

## Yarra Multicultural Advisory Group

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021

6.00-7.00pm

**(on-line via Teams)**

### MINUTES

**Present:** Cristina Del Frate (City of Yarra), Cr Sophie Wade (City of Yarra), Sarah Ernst (City of Yarra), Osman Ali Mohamed, Ewinia Huang, Samira Mohamed.

- **Welcome and Introductions**

*Acknowledgment of Country: Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra. We pay our respects to Elders from all nations here today—and to their Elders past, present and future.*

- **Councillor introduction and update - Cr Sophie Wade**

A busy time at Council regarding decisions being made, lots of planning decisions, public drinking law, new bicycle lanes in Fitzroy (to make it quicker for trams to get through), Grants approved for the Community Partnership Grants stream (Cohealth has two programs, Collingwood children's farm, toy libraries, Launch Housing).

- **Yarra's Community Vision - Cristina Del Frate**

First Vision for Yarra adopted July 2021.

A great diversity and representation of people across Yarra were involved in the workshops to develop the vision through the deliberative panel process.

The Community Vision includes a statement describing a future Yarra in 2036:

*Yarra is a vibrant, safe and inclusive environment. We celebrate and embrace our diversity and connection to each other and the land. Our community is empowered to work together and support one another with respect and trust.*

See [here](#) for information about Council's Community Vision.

- **Yarra's Public Drinking Consultation - Sarah Ernst**

Consultation is open at the moment on some proposed changes to how Yarra manages drinking alcohol in public places.

Current law: Local Law 8 manages the way people drink alcohol in public places. The law finished in 2019. At that point officers went to council with a new law, but a number of community members were concerned with how that new law would affect them. So the council made that a temporary law only and for officers to investigate the issue further.

Current law going to end October 2021, an opportunity exists now to put new measures in place.

Proposal for a new law: Responsible drinking would generally be allowed with these exceptions:

- no drinking in parks from 9pm-9am,
- no drinking within 10 m from the edge of licensed areas;
- no drinking within 10 m of pedestrian entrance/exit to buildings that service children / families;
- no drinking near the MCG from 9pm-9am the day of and after the AFL Grand final; from 9pm-9am NYE, and Council can later prescribe areas if there is a risk of safety.

This proposal has been developed to ensure people who are vulnerable (eg people who are homeless) are not disadvantaged by the new law.

Webpage open now where you can give feedback on the proposed law.

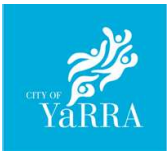
Translations of this info will be available on the webpage

Osman – public drinking can be problematic in Yarra, especially for people living in public housing who are impacted by people drinking alcohol or are inebriated.

Osman able to help with checking trans and to share the information with community.

- **Information sharing – All**

Osman – wants to increase members to the YMAG online forum, has been running a few programs around covid impacts. Started a curriculum support program for children of African background, have 50 students we support with English and maths tutoring in partnership with BANH at the factory. Funded and supported for 6 months from council, helping the students to catch up with their learning. Working as a covid advisor with Somali community to take the vaccine, organising health info



sessions in language including creating videos on the vaccine, had a zoom session recently – 30 residents attended. Provides translation services to community orgs. Ewinia – program for isolated seniors during lockdown including simple activities (exercise) to empower them and keep them engaged.

**Next meeting: 16 November (in person – if possible)  
18 November (online via Teams)**

**Contact Cristina Del Frate to rsvp,**

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