

# Council Meeting Minutes

16 December 2025

COUNCIL CHAMBER

Council Chamber  
Hobsons Bay Civic Centre  
115 Civic Parade, Altona

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



## **OUR MISSION**

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

## **OUR VALUES**

Respectful  
Community driven and focused  
Trusted and reliable  
Efficient and responsible  
Bold and innovative  
Accountable and transparent  
Recognised

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

## **CONDUCT OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Meetings of Hobsons Bay City Council are to be conducted in accordance with Council's Governance Rules, which can be viewed at:

<https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Council/About-Council/Governance/Governance-Rules>

Members of the public attending Council meetings must abide by the standards of behaviour set out in section 15 of the Governance Rules. Any person engaging in disruptive or disorderly behaviour may be required by the Chairperson to leave the meeting in accordance with the Governance Rules.

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## **1 Council Welcome and Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners**

The Chair declared the meeting open at 7.05pm.

The Chair welcomed members of the public and acknowledged the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of these municipal lands and waterways.

## **2 Apologies and Leaves of Absence**

All Councillors were present.

## **Condolence Statement**

The Chair made a special condolence statement regarding the Bondi terror attack and a minute's silence was held.

## **3 Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were disclosed.

## **4 Confirmation of Minutes**

### **Motion**

- 1. That Council confirms the minutes of the following Council Meetings of Hobsons Bay City Council:**
  - 1.1 14 November 2025 public meeting (Election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor)**
  - 1.2 18 November 2025 public meeting**
  - 1.3 29 July 2025 confidential meeting**
  - 1.4 7 October 2025 confidential meeting**

Moved: Cr Hawli

Seconded: Cr Bentley

**Outcome: Carried unanimously**

## 5 Public Question Time

During this item, Cr Kellander left the meeting at 7.21pm and returned 7.28pm.

### **Questions regarding the Williamstown Swimming and Life Saving Club redevelopment**

**Paul Austin**

**Q Council has repeatedly said it is giving the Williamstown lifesaving club \$5.5 million for the proposed redevelopment. But now Council says it is giving \$3 million to the club. So my question is, can anyone explain where the \$5.5 million figure came from – or it that as big a mystery to councillors as it is to ratepayers?**

A In line with previous responses to similar questions on this item, Council's \$3 million contribution towards the project has been the consistent amount since the outset of the project. Council has never made an own-source funding commitment of \$5.5 million towards this project, and so I am unable to advise any more on this.

**Q Given the excessive size and scope of the Williamstown lifesaving club redevelopment proposal, an appeal to VCAT against the proposal would seem inevitable. So my question is, how much is Council prepared to spend defending this proposal before VCAT, and will that be on top of the \$3 million Council has already given to the club?**

A Council is still considering the application, and we do not know what the outcome will be. We will consider VCAT if necessary, at the appropriate time.

**Josephine Cafagna**

**Q I congratulate council for changing its governance rules so that objectors to the proposed overdevelopment of the Williamstown lifesaving club can at last make their views clear to councillors. My question is, can Council give any details yet about when that hearing meeting might be, and what the arrangements will be?**

A The processing of the planning application for the Williamstown Swimming and Life Saving Club will continue in the new year. In the event that a Hearing of Submissions Committee is held, all objectors, submitters and the applicant will be advised in writing of the date, time and arrangements.

**Q In keeping with Council's stated commitment to enhanced community consultation, will Council reconsider its decision to keep secret its heritage advice on the proposed overdevelopment of the Williamstown lifesaving club – and will council release that advice before the proposed online public consultation meeting?**

A The Statutory Planning team seeks advice from internal and external experts when assessing the application. The relevant advice is included in the officer's assessment report when the application is ready for decision. This application will likely go to the council meeting for a decision. The assessment report will be made available then.

**Robert Ferris**

- Q As an illustration of the overdevelopment of the WSLC, the existing McColl building will become a 6.6m-high building to house surf boats. As the applicant to PA250139 can Council advise ratepayers of the need for surf boats as part of life saving at Williamstown's small suburban beach.**
- A Officers have completed engagement with the Williamstown Life Saving Club to understand lifesaving activity requirements, which has informed the design development including storage provision. The storage provision in the design caters for the safe operational requirements of the club and does include the provision for surf boats which the club has within its current fleet.
- Q Has Council's Statutory Planning Team completed their assessment of PA250139?**
- A The Statutory Planning team is currently assessing the application against the provisions of the Hobsons Bay Planning Scheme. That assessment will be completed in the new year and the application is likely to go to a council meeting in early 2026.

**Kim Sawyer**

Questions are extracts from a letter that Kim wrote to the Councillors in November.

- Q Heritage is difficult to define but is best defined by its uniqueness, and that is best protected by not crowding that uniqueness out; not crowding out the uniqueness we have in Williamstown. Why is such an excessive development necessary?**
- Q When we did an extension to our house in 2009 in Cole Street, we abided by the heritage overlay. Why is it not possible with all the expertise available to have a design that preserves the heritage of the surf club; just as we were able to preserve the heritage attached to our 150-year-old property, and just as we were required to preserve that heritage?**
- A The Statutory Planning team is assessing the application against the provisions of the Hobsons Bay Planning Scheme, including the Heritage Overlay and the heritage guidelines.

**Questions regarding the Hobsons Bay Wetlands Centre****Pamela Sutton-Legaud**

- Q In the 2023-24 and 2024-25 budgets, Council committed to building the first stage of the Wetlands Centre Building on HD Graham Reserve, Altona Meadows. Since then, \$500,000 was spent by council on landscaping and a further \$900,000 of council funding is committed to be spent on further landscaping with no plans for any element of the Wetlands Centre actual building. While the site will benefit from this landscaping, when will council commit to building the first phase of the structure as originally agreed and approved? And if these landscaping plans are to proceed, can council work with the HBWC committee to alter the plans to provide adequate facilities including power to enable effective community use of the site?**

- A The proposed scope for the first stage of works is aligned with the current budget allocation available for this project. Delivery of major building works or upgrade to services would require significant amounts of additional funding, which at this stage is not in place.

It is recommended that the current scope of work is progressed without further delay to ensure presentation of the site can be used in future advocacy efforts towards obtaining external funding for the additional works. Significant engagement has been carried with the HBWC to date, and we will continue to facilitate additional external funding towards additional stages of the project.

- Q Will the council reconfirm that they have committed \$3 million which will be provided as matched funds by council in the event of additional funding by state or federal government or philanthropic funding for the development of the Wetlands Centre building?**

- A Council has a commitment within its Council Plan to advocate for external funding from other levels of government towards the delivery of additional stages of this project. Officers will put forward for consideration of Council a report in February 2026 to outline a feasible funding approach that will be used in advocacy efforts over the coming 12 months.

### **Questions regarding Item 7.2.9 (WGTP powerlines)**

**Rowena Joske**

- Q Over the past five years residents groups have asked council to incorporate the Watson St road reserve into the planned Watson St park space. Is Council including this potential conversion of the road reserve into green space within the framing of what can be considered in the Joint Venture's community consultation?**

- A While Council officers did put forward the potential for improvement works along the Watson Street road reserve as an opportunity to resolve the powerline issues with the Joint Venture, this does not form part of the proposed works the Joint Venture is intending to carry out. Officers will continue to seek for the proposed works to support and not inhibit any future works that could be carried out in this precinct in the future.

- Q The off-road shared path connection from Precinct 15 down Watson Street that is included in the Precinct 15 Comprehensive Development Plan is intended to continue down the back of Edwards Reserve to connect to the Hick Street crossing. Why isn't council advocating to the Joint Venture to construct this bike path to the Hick Street Crossing as part of their compensation to the residents in this neighbourhood?**

- A Council officers over the previous months have put forward a number of opportunities for the Joint Venture to consider when working through this item, and this did include the shared path connection. At this point though, the Joint Venture is proposing to construct part of a new shared pathway connection along Edwards Reserve which aligns with the referenced strategy in your question.

**Question regarding readability of signage****Louise Karch****Q To improve safety and amenity for people who live in or visit Hobsons Bay:****Unclear signage at the Seniors Exercise Park led to confusion and conflict. Through advocacy for seniors and families, we discovered readability assessment tools that could help Council create clearer signage going forward.****The Flesch-Kincaid readability scale and SMOG Index are free tools that measure how easy text is to understand. Simpler language on safety signs increases compliance. Clear signage benefits people with low literacy (44% of Australian adults), people from non-English speaking backgrounds (34% of Hobsons Bay residents), seniors, parents and neurodiverse people. Learning from this experience helps Council create signage that works for everyone in our community.****Will Council adopt a policy, or modify an existing policy (such as the Directional Signage Policy 2009 or Universal Design Policy Statement 2017), requiring all new public safety and instructional signage in Council-owned or managed public places and spaces to be tested using readability assessment tools such as Flesch-Kincaid or SMOG Index before installation, provide training to relevant staff, and provide a timeline for implementation and ongoing evaluation?****A Thank you for this suggestion. Council has many policy development review priorities it needs to work through over the coming months. This area is not subject to any pending review, however when these type of policy areas are scheduled for review, these considerations will be taken on board. Officers have met with Louise and others who represent the Seniors Exercise Park, with works in progress to mitigate the concerns that have been raised.**

## **6 Petitions and Joint Letters**

### **6.1 Petitions and Joint Letters Received**

#### **6.1.1 Joint Letter: Concern regarding Metro Trains' proposed fence along Railway Place, Williamstown between Cole Street and Thompson Street**

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services  
**Responsible Officer:** Director Infrastructure and City Services  
**Attachments:** Nil

### **Purpose**

To receive an electronic joint letter containing twenty signatories expressing concern over Metro Trains' proposed fence along Railway Place, Williamstown between Cole Street and Thompson Street.

### **Motion**

**That Council:**

- 1. Receives and notes the joint letter in relation to concern regarding Metro Trains' proposed fence along Railway Place, Williamstown between Cole Street and Thompson Street.**
- 2. Receives a further report on this matter at a future Council meeting.**

**Moved:** Cr Bentley

**Seconded:** Cr Disbury

**Outcome:** Carried unanimously

## **6.2 Responses to Petitions and Joint Letters**

There were no responses to petitions or joint letters at this meeting.

## **7 Officer Reports**

### **7.1 Statutory Planning**

There were no statutory planning items.

## **7.2 Matters for Decision**

### **7.2.1 Council Plan 2025-29 and strategic documents – for adoption**

**Directorate:** Sustainable Communities

**Responsible Officer:** Manager Community and Council Plan Development

**Attachments:**

1. Council Plan 2025-29 including Community Vision 2040 - for adoption [7.2.1.1 - 76 pages]
2. Health, Wellbeing and Safety Plan 2025-29 - for adoption [7.2.1.2 - 92 pages]
3. Asset Plan 2025-35 - for adoption [7.2.1.3 - 74 pages]
4. Financial Plan 2025-35 - for adoption [7.2.1.4 - 112 pages]
5. HBCC Annual Action Plan Year 1 2025-26 - for adoption [7.2.1.5 - 4 pages]

### **Purpose**

To update Council on the final round of community engagement and to seek adoption of the Council Plan 2025-29 including Community Vision 2040, Health Wellbeing and Safety Plan 2025-29, Asset Plan 2025-35, Financial Plan 2025-35 and Annual Action Plan Year 1.

### **Motion**

**That Council:**

1. **Adopts the Hobsons Bay Council Plan 2025-29, including the Community Vision 2040, and Annual Action Plan Year 1 (2025-26).**
2. **Adopts the Hobsons Bay Health, Wellbeing and Safety Plan 2025-29 as Council's municipal public health and wellbeing plan, including the items outlined in the Annual Action Plan Year 1.**
3. **Adopts the Hobsons Bay Asset Plan 2025-35.**
4. **Adopts the Hobsons Bay Financial Plan 2025-35.**
5. **Notes that officers will write to and provide copies of the above adopted plans to the relevant statutory bodies.**

Moved: Cr Bishop

Seconded: Cr Bentley

**Outcome: Carried unanimously**

## **7.2.2 Annual Budget Consultation Process**

**Directorate:** Corporate Services  
**Responsible Officer:** Chief Financial Officer  
**Attachments:** Nil

### **Purpose**

To advise Council on the feedback received during the Annual Budget Community Engagement review and endorse the enhanced two-stage approach for Annual Budget Community Engagement.

### **Motion**

**That Council:**

- 1. Notes that no submissions were received specifically in relation to the proposed Annual Budget Community Engagement review.**
- 2. Endorses the enhanced two-stage Annual Budget Community Engagement model.**

**Moved:** Cr Hawli

**Seconded:** Cr Bentley

**Outcome:** Carried unanimously

### **7.2.3 Adoption of the Road Management Plan (RMP)**

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Responsible Officer:** Manager City Operations

**Attachments:**

1. Road Management Plan 2025 - for adoption  
[7.2.3.1 - 25 pages]
2. Draft Road Management Plan 2025 public submissions  
[7.2.3.2 - 4 pages]

#### **Purpose**

To seek Council's endorsement of the Road Management Plan 2025 (RMP).

#### **Motion**

**That Council adopts the Road Management Plan 2025.**

Moved: Cr Bishop

Seconded: Cr Keys-Macpherson

**Outcome: Carried unanimously**

## 7.2.4 Revised Governance Rules and Community Feedback

**Directorate:** Corporate Services  
**Responsible Officer:** Acting Manager Corporate Integrity  
**Attachments:** Community consultation feedback on proposed change to Council's Governance Rules [7.2.4.1 - 2 pages]

### Purpose

To seek Council's endorsement of the revised Governance Rules 2025 following public consultation and recommend changes to the Hearing of Committee Terms of Reference.

### Motion

**That Council:**

1. **Thank submitters for their feedback on the proposed change to Clause 11.2 of Council's Governance Rules.**
2. **Having considered the written submissions:**
  - 2.1. **Endorses the revised Clause 11.2 of Council's Governance Rules, which reads:**

*“Members of the public can make submissions to Council on any Statutory and/or Strategic Planning items on the meeting agenda, where an opportunity to be heard at a Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting has not been provided.*

*The process for lodging submissions is the same as for public questions and community statements above. The time permitted for each verbal submission is up to three (3) minutes. Councillors will have the right to ask questions of submitters.”*
  - 2.2. **Amends the Hearing of Submissions Committee Terms of Reference to provide any submitter making a verbal submission up to three (3) minutes to address the Committee.**
3. **Notes that the changes will come into effect on the day following the passing of this resolution.**

**Moved:** Cr Bishop

**Seconded:** Cr Keys-Macpherson

**Outcome:** Carried unanimously

## **7.2.5 The Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Bill 2025**

**Directorate:** Sustainable Communities

**Responsible Officer:** Manager Strategy Economy and Sustainability

**Attachments:**

1. Local Government Position, Planning Amendment Bill 2025 [7.2.5.1 - 46 pages]
2. Sample letter sent to The Hon Melissa Horne - Planning Amendment Bill 2025 [7.2.5.2 - 3 pages]

### **Purpose**

To seek endorsement of Council's position on the Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Bill 2025 and recommend support for the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and the Council Alliance for Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) advocacy campaigns and Local Government position.

### **Motion**

**That Council:**

- 1. Supports the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Planning Reform Advocacy Campaign and the Council Alliance for Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) advocacy efforts in response to the Planning Amendment (Better Decisions Made Faster) Bill 2025.**
- 2. Notes that advocacy correspondence from the Mayor was sent on 25 November 2025 to eight State Members of Parliament with jurisdiction within the Hobsons Bay City Council area, advocating for Hobsons Bay City Council's position and supporting MAV's campaign (Attachment 2).**

**Moved:** Cr Kellander

**Seconded:** Cr Bishop

**Outcome:** Carried unanimously

## **7.2.6 Balance of Councillor Appointments to Committees 2026**

**Directorate:** Corporate Services  
**Responsible Officer:** Acting Coordinator Governance  
**Attachments:** Nil

### **Purpose**

To appoint Councillor representatives to remaining internal and external committees for 2026.

### **Motion**

**That Council:**

- 1. Appoints Cr Bentley to the Hobsons Bay Local Safety Committee.**
- 2. Appoints Cr Bishop to the Association of Bayside Municipalities.**
- 3. Appoints Cr Keys-Macpherson as the proxy for the Association of Bayside Municipalities.**
- 4. Appoints Cr Hawli to the Brooklyn Community Representative Group.**
- 5. Appoints Cr Keys-Macpherson to the Hobsons Bay Community Fund.**
- 6. Appoints Cr Disbury as proxy for Hobsons Bay Community Fund.**
- 7. Appoints Cr Bentley to the Local Government Working Group on Gambling.**
- 8. Appoints Cr Bishop as proxy for the Local Government Working Group on Gambling.**
- 9. Appoints Cr Hawli to the Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum.**
- 10. Appoints Cr Bishop as the proxy for the Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum.**
- 11. Appoints Cr Hawli to the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV).**
- 12. Appoints Cr Bentley as the proxy for the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV).**
- 13. Appoints Cr Bishop to The Substation Board.**
- 14. Appoints Cr Bentley to the Western Melbourne Tourism Board.**
- 15. Appoints Cr Disbury as the proxy for the Western Melbourne Tourism Board.**
- 16. Appoints Cr Grima as the VLGA Women's Charter Champion.**

**Moved:** Cr Disbury

**Seconded:** Cr Bentley

**Outcome:** Carried unanimously

## **7.2.7 Library Collections and Equipment Procurement Australia Agreement**

**Directorate:** Corporate Services

**Responsible Officer:** Acting Manager Community Learning and Service Centres

**Attachments:** Nil

### **Purpose**

To confirm the outcome of the Procurement Australia tender process relating to library collections and associated requirements, and to seek Council endorsement to participate in the Procurement Australia Library Collections, Furniture, Equipment & Associated Requirements collaborative panel agreement.

### **Motion**

**That Council:**

- 1. Approves participation in the Procurement Australia Library Collections, Furniture, Equipment & Associated Requirements Panel collaborative agreement under its schedule of rates, up to a maximum cumulative value of \$4,620,000 (four million, six hundred and twenty thousand dollars) including GST, for the initial contract period of two years, with two one-year options to extend.**
- 2. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to approve any purchase order up to the maximum value of \$500,000 (five hundred thousand dollars) including GST, per financial year for each individual supplier on the panel.**
- 3. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to approve variations and contingencies to individual (discrete) purchase orders raised for panel members under the PA Library Collections, Furniture, Equipment & Associated Requirements Panel, within the maximum cumulative value.**
- 4. Receives a further report should a contract extension be sought.**

**Moved:** Cr Bishop

**Seconded:** Cr Hawli

**Outcome:** Carried unanimously

## **7.2.8 Contract 2025.05 Drainage Cleaning and Investigation**

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services  
**Responsible Officer:** Manager Engineering Services  
**Attachments:** Nil

### **Purpose**

This report summarises the process undertaken to source a supplier for the completion of drainage investigation, cleaning and repair work in accordance with Council's planned renewal and maintenance programs. It details the stages of Procurement from Planning, through Market Engagement, Evaluation of Tender Submissions and the Evaluation Panel recommendation based on their findings.

### **Motion**

**That Council:**

- 1. Awards Contract 2025.05 for Drainage CCTV Investigation, Cleaning and Repair to a panel of four suppliers, under their schedule of rates, with a maximum cumulative spend of \$2,750,000 inclusive GST (\$550,000 including GST per year) for a contract period of three years, with two one-year options to extend to:**
  - 1.1 Total Drain Cleaning Services**
  - 1.2 Rangedale VIC**
  - 1.3 AME Group**
  - 1.4 Plumbtrax**
- 2. Delegates authority to the Interim Chief Executive Officer to execute the formal agreement for Contract 2025.05 for each panel member.**
- 3. Receives a further report should a contract extension be sought.**

**Moved:** Cr Hawli

**Seconded:** Cr Keys-Macpherson

**Outcome:** Carried unanimously

## **7.2.9 WGTP – The Avenue Powerline Commitment Update**

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Responsible Officer:** Strategic Projects Specialist

**Attachments:** Nil

### **Purpose**

To consider advice and a proposal put forward by the CPB Contractors and John Holland Joint Venture (JV) in lieu of meeting its 2018 commitment to underground powerlines along the AusNet easement on the northern boundary of Precinct 15, Altona North and relocate temporary poles within The Avenue Reserve, Spotswood.

### **Motion**

**That Council:**

- 1. Notes the CPB John Holland Joint Venture (JV) advice that they cannot feasibly deliver on their commitment to underground powerlines along the AusNet easement on the northern boundary of Precinct 15, Altona North and to relocate temporary poles within The Avenue Reserve, Spotswood.**
- 2. Notes the open space enhancement works that the JV are proposing to deliver in the area in response to non-delivery of the earlier commitment.**
- 3. Responds to the JV to provide support for the proposed works that generally aligns with its current open space strategy and seek for engagement to be held with the community as this work is delivered upon.**
- 4. Notes that negotiations are ongoing to secure an appropriate figure as compensation or the occupation and creation of an easement over the power poles and lines within The Avenue Reserve.**
- 5. Writes to the West Gate Tunnel Project (WGTP) advising of Council's response to the matter.**
- 6. Receives a future report once this work is delivered to close out the matter.**

**Moved:** Cr Bishop

**Seconded:** Cr Hawli

**Outcome:** Carried

**For:** Cr Hawli, Cr Keys-Macpherson, Cr Disbury, Cr Bentley, Cr Bishop, Cr Grima

**Against:** Cr Kellander (abstained)

## 7.3 Matters for Noting

### 7.3.1 Response to Notice of Motion 1278 and 1249 (Part 7)

**Directorate:** Corporate Services  
**Responsible Officer:** Chief Financial Officer  
**Attachments:** Nil

#### **Purpose**

To respond to Notice of Motion 1278 passed at the Council meeting held on 26 August 2025 regarding Council's Human Right Obligations and (part 7 of) Notice of Motion 1249 passed at the Council meeting held on 13 February 2024 regarding Support for Hobsons Bay residents Impacted by Overseas Conflict.

#### **Motion**

**That Council defers consideration of agenda item 7.3.1 to the 24 February 2026 Council meeting.**

Moved: Cr Bishop  
Seconded: Cr Keys-Macpherson

#### **Point of Order 1**

Cr Keys-Macpherson called a point of order, seeking clarification that Cr Kellander could debate the motion to defer.

The Chair ruled that debate was permitted on the deferral motion.

#### **Point of Order 2**

Cr Bishop called a point of order, explaining that Cr Bentley's debate was on the original motion and not the motion to defer.

The Chair ruled that Cr Bentley limit debate to the deferral motion.

#### **Vote**

**Outcome:** Carried  
**For:** Cr Bishop, Cr Disbury, Cr Keys-Macpherson, Cr Hawli, Cr Grima  
**Against:** Cr Kellander (abstained), Cr Bentley (abstained)

### **7.3.2 West Gate Tunnel Project Update (WGTP) - December 2025**

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Responsible Officer:** Strategic Projects Specialist

**Attachments:** Nil

#### **Purpose**

To provide a quarterly update report on the West Gate Tunnel Project and associated initiatives, projects and advocacy activities.

#### **Questions taken on notice**

Cr Kellander asked two questions – one regarding the project cost and one regarding the claimed time saving that the tunnel would provide – which were taken on notice, noting that the WGTP is not a Council-managed project.

#### **Motion**

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

**Moved:** Cr Bishop

**Seconded:** Cr Keys-Macpherson

**Outcome:** **Carried unanimously**

### **7.3.3 Level Crossing Removal Project Update (LXRP) - December 2025**

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Responsible Officer:** Strategic Projects Specialist

**Attachments:** Oct 2025 LXRP HBCC Communications Register Working  
[7.3.3.1 - 3 pages]

#### **Purpose**

To provide an update on the state government level crossing removal projects at Champion Road and Maddox Road, Newport; Maidstone Street, Altona; Hudsons Road, Spotswood; and the Sunshine Superhub project.

#### **Motion**

**That Council notes this update report on the proposed level crossing removals at Champion Road and Maddox Road, Newport; Maidstone Street, Altona; Hudsons Road, Spotswood and the Sunshine Superhub Project, and Council's advocacy on aspects of the projects.**

Moved: Cr Disbury

Seconded: Cr Bishop

**Outcome: Carried unanimously**

### **7.3.4 Point Cook Road Intersection Update (PCIU) - December 2025**

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Responsible Officer:** Strategic Projects Specialist

**Attachments:** Nil

#### **Purpose**

To provide an update on the \$79 million Point Cook Road Central Avenue Intersection Upgrade Project (the Project) in Altona Meadows, facilitated by the Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority (VIDA).

#### **Motion**

**That Council notes the update report on the status of the Point Cook Road Central Avenue Upgrade Project and Council's advocacy on aspects of the Project.**

Moved: Cr Keys-Macpherson

Seconded: Cr Kellander

**Outcome: Carried unanimously**

### **7.3.5 Proposal of Hobsons Bay Community Recognition Awards**

**Directorate:** Sustainable Communities  
**Responsible Officer:** Manager Arts Culture Community  
**Attachments:** Nil

#### **Purpose**

To present plans for the 2026 Hobsons Bay Community Recognition Awards, a refreshing of the former Hobsons Bay Citizen Awards, and creating a stronger alignment with Council's volunteer recognition and celebration program.

#### **Question taken on notice**

Cr Kellander asked whether there was an incremental cost involved with moving to this system instead of the old system. The Interim CEO took the question on notice.

#### **Motion**

**That Council:**

- 1. Notes the proposed Hobsons Bay Community Recognition Awards to be held in May 2026, aligning with Council's volunteer recognition and celebration program.**
- 2. Notes the transition of the Hobsons Bay Citizen Awards into the Hobsons Bay Community Recognition Awards.**
- 3. Receives an evaluation report no later than three months following the Awards, to help inform future programs.**

**Moved:** Cr Bishop

**Seconded:** Cr Keys-Macpherson

**Outcome:** **Carried**

**For:** Cr Bishop, Cr Keys-Macpherson, Cr Hawli, Cr Grima

**Against:** Cr Bentley, Cr Disbury, Cr Kellander (abstained)

Matthew Irving, Director Infrastructure and City Services, left the meeting at 8.32pm and returned at 8.34pm.

### **7.3.6 Draft Ministerial Guidelines for Rates and Hardship**

**Directorate:** Corporate Services

**Responsible Officer:** Coordinator Rates

**Attachments:**

1. 20251128 - Feedback Draft Ministerial Guidelines Hardship [7.3.6.1 - 1 page]
2. Draft Ministerial Guidelines for Councils relating to payment of Rates and Charges [7.3.6.2 - 24 pages]

#### **Purpose**

To advise Council of the response provided by the Interim Chief Executive Officer to Engage Victoria in relation to the draft Ministerial Guidelines for Councils relating to payment of Rates and Charges (Ministerial Guidelines).

#### **Motion**

**That Council notes the response provided by the Interim Chief Executive Officer to Engage Victoria in relation to the draft Ministerial Guidelines for councils relating to payment of rates and charges.**

Moved: Cr Keys-Macpherson

Seconded: Cr Disbury

**Outcome: Carried unanimously**

## **8 Other Reports**

### **8.1 Committee Reports**

There were no committee reports.

### **8.2 Delegate Reports**

#### **Purpose**

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

#### **Motion**

- 1. That Council receives and notes the recent delegate reports:**
  - 1.1 The Substation Board – 30 September 2025**
  - 1.2 Association of Bayside Municipalities – 29 October 2025.**

Moved: Cr Bishop

Seconded: Cr Keys-Macpherson

**Outcome: Carried unanimously**

## **9 Reports of Informal Meetings of Council**

An internal process has been carried out and Council is required to table the record of assembly of councillors.

The record of assembly of councillors is provided as a final attachment in any agenda.

Council officers recommend that Council formally receive the relevant assembly records, as this is regarded as good governance practice.

### **Motion**

- 1. That Council receives the following reports of informal meetings of Councillors:**
  - 1.1 Councillor Pre Council Meeting Briefing – 14 November 2025**
  - 1.2 Councillor Pre Council Meeting Briefing – 18 November 2025**
  - 1.3 16 Days of Activism Roundtable – 25 November 2025**
  - 1.4 Councillor Briefing – 25 November 2025**
  - 1.5 Councillor Briefing – 2 December 2025**
  - 1.6 Councillor Briefing – 9 December 2025.**

Moved: Cr Kellander

Seconded: Cr Bishop

**Outcome: Carried unanimously**

## **10 Notices of Motion**

No notices of motion were received.

## **11 Councillor Questions**

**Cr Disbury asked whether, as most units at Techno Park had now been issued certificates of occupancy, their rates notices would be converted from commercial to residential, and if so, when they can expect a normal rubbish collection to resume.**

David Power, Acting Director Sustainable Communities, said that properties at Techno Park are currently classified as commercial in accordance with Council's Revenue and Rating Plan, and a certificate of occupancy does not automatically trigger a change of rating classification. From a rating perspective, properties may be reclassified upon application where there is evidence of primary use being residential.

Council does not currently hold property-specific information confirming which units are being used for residential purposes. Until such information is available, reclassification must occur on an individual application basis, noting that some properties continue to be used for commercial purposes and should be rated as such.

As part of this process, a supplementary evaluation is undertaken to update the Council evaluation property classification code to a residential classification where applicable.

Regarding the second question, Mr Power said that Council has no record of waste or recycling services being cancelled or paused at Techno Park properties. Kerbside waste and recycling services are available to Techno Park residents who opt into the service, subject to a site visitation to confirm suitability. If deemed suitable and they choose to opt in, the annual waste service charge of \$348.95 will appear on their rates notice.

Council's waste and recycling team can provide advice and arrange site visits to determine the most appropriate bin options and whether this service can be best delivered by Council or a private contractor. This can be organised by phone, email or Council's website.

## **12 Urgent Business**

There was no urgent business.

### **13 Close of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.44pm.

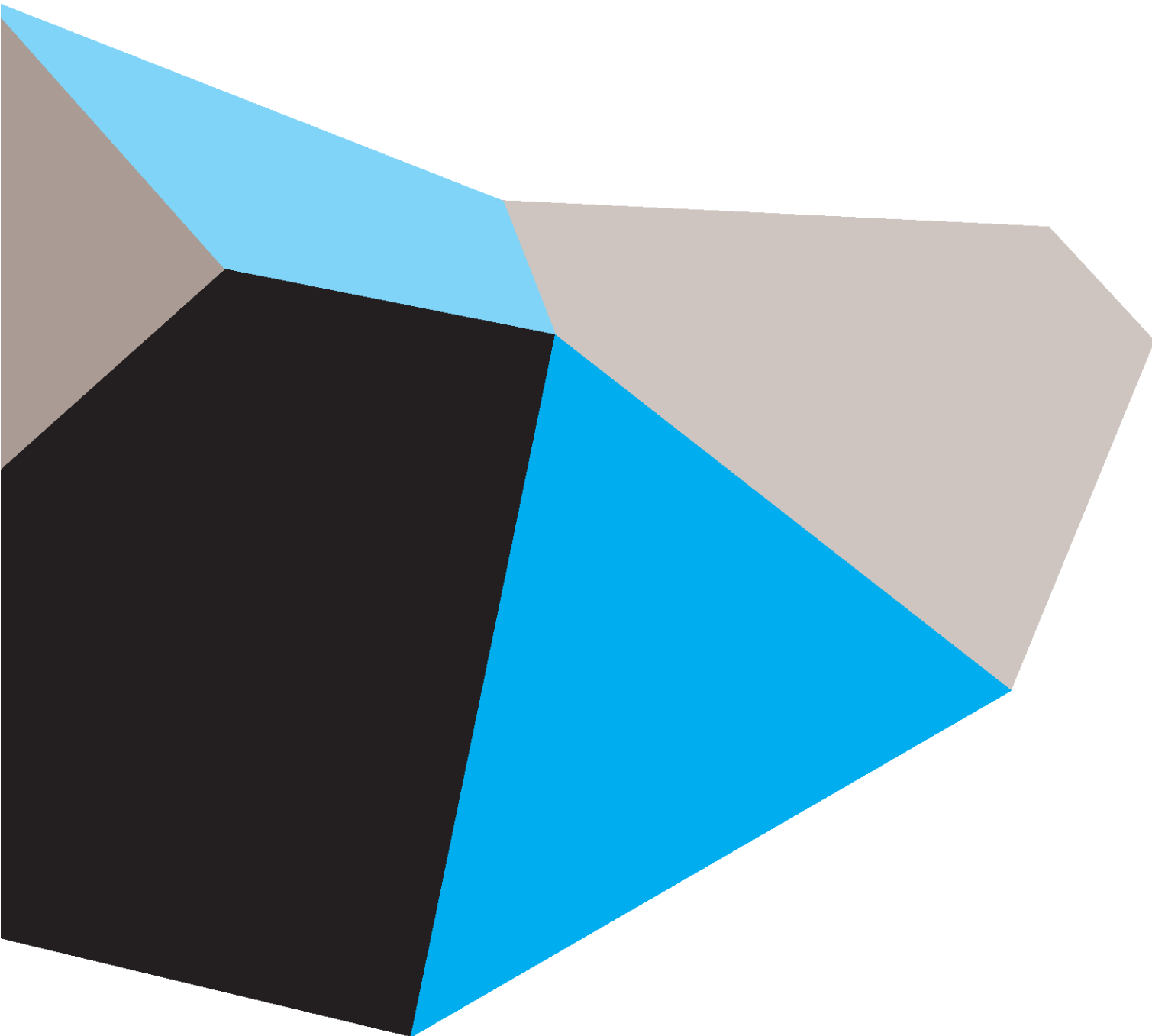
*Diana Grima*

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Chair: Diana Grima

Signed and certified as having been confirmed

Date: 10 March 2026



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**HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL**

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