summary

This report provides an update of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 26 May 2021 to ensure that Council is informed of the activities of the Audit and Risk Committee. It provides Council with an opportunity to explore any issues that have been considered.

### Background

The Hobsons Bay City Council Audit and Risk Committee is an independent Committee of Council. The Committee comprises three independent members and two Councillors. The Chairperson is an independent member who has the casting vote. The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer are non-voting members.

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

### Discussion

The 26 May 2021 meeting addressed the following items:

- the Chief Executive Officer's update
- outstanding audit recommendations
- Internal Audit Program including proposed audits and completed audit reports
- risk management update highlighting the risk executive summary, a general update on recent issues and an insurance report
- financial report for the period ended 31 March 2021
- cash and investment balances as at 30 April 2021

## Strategic Alignment

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**

**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

Not applicable.

## Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

As an independent Committee of Council, appointed by Council pursuant to section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Audit and Risk Committee is not a delegated committee as defined by the Act.

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter has been developed having regard to Audit Committee – A Guide to Good Practice for Local Government, which was issued in January 2011 by the Minister of Local Government and the Victorian Auditor General's report Audit Committee Governance of August 2016 (including the Standing Directions of the Minister for Finance 2016).

## Financial and Resource Implications

Not applicable.

## Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

Not applicable.

## Consultation and Communication

Not applicable.

## **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 Infrastructure and City Services

### 9.3.1 Draft Northern Local Area Movement Plans

<b>Directorate:</b>	Infrastructure and City Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Manager Capital Works
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Infrastructure and City Services
<b>Attachments:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Final Northern LAMP Engagement 2 Report - July 2021.2 [9.3.1.2 - 29 pages]</li><li>2. Draft Northern LAMP - Spotswood and South Kingsville 1 [9.3.1.1 - 21 pages]</li><li>3. Draft Northern LAMP - Brooklyn and Altona North 3 [9.3.1.3 -21 pages]</li><li>4. Draft Northern LAMP - Newport and Williamstown North 4 [9.3.1.4 - 20 pages]</li></ol>

#### Purpose

To seek Council's endorsement of the Draft Northern Local Area Movement Plans (LAMPs) for the purpose of undertaking community engagement.

#### Recommendation

##### That Council:

1. Places the Draft Northern Local Area Movement Plans on public exhibition for a period of four weeks from 23 August 2021 to 20 September 2021.
2. Receives a report to adopt the Northern Local Area Movement Plans at a future Council Meeting following the public exhibition period.

#### Summary

The current version of the Draft Northern LAMPs has considered the initial issues paper that took into account recent transport studies, existing issues analysis, and two distinct rounds of engagement with the community that has captured the feedback relating to transport issues and ideas for improvement. This has facilitated a comprehensive action plan for local transport improvements across the northern part of municipality. The Draft Northern LAMPs also outline key advocacy items that would seek to improve transport outcomes on the state-managed arterial road and public transport network.

It is proposed to undertake a final round of community consultation following endorsement by Council to seek feedback and incorporate into the finalised document before being approved at a future meeting.



## Background

In November 2020 Council undertook an initial round of community engagement in conjunction with the Better Places Spotswood/South Kingsville project. This engagement work sought to understand key transport issues the community was encountering throughout Spotswood, South Kingsville, Williamstown North, Newport, Altona North, and Brooklyn.

## Discussion

The Draft Northern LAMPs include several key actions for implementation on the local transport network and advocacy to the Victorian Government to improve transport outcomes on the state-managed arterial road and public transport network. Some of these items in each of the LAMPs include:

### Spotswood and South Kingsville

- east-west cycling link along such streets as Brunel Street, McLister Street, Birmingham Street and Craig Street to connect key nodes such as the Bay Trail, Scienceworks, Spotswood Station and the Vernon Street activity centre
- north-south cycling link along Hall Street to connect key nodes such as the Federation Trail, Spotswood activity centre and Newport activity centre
- traffic calming in Hudsons Road and The Avenue to reduce speed, and through traffic movements for a calmer and safer environment for pedestrians
- advocacy action for a new pedestrian/cyclist crossing across Douglas Parade near Craig Street
- advocacy action for removal of railway level crossing at Hudsons Road near the Spotswood Station

### Brooklyn and Altona North

- completion of the Kororoit Creek shared trail for improved pedestrian/cyclist connectivity and safety
- implementation of 40km/h area-wide speed limits and complementary traffic calming treatments in key residential areas of Brooklyn and Altona North to reduce vehicle speeds and through traffic movements
- new shared pathway along Ross Road corridor to connect Newport Station with residential areas of Altona North
- advocacy action for new service lane and signalised intersection along Millers Road to service residential areas of Brooklyn
- advocacy action for intersection improvements at Kororoit Creek Road and Millers Road to improve cycling and pedestrian safety

### Newport and Williamstown North

- improvements around the Newport bus interchange and train station for improved public transport connectivity and safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists
- completion of the shared pathway network along Champion Road, Market Street, Railway Parade and Ross Street
- increased pedestrian crossing points along Blackshaws Road for improved access between key nodes such as Newport Lakes, new residential areas in precincts 15 and 16 and local schools

- advocacy action for removal of railway level crossings at Champion Road and Maddox Road for improved safety and local amenity

### **Community engagement results**

In May-June 2021, Council conducted a round of engagement with the community on the Draft Northern LAMPs. This included promotion through print and social media channels, seven face-to-face sessions and digitally via Council's Participate Hobsons Bay webpage.

Feedback was sought from the community on the draft plans through digital and hard copy surveys, and written submissions via post and email. The key outcomes from the community engagement period for each of the LAMP areas is summarised below.

#### **Spotswood and South Kingsville**

- survey results showed that the overall support for the LAMP was generally high with 76 per cent of the 33 respondents supporting the proposed actions
- support for the locations was also high at 78 per cent

#### **Brooklyn and Altona North**

- survey results showed that the overall support for the LAMP was generally high with 82 per cent of the 28 respondents supporting the proposed actions
- support for the locations was less strong at 68 per cent

#### **Newport and Williamstown North**

- survey results showed that the overall support for the LAMP was generally very high with 87 per cent of the 52 respondents supporting the proposed actions
- support for the locations was also very high at 90 per cent

While overall broad support was established, the engagement results did identify two types of actions where feedback was divided. This included the introduction of 40km/h area-wide speed zones and implementation of cycling infrastructure resulting in loss of on-street parking.

This feedback has been noted within the engagement report and LAMPs for consideration as more localised consultation occurs with affected residents. As the feedback from the engagement indicated a substantial level of support for these actions and that the implementation would have significant benefits to the community, they have been retained within the LAMPs.

### **Additions based on community feedback**

Detailed feedback received through the engagement, including at the drop-in sessions, did show that there were some additional measures and opportunities that were missed. As a result, the following measures have been added to the draft LAMPs:

#### **Spotswood and South Kingsville**

- improvements to pedestrian connections to Edwards Reserve
- installation of "Watch for Pedestrians" lantern for traffic exiting Hudsons Road into Melbourne Road
- investigation into the conversion of long-term parking spaces adjacent to Spotswood Station to drop-off bays

- investigation into sight lines at the intersection of New Street and Blackshaws Road
- provision of a pedestrian crossing across Brunel Street in the vicinity of Vernon Street

### **Brooklyn and Altona North**

- investigation into a pedestrian refuge island and path connections at the McIntosh Road and Mills Street intersection
- investigation into additional cyclist crossing points across Kororoit Creek Road

### **Newport and Williamstown North**

- provision of additional pedestrian crossing points on Mason Street

It is now proposed to undertake a final round of community engagement on the Draft Northern LAMPs before being finalised and approved by Council for future implementation.

## **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 1: An inclusive and healthy community**

**Objective 1.3:** Ensure all community members will have access to quality community, sport and recreation facilities, cultural experiences and open spaces that encourage a healthy and active lifestyle.

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

**Objective 2.5:** Work with all levels of government and other stakeholders to improve our transport network and to address gaps and capacity in public transport, our roads, foot paths and cycling routes.

## **Policies and Related Council Documents**

This work aligns with the Integrated Transport Plan 2017-30 adopted by Council in 2017.

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

Council has an obligation under the *Road Management Act 2004* and *Road Safety Act 1986* to manage the local transport network in a safe and efficient manner.

## Financial and Resource Implications

The capital works projects identified in this implementation plan have been programmed in Council's Long Term Capital Works Program for consideration and implementation in future budgets.

There are also a number of viable supplementary funding opportunities that could support the delivery of these infrastructure projects, including:

- Australian Government Black Spot Program
- Transport Accident Commission (TAC) Road Safety Grant Program
- TAC Local Government Grant Program for small-scale infrastructure

Advocacy actions will be considered as part of Council's strategic advocacy approach to facilitate the desired outcome that the Victorian Government will deliver these important transport improvements.

## Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

Development and implementation of the plan will have positive environmental, health and wellbeing outcomes for the communities of Spotswood, South Kingsville, Altona North, Brooklyn, Newport, and Williamstown North.

## Consultation and Communication

The Draft Northern LAMPs have been developed through two phases of community consultation and engagement. Community consultation during the first phase was conducted in conjunction with work on the Place Guide for Better Places Spotswood/South Kingsville. The second phase of engagement sought feedback on the Draft Northern LAMPs to allow for further refinement by Council. This engagement process included promotion through print and social media channels, seven face-to-face sessions and digitally via Council's Participate Hobsons Bay webpage.

A final round of community consultation is proposed following endorsement by Council to seek feedback and incorporate into the finalised document before being approved at a future meeting.

## 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 Contract 2020.79 Street Trees Maintenance

<b>Directorate:</b>	Infrastructure and City Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Coordinator Arboriculture
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Infrastructure and City Services
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

#### Purpose

To seek Council endorsement for the awarding of Contract 2020.79 Street Trees Maintenance.

#### Recommendation

**That Council awards Contract 2020.79 Street Trees Maintenance to Active Tree Services for a period of three years comprising:**

- a sum of \$1,885,204 (one million, eight hundred and eighty-five thousand and two hundred and four dollars) including GST for programmed street tree maintenance
- a sum of \$1,648,500 (one million, six hundred and forty-eight thousand and five hundred dollars) including GST, for reactive street tree maintenance

#### Summary

It is recommended that Contract 2020.79 Street Trees Maintenance be awarded to Active Tree Services. Services utilised from this contract will total \$3.53 million (including GST) over the course of three years.

Through this contract, Active Tree Services will be responsible for maintaining Council's street tree population, including the provision of the main following services:

- programmed cyclic pruning (including electric line clearance and formative, maintenance, and other clearance pruning)
- reactive maintenance pruning or tree removal as required by Council
- data capture of all maintenance works on the tree inventory.

#### Background

This contract is required to ensure that Council's street tree population is maintained in accordance with industry and legislative requirements.

Hobsons Bay City Council currently has 45,000 street trees under its care and with the recent introduction of the Urban Forest Strategy this number is expected to increase by another 25,000 trees over the next five years.

Trees are a major living asset within the municipality providing many environmental, sustainability and aesthetic benefits but they also come with risk. It is Council's responsibility

to manage risk by maintaining trees in its streets and open spaces to ensure they are healthy and safe for public spaces.

Council's tree population will continue be maintained through programmed cyclic pruning (including electric line clearance and formative, maintenance, and other clearance pruning) under this contract. In addition to the programmed works, Active Tree Services will provide reactive maintenance pruning and/or tree removal as required by Council.

## Discussion

A tender for the Street Trees Maintenance contract was formally advertised in *The Age* on 24 April 2021, closing on 24 May 2021. At the close of tenders, two submissions were received by the tender deadline.

The Tender Evaluation Panel met during June 2021 to evaluate tenders against the selection criteria. One tenderer failed to meet the mandatory criteria of experience in working with a similar size project. A post tender clarification was issued to the tenderer requesting further information. The tenderer officially advised Council on 31 May 2021 that they have withdrawn their submission due to inability to deliver the services due to being awarded a significant vegetation contract in the region.

Based on the evaluation process, a report was presented to the Tender Board on 2 July 2021 recommending that Contract 2020.79 for Street Trees Maintenance be awarded to Active Tree Services Pty Ltd. This tenderer met the mandatory and assessable criteria and have demonstrated their capacity, experience of key staff and proven performance to carry out the requirements of this contract.

The contract will be charged through both a lump sum and a schedule of rates. The lump sum will cover the cost of the programmed cyclic pruning and will cost \$1,885,204 (including GST) over three years.

The reactive works component of this contract will be covered under a schedule of rates and are estimated to cost about \$1,648,500 (including GST) over three years. The reactive works covers all works that arise outside of the programmed cyclic pruning. These tasks can include emergency callouts following storm events or vehicle incidents, pruning or removing hazardous trees and removing stumps. The estimate is based on the reactive maintenance costing data for the existing Street Tree Maintenance Contract.

## 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 3.2:** Deliver and maintain well-designed, accessible, and environmentally sustainable community assets.

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

### **Hobsons Bay Urban Forest Strategy**

**Objective 2:** Develop a diverse and healthy urban forest.

### **Policies and Related Council Documents**

The awarding of Contract 2020.79 through a public tender process complies with Council's Procurement Policy.

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

The awarding of Contract 2020.79 through a public tender process complies with section 186 of the Local Government Act 1989, which stipulates that a Council must publicly advertise and invite tenders for services over the value of \$150,000 as fixed by an Order in Council.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

The estimated spend under this contract is expected to be \$3.53 million including GST over the three year contract term. Funding is provided through Council's operational budget.

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

The proposed scope of works and tender evaluation process have taken into consideration whether the tenderer has an Environmental Management Policy.

Active Tree Services holds a Certificate of Registration for AS/NZ 14001:2015 Environmental Management System. Certification is achieved through external provider SAI Global Limited.

### **Consultation and Communication**

The tender was publicly advertised in *The Age* on 24 April 2021. The Tender Evaluation Report for Contract 2020.79 was presented to Council's Tender Board on 02 July 2021. The Tender Board endorsed the Tender Evaluation Panel's recommendation to award the contract to Active Tree Services, subject to Council approval.

### **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.

### 9.3.3 Contract 2021.29 Foreshore - Webb and Mount Street Access Ramps

<b>Directorate:</b>	Infrastructure and City Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Senior Project Manager
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Infrastructure and City Services
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

#### Purpose

To seek Council approval for Contract 2021.29 for the Webb Street and Mount Street viewing platforms and associated works.

#### Recommendation

**That Council awards Contract 2021.29 for the Webb Street and Mount Street viewing platforms and associated works to MACA Civil Pty Ltd at a fixed lump sum price of \$1,535,124 (one million, five hundred and thirty-five thousand, one hundred and twenty-four dollars) including GST.**

#### Summary

The viewing platforms and associated works are proposed to be constructed along the Esplanade in Altona at the intersections with Webb Street and Mount Street utilising funds in Council's annual capital works budget. An open tender process has been carried out for the procurement of these works with three submissions received. Following the evaluation of these tenders, a report was presented to the Tender Board on 2 July 2021, recommending awarding the contract to MACA Civil Pty Ltd.

#### Background

These sites are located at Webb Street and Esplanade, and Mount Street and Esplanade, Altona. The site is Crown Land managed by Council. The foreshore is utilised for organised sport and passive recreation by the community.

The scope of works for this project includes:

- demolition of the seawall
- construction of a new viewing platforms
- reconstruction of the shared path and raised sea walls
- construction of new pathways in the road crossing

#### Discussion

A tender for the new viewing platforms and associated works was formally advertised in *The Age* on 15 May 2021, with submissions closing on 4 June 2021. Three tender submissions were received by the tender deadline. Two of these submissions were deemed



compliant; one was deemed non-conforming as it did not comply with Council's Conditions of Contract.

The Tender Evaluation Panel met on 9 June 2021 to evaluate the tender submissions. Two tenderers were shortlisted for interview; these were held on 15 June 2021 and the tenderers were reassessed based on the outcomes of the interviews. Reference checks were undertaken for the highest scoring tender.

Based on the evaluation process and reference checks, the Tender Evaluation Panel recommended MACA Civil Pty Ltd as the preferred tenderer. The submission provided best value for money, the company has extensive experience in similar projects and has demonstrated an ability to meet the timelines and quality outcomes specified within the contract.

## 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 2: A great place

**Objective 2.5:** Work with all levels of government and other stakeholders to improve our transport network and to address gaps and capacity in public transport, our roads, foot paths and cycling routes.

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

**Objective 3.2:** Deliver and maintain well-designed, accessible and environmentally sustainable community assets.

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

## Policies and Related Council Documents

The awarding of Contract 2021.29 through a public tender process complies with Council's Procurement Policy.

## Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

The awarding of Contract 2021.29 through a public tender process complies with section 186 of the Local Government Act 1989, which stipulates that a Council must publicly advertise and invite tenders for services over the value of \$150,000 as fixed by an Order in Council.

## Financial and Resource Implications

The project is included in the 2021-22 Capital Works Program with a total budget of \$1,400,000 (excluding GST). The recommended tender submission of \$1,395,568 (excluding GST) is within the current budget.

## Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

The proposed scope of works and tender evaluation process have taken into consideration the following environmental, social and economic impacts:

- provision of environmentally sustainable design inclusions
- consideration of existing environmental conditions

## Consultation and Communication

The tender was publicly advertised in *The Age* on 15 May 2021. The Tender Evaluation Report for Contract 2021.29 was presented to Council's Tender Board on 2 July 2021. The Tender Board endorsed the Tender Evaluation Panel's recommendation to award the contract to MACA Civil Pty Ltd, subject to Council approval.

## 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.

### 9.3.4 West Gate Tunnel Project Update

<b>Directorate:</b>	Infrastructure and City Services
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Strategic Projects Specialist
<b>Reviewer:</b>	Director Infrastructure and City Services
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil

#### Purpose

To provide an update report on the West Gate Tunnel Project including the status of advocacy activities and project initiatives.

#### Recommendation

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

#### Summary

This report includes strategic advocacy items and progress updates on Project works and the Sports and Open Space Enhancement Package and the West Gate Neighbourhood Fund.

#### 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 at: <https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Council/Council-Meetings/Minutes-and-Agendas>

#### Discussion

##### Sports and Open Space Enhancement Package

Works on the sporting pavilion are progressing following completion of the new cricket practice nets and the two northern ovals at WLJ Crofts Reserve, Altona North (Figure 1).



**Figure 1: New pavilion at WLJ Crofts Reserve under construction**

Construction of the new WH Couch Pavilion at Donald McLean Reserve, Spotswood (Figure 2) is continuing. Current works include stormwater connections, trenching of permanent mains power, pavilion works and sports field lighting.

A competitive tender process to award a design and construct contract for the Donald McLean Reserve cricket nets replacement project has been completed. Works are scheduled to commence in August and are expected to be complete by the end of October 2021. The JV will contribute funding for the costs associated with the reconstruction of four synthetic cricket practice pitches and nets impacted by the JV works.



**Figure 2: WH Couch Pavilion under construction**

## West Gate Neighbourhood Fund

The West Gate Neighbourhood Fund is a \$10 million community grants program established to support communities in Melbourne's inner west. There will be one round of partnerships and one round of grants each financial year. Applications for the first round of the West Gate Neighbourhood Fund community grants closed on 18 June 2021. This grants stream will support community-led projects that improve community access and participation across three funding categories up to \$100,000.

84 applications were received and are being assessed by WGTP MTIA with an announcement expected in September 2021.

Further information on the West Gate Neighbourhood Fund can be found at:

[www.westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/neighbourhoodfund](http://www.westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/neighbourhoodfund)

## Project Works Update

Recent Project construction works have progressed in the west zone, with extensive works underway at the Williamstown Road and Millers Road interchanges and the M80/Western Ring Road interchange area. Noise wall works continue along both sides of the freeway corridor including installing new noise walls panels at night between Steel Street and Vernier Street in Spotswood.

Work has started on a purpose-built facility at Hi-Quality Group's Sunbury Eco-Hub that will manage and dispose of soil excavated by the tunnel boring machines. This will take up to six months to complete.

Up-to-date information on planned road closures and detours can be found at the Victoria's Big Build website: <https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/disruptions>

## Strategic Advocacy Issues

### Underground Power Lines

On 9 October 2018 Council considered the JV proposal to relocate 66kV electricity supply assets to the south of the freeway between The Avenue in Spotswood and the Brooklyn Terminal Station and resolved to approve temporary overhead power lines within the SP Ausnet easement between the Newport rail line and the Brooklyn Terminal Station on the condition that it is placed underground by the JV prior to September 2022.

Council has requested the JV to provide a timeline to place the temporary overhead power lines underground and move the overhead poles in The Avenue Reserve to a more appropriate position. The JV is preparing a design for the works.

### Primula Avenue

In September 2021 the JV will be implementing detector loops in Primula Avenue that are linked to the traffic signals on the freeway exit ramp at Millers Road to improve the right turn from Primula Avenue.

## **Paringa Road**

A permanent closure of Paringa Road at Millers Road was included in the JV design for the Millers Road/West Gate Freeway interchange upgrade for the extension of the noise wall into Paringa Road and to simplify the left turn access into the west outbound freeway access ramp.

Following community and retail trader concerns on the proposed closure the JV have prepared a design for Paringa Road access to remain open, subject to WGTP MTIA approval. The key changes are removal of a section of proposed noise wall, realigned road kerb alignment, shifting some intersection infrastructure and incorporating a signalised pedestrian crossing. The JV propose to achieve the required noise mitigation outcomes through specific measures on each of the four properties impacted.

## **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 (EPR) - EP6 Landscape Plan.

The EPR 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.”

An offset tree plan has been developed with input from Council and community stakeholder groups, which identifies suitable locations for offset tree planting within the Project corridor. The final plan is being prepared by the JV for review by Council and other stakeholders. Returned works schedules will be included in the final design package indicating exact planting quantities for each planting location outside the Project area.

## **Kororoit Creek Trail and Federation Trail Upgrade**

The JV has commenced work on the new section of Kororoit Creek Trail between Geelong Road and GJ Hosken Reserve, linking the existing paths. Works are expected to be completed by mid-2022. The design includes an upgrade of Federation Trail between Kororoit Creek and Millers Road with an asphalt resheet over the existing path. Council and Brimbank City Council continue to advocate for the trail to be reconstructed with concrete consistent with SUP standards and for long term durability.

A meeting was recently held with representatives from WGTP MTIA, DoT, City West Water, Melbourne Water, Friends of Lower Kororoit Creek, Brimbank City Council and Hobsons Bay City Council to discuss and coordinate proposed projects and upgrades along the Federation Trail/Melbourne Outfall Sewer easement. These include “Greening the Pipeline”, WGTP tree planting, “Greening Brooklyn”, stormwater harvesting and irrigation investigations. Further updates on these projects will be provided in future reports.

Led by Melbourne Water, Greening the Pipeline aims to convert 27 kilometres of the heritage-listed main outfall sewer reserve, along the Federation Trail, into parkland. The Greening Brooklyn Project, led by Hobsons Bay City Council will revitalise Pipeline Reserve which aligns with the Federation Trail between Geelong Road and Millers Road.



## 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 2: A great place

**Objective 2.5:** Work with all levels of government and other stakeholders to improve our transport network and to address gaps and capacity in public transport, our roads, foot paths and cycling routes.

## 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 many 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 support Council staff 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 for the Project and audited by the Independent Reviewer and Environmental Auditor (IREA).

The latest report has been released which covers the six-monthly audit of the Environmental Management Strategy, quarterly Construction Environmental Management Plan audits, and monthly audits of the Worksite Environmental Management Plans which occurred during the construction period from September 2020 to February 2021.

Overall, Project Co was found to be meeting their obligations under the Strategy. No adverse findings were raised with Project Co during the Strategy audit and Project Co (the JV) is generally compliant with the Environmental Performance Requirements (EPR).

During this reporting period the IREA approved three revised environmental management plans, including the Soil and Spoil Management Plan (SSMP), Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), and Ground Movement Management Plan (GMMP). The approval of the revised SSMP and GMMP facilitated close-out of previous audit findings, including one non-conformance. The SSMP was approved by the IREA and the Victorian Government, and it was sent to the Victorian Environment Protection Authority for review and reapproval.

The IREA's future auditing program will continue to focus on how Project Co and the JV demonstrate compliance with Project environmental requirements. Project Co and the JV have continued to provide evidence to close out audit findings with eight CEMP findings (one non-conformance and seven opportunities for improvement) and 24 WEMP findings (two non-conformances and 22 opportunities for improvement) closed out since the previous reporting period.

The report is available on the WGTP website <https://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/>

Air quality monitoring for the project has been established at six Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations to develop a baseline of data from current local conditions. This baseline will be used to measure any changes when the tunnel opens. Monitoring will continue for up to five years following opening. The latest Project air quality monitoring report (May 2021) reported no exceedances of the air quality objective for the reporting period. The report has been published at:

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

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

Notifications are issued to directly impacted areas prior to works commencing.

Latest notifications can be found at:

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

The last meeting of the Community Liaison Group was a combined meeting of West and North Groups held on 15 July. Meeting documents can be obtained at:

<https://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/community/community-liaison-groups>

The West Gate Tunnel Project's Community Information Centre has reopened with information available at <https://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/contact/information-centre>



## **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.**

### Western Melbourne Tourism Board

**Directorate:** Sustainable Communities

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

**Date of Meeting:** Friday 25 June 2021

Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud attended her first meeting as the Hobsons Bay Councillor delegate to the Western Melbourne Tourism (WMT) Board. It was the first meeting of the full complement of Councillors of the six metropolitan western region councils. In addition to Council representation the industry representatives include Victoria University, Parks Victoria, Qwest Apartments, Zoos Victoria and the arts sector.

A key focus of the meeting was the new strategic plan being developed for WMT, with the next steps being strategy sessions for board contribution. Financial reports were also noted, with a summary of the 2020-21 financial year including a surplus being carried over. An interim budget is being developed that will be completed and finalised, subject to priorities in the new strategic plan.

WMT will produce a report of activities during the 2020-21 financial year for its stakeholder presentation at the AGM scheduled for November 2021.

Marketing reports and activity as well as submissions and projects were presented and discussed. These included the importance of linking councils' communications to tourism resources as well as COVID-19 recovery impacts and programs.

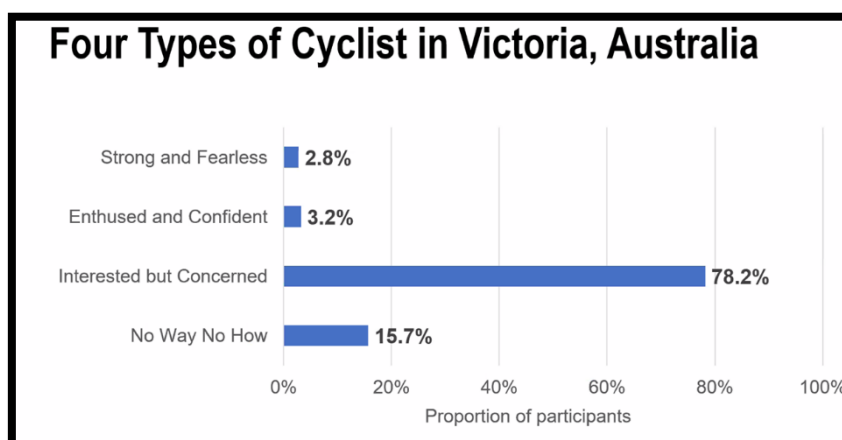
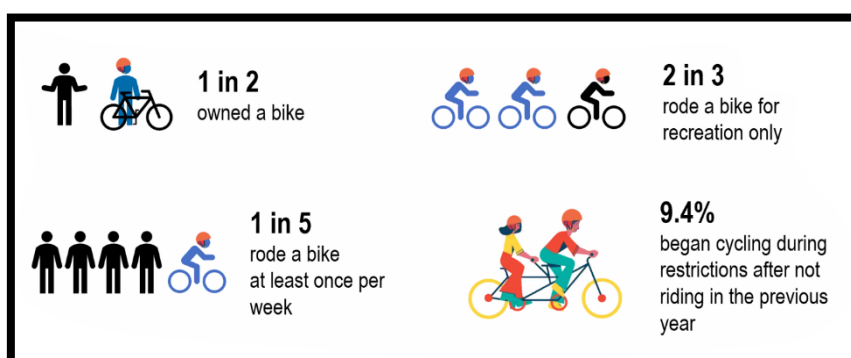
## Metropolitan Transport Forum

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Councillor Delegate:** Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden

**Date of Meeting:** 7 July 2021

Lauren Pearson, PhD candidate at Public Health and Preventive Medicine from Monash University, shared her research on cycling interest in Victoria with a primary focus on quantifying the proportion of people that are not cycling but would like to cycle. The online survey was carried out across 37 local government areas (LGAs) with 4,096 participants and a representative within each LGA. The study found that 78 per cent of the survey participants have an interest in cycling.



**Figures 1: Slides from the presentation on Cycling Interest in Victoria**

While there was variation in interest in bike riding across an entire metropolitan region and across population groups, overall interest was high across all areas and demographics. The results show the potential for substantial increases in cycling participation, but only when high quality cycling infrastructure is provided. Further research is required to understand the policy and practice barriers to equitable provision of protected infrastructure.

Zoë McMaster, Sustainable Communities Project Officer from Moreland City Council, shared her experience and the community feedback on the first open street trial at Brunswick East Primary School. The trial was carried out between 8am to 9.30am and 3pm to 4.30pm on Fridays during the month of March 2021. During school pick-up and drop-off times the street was closed to normal traffic and used for other activities, including fun and games.

Feedback from the community was positive, with 100 per cent of the parents surveyed intending to travel actively at least once a week and 83 per cent supporting the open street event to occur weekly.

## 11 Notices of Motion

### 11.1 Notice of Motion No. 1228 - Recognition of Mr Ian Watson's Achievement as a Heart Foundation Golden Shoe Winner

Section 8.15.5 of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules requires the Chief Executive Officer to inform Councillors about the legal and cost implications of any proposed notice of motion. Accordingly, the costs of implementing this notice of motion will be accommodated within the existing operational budget.

There are no apparent legal implications at this point in time.

Cr Matt Tyler has given notice of the following:

**That Council:**

- 1. Acknowledges and publicly congratulates Altona Meadows resident, Mr Ian Watson, on recently being named a Heart Foundation Golden Shoe winner.**
- 2. Presents Mr Watson with a certificate of recognition at a future Council Meeting.**

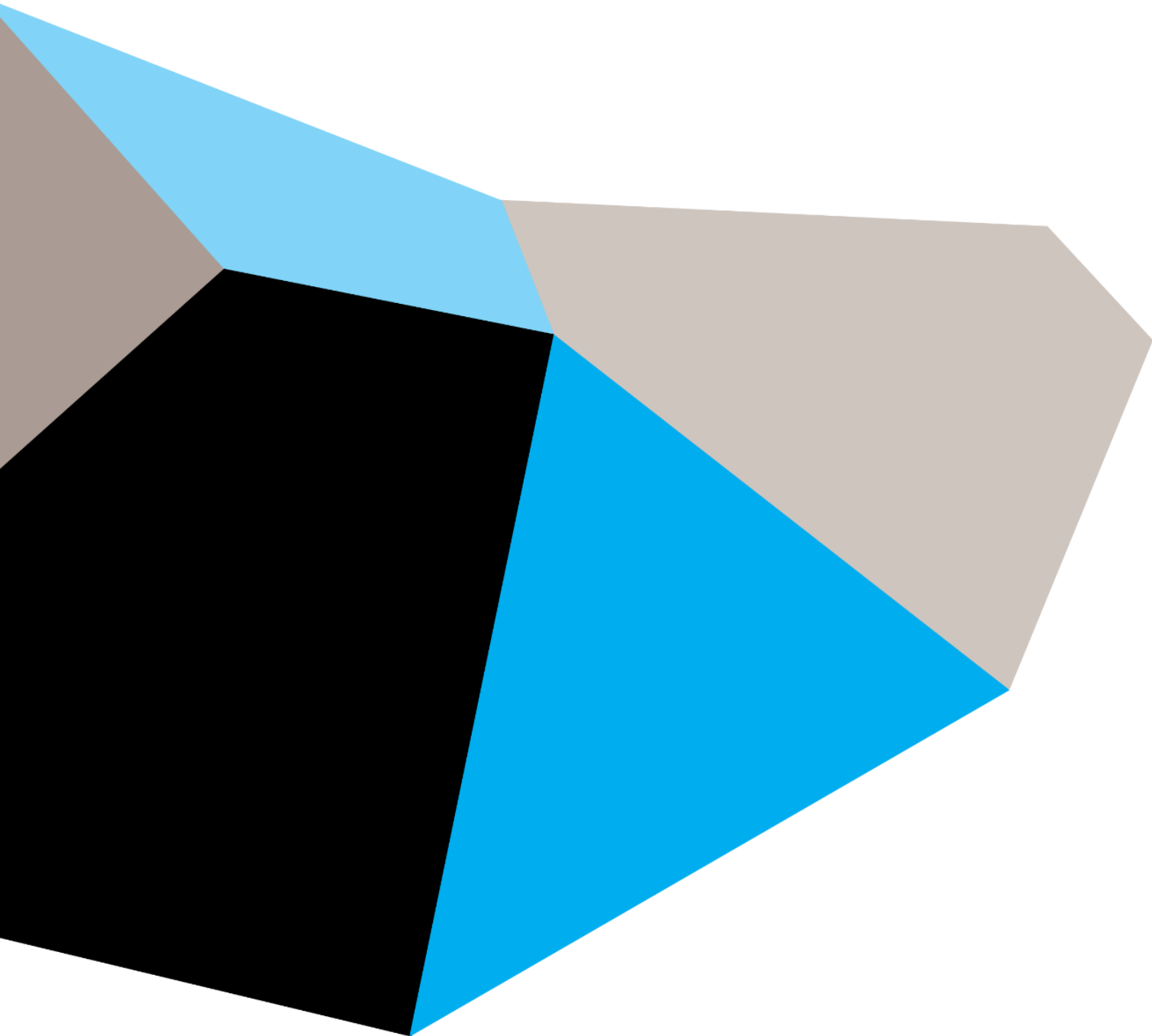
Mr Watson was one of four Australians honoured in the annual awards, which recognise people who have made an exceptional contribution to walking.

Mr Watson worked with others to start a Heart Foundation Walking group, the Meadows Walkers, in May 2019 after discovering that there was not one for him to join. Mr Watson also leads the Mighty West walkers in Newport and, in total, membership across the groups has grown from two to more than 95 participants, with groups walking a couple of times each week. Through his commitment to staying active himself, Mr Watson has made an incredible contribution by bringing our community together facilitating tremendous physical and mental health benefits.

**12 Urgent Business**

**13 Close of Meeting**





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**HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL**

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