

## Summary of Public Questions

1 August 2017



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This record is provided as a summary of the questions asked by members of the public during Public Question Time at a meeting of the Yarra City Council. This summary includes the original question, the response provided at the meeting and, where applicable, the response provided after the meeting to any question taken on notice (which is included in red text).

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### 7.1 Mr Andrew Leung - Yarra Planning Scheme

Question:

In the Yarra Planning Scheme, the DDO for main roads and boulevards (DDO2 on the planning scheme map) requires consideration of several critical aspects before approving development along main roads.

These relate to the design, height and visual bulk of a development in relation to:

- Its surrounds
- The streetscape and street character.

Are there any specific or quantifiable parameters used in these considerations which might provide certainty for the public or developers?"

Council has recently publicised development along Bridge Road. Bridge Road is a major thoroughfare and road but yet not covered by DDO2 and interested to know why?

Response:

*The Director Planning and Place Making advised the following:*

*The Planning Scheme provides a statement in the planning scheme that highways and boulevards are very important and provides some general objectives around and the appearance of those areas; there really isn't any specific quantifiable matters in that header provision. Good urban design principles certainly come to the fore and that's about urban design and heritage matters, heights, building bulk, podium heights etc. More specific elements would come through Structure Planning or streetscape masterplans and those sort of areas. As Councillors are aware there are a number of projects under way at the moment in terms of built form analysis for the area around Brunswick Street through to the west side of Wellington Street, certainly from Victoria Street and Bridge Road as two major projects, and the Swan Street structure plan implementation analysis as well.*

*The header control DDO provision is general only and further planning scheme provisions through due process would provide more detail and quantifiable matters.*

*In relation to the second question, Bridge Road has some heritage overlays, it doesn't have a development design overlay although with the built form analysis, the intention is to bring some design development overlays into those streets to help proponents prepare their applications and certain to assist Council staff and decision makers of Council making decisions. So the intention is to seek more design development overlays in a number of areas, with that study and analysis it would be probably hoped that Council might be able to achieve some interim controls whilst permit controls are worked through the process.*

## 7.2 Mr Peter Symes - Submission to Parks Victoria

Question:

Is the Yarra City Council able to provide further information needed by the "Gipps Street Steps Action Group" for their alternate proposal to that of Parks Victoria such as information concerning waste, drainage, traffic management and other urban space issues?

Response:

*The Director City Works and Assets advised that information can be provided to Mr Symes.*

*The Director Planning and Place Making advised that officers can provide some factual information and Council's policy positions. There was a proposal by Parks Victoria in March last year that was effectively a different proposal to what is being provided now. The project at the moment is a Parks Victoria project. Although we are receiving letters, we are making sure that people are lodging their concerns with Parks Victoria direct. Whether the current proposal and indeed the alternate proposal needs a planning permit, I'm not sure, I'm seeking more information. There may or may not be a further formal process beyond the current Parks Victoria are undertaking.*

## 7.3 Mr Richard Konarik - Permits for Businesses

Question:

I've been in Yarra for 12 years as a business person and resident and time and time again, even in private meetings etc. we have talked about the delays in getting things done for people that want to open a business.

I am frustrated for the businesses that try to build a business in this area and just don't get anywhere. We have new Councillors to the Melba Ward that haven't come to discuss it with me; they have been in and said hello but haven't discussed it with me.

As the CEO for 5 years, what are you going to do about it? You are welcome to come for a walk with me and speak to all the new businesses and all the people that are frustrated about this situation.

You can move fairly quickly when you want to, such as the Rainbow Flag, which was put up quickly. Was there a permit for it? I have no problem with equality but when is Council going to put up a Heterosexual Flag up?

Response:

*The Chief Executive Officer advised that I have to work within the Yarra planning scheme and the Government Scheme but notwithstanding that, just as you have requested me to come for a walk with you, yes I will do that. I will request that you and any community member come for a walk with me to Church Street, whether the Council is involved or not, as we speak we have got SEEK moving into Richmond in Cremorne with 1500 employees and many other companies that we have helped get established. Sometimes some matters are dealt with quickly and some are delayed, it depends on each application.*

*The Mayor advised that there is no Heterosexual flag.*