



Special Meeting of Council Agenda

**to be held on Thursday 16 July 2020 at 7.00pm
via TEAMS**

Participating in Council meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic

In order to ensure the health and safety of Councillors, staff and the community, Council meetings held during the Victorian State of Emergency are closed to the public. This is in accordance with advice provided by the State Government.

Members of the public are encouraged to watch proceedings online at www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/webcast.

Making a submission

This is a special meeting scheduled to hear submissions in relation to Council's Proposed Budget 2020/2021. If you have made a submission and would like to present it to the Council yourself, you can join the meeting online using the Microsoft Teams platform.

To register for the meeting and receive instructions on how to participate, please register your interest by following the link to this meeting from www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/meetings.

Your registration must be lodged by 10.00am on Thursday 16 July.

Recording and Publication of Meetings

An audio and video recording is made of all public Council Meetings, streamed live and published on Council's website. By participating in proceedings (including during Public Question Time or in making a submission regarding an item before Council), you agree to this publication. You should be aware that any private information volunteered by you during your participation in a meeting is subject to recording and publication.

Meeting recordings can be viewed at <http://webcast.yarracity.vic.gov.au>.

www.yarracity.vic.gov.au

Order of business

- 1. Statement of recognition of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Land**
- 2. Attendance, apologies and requests for leave of absence**
- 3. Declarations of conflict of interest (Councillors and staff)**
- 4. Council business reports**

1. 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 acknowledge their creator spirit Bunjil, their ancestors and their Elders.

We acknowledge the strength and resilience of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, who have never ceded sovereignty and retain their strong connections to family, clan and country despite the impacts of European invasion.

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.”

2. Attendance, apologies and requests for leave of absence

Anticipated attendees:

Councillors

- Cr Misha Coleman (Mayor)
- Cr Mi-Lin Chen Yi Mei (Deputy Mayor)
- Cr Danae Bosler
- Cr Jackie Fristacky
- Cr Stephen Jolly
- Cr Daniel Nguyen
- Cr Bridgid O’Brien
- Cr James Searle
- Cr Amanda Stone

Council officers

- Vijaya Vaidyanath (Chief Executive Officer)
- Ivan Gilbert (Group Manager Chief Executive’s Office)
- Brooke Colbert (Acting Group Manager Advocacy, Engagement and Communications)
- Lucas Gosling (Director Community Wellbeing)
- Gracie Karabinis (Group Manager People and Culture)
- Chris Leivers (Director City Works and Assets)
- Diarmuid McAlary (Director Corporate, Business and Finance)
- Bruce Phillips (Director Planning and Place Making)
- Rhys Thomas (Senior Governance Advisor)
- Mel Nikou (Governance Officer)

3. Declarations of conflict of interest (Councillors and staff)

4. Council business reports

Item		Page	Rec. Page	Report Presenter
4.1	Draft 2020/21 Budget - Hearing of Submissions	5	7	Julie Wyndham – Manager Corporate Planning and Performance

4.1 Draft 2020/21 Budget - Hearing of Submissions

Trim Record Number: D20/120230

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate, Business and Finance

Purpose

1. To hear any person who wishes to speak in support of a written submission to the draft 2020/21 Budget in accordance with section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act).

Background

2. Council is required to adopt a Budget under Section 130 of the Act and must give public notice of its decision.
3. Under Section 223 of the Act, Council is required to:
 - (a) give public notice outlining how the community can access a copy of the budget, timelines for submissions (at least 28 days) and the option to speak to their submission at a Council meeting;
 - (b) receive submissions;
 - (c) hear submissions at a Council meeting (where submitters have requested that opportunity); and
 - (d) write to each submitter noting Council's decision and the reasons for it.
4. The process of community engagement to inform development of the draft 2020/21 Budget commenced in late 2019. The initial round of community consultation assisted Council to understand a range of community sentiments and priorities for the budget.
5. Following this informal consultation process, Council formulated a draft Budget to fund services Council provides and additional works, services, and programs Council determined were priorities for the coming year. This was subsequently revised with the significant impact of Covid-19 and Council's financial support package response.
6. A draft 2020/21 Budget was presented to the Ordinary Council meeting on 19 May 2020 and was adopted in principle, for the formal advertising and consultation process.
7. The restrictions introduced by Federal and State Governments in response to Covid-19 prohibited face to face engagements with our community. In response Council undertook extensive on-line and social media campaign to engage the community.

External Consultation

8. The draft 2020/21 Budget was publicised via:
 - (a) a formal public notice in The Age and Council's website on Friday 22 May 2020;
 - (b) Yarra News feature (to 55,000 addresses);
 - (c) Yarra Life (to 10,000 subscribers);
 - (d) Facebook promoted post and video (to 9,000 followers and beyond);
 - (e) Twitter video (to 5,000 followers);
 - (f) Your Say Yarra direct message (to 1,000 subscribers);
 - (g) Your Say Yarra Mayoral Video;
 - (h) Budget hotline for enquiries and questions;
 - (i) Message to Advisory Committee representatives;
 - (j) Direct email message to Neighbourhood Houses, community organisations, service providers and interest groups;

(k) Promotional posters at Public Housing Estates, and:

(l) Yarra website – news item.

9. The draft 2020/21 Budget was available for public inspection for 30 days with the community having a number of options for submitting feedback including formal submissions received via email, online on Council's website and post as stipulated under s223 of the Local Government Act.
10. People making formal submissions to the draft 2020/21 Budget could elect to be heard on their submission at this Special Council meeting. This process has been adapted to proceed under the current social gathering restrictions.
11. At the close of formal submissions on Friday 19 June 2020, Council had received 66 submissions. Some submitters raised multiple issues in their submission with 103 comments being received across 52 issues, aligned to the Council Plan's Strategic Objectives.
12. Of the 66 submitters, 52 were from Yarra residents.
13. A summary of the issues raised in the submissions can be found at **Attachment 1**.

Internal Consultation (One Yarra)

14. The Governance branch has provided advice to ensure compliance with the legislative obligations of the Local Government Act 1989.

Financial Implications

15. The Budget process is guided by legislation and has major financial implications for Council's current and future operations and financial direction into the future.

Economic Implications

16. There are no economic impacts to be considered in this report.

Sustainability Implications

17. There are no sustainability impacts to be considered in this report.

Social Implications

18. There are no social impacts to be considered in this report.

Human Rights Implications

19. There are no human rights impacts to be considered in this report.

Communications with CALD Communities Implications

20. Select budget consultation materials (including Yarra News and promotional posters) included translation information in key community languages.

Council Plan, Strategy and Policy Implications

21. Strategy 7.1 of the City of Yarra Council Plan 2017-2021 is "*ensure Council's assets and financial resources are managed responsibly to deliver financial sustainability.*" A comprehensive and responsible budget that is informed by Council's articulated policy objectives and informed by meaningful community consultation is essential to the achievement of this objective.

Legal Implications

22. The requirements of the Local Government Act 1989 have been applied to the proposed budget preparation process, including: giving public notice of the submission period; receiving public submissions; and hearing those submissions who specifically requested to present verbally.

Other Issues

23. There are no other issues to be considered in this report.

Options

24. There are no options to be considered in this report.

Conclusion

25. Council has received submissions and feedback on the proposed 2020/21 Budget. The Submissions Hearing provides an opportunity for submitters who requested to be heard in relation to their submission to be invited to do so.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
 - (a) hear oral submissions on the Draft 2020/21 Budget in accordance with section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989; and
 - (b) note that the written submissions received through the statutory consultation phase and submissions heard tonight will be considered by Council on 4 August 2020.

CONTACT OFFICER: Julie Wyndham
TITLE: Manager Corporate Planning and Performance
TEL: 9205 5090

Attachments

1 [↓](#) Submissions Summary - Draft 2020/21 Budget

Attachment 1 - Submissions Summary - Draft 2020/21 Budget

Submissions summary - Draft 2020/21 Budget

Row Labels	Count of Issue
1. Healthy Yarra	
Community connection and support	
Community and Economic Support Package	2
Health, Safety and Amenity	
Improve City Amenity	2
Improve Graffiti management	2
Improve Animal Management	1
Open Space	
Add lights to the river trail next to Acacia Place, Abbotsford	1
Shared playground funding	1
Yarra's Draft Open Space Strategy	1
Dog friendly parks	1
Object to spending on pathways in the Darling Gardens	3
Services	
Reduce child care subsidies	1
Sport, Leisure and Recreation	
Hydrotherapy pool facility	1
Increase basketball facilities	1
2. Inclusive Yarra	
Aboriginal culture	
Support Aboriginal programs and events	2
3. Sustainable Yarra	
Environment	
Increase Tree planting	1
Reduce energy emissions	1
Support Climate Emergency	5
Support Nature Strategy	1
Waste and Recycling	
Improve waste services	1
Support new waste service	2
4. Liveable Yarra	
Heritage	
Establish and resource a heritage department within YCC	1
Resource the library to catalogue existing oral histories	1
Yarra's Heritage Strategy	1
Planning and Development	
Increase Neighbourhood Planning and development	1
Public realm planning and works	1

Attachment 1 - Submissions Summary - Draft 2020/21 Budget

Row Labels	Count of Issue
5. Prosperous Yarra	
Arts	
Increase Arts funding	1
Grants funding	1
Economic Development	
Brunswick Street Master Plan	3
Collingwood Children's Farm	1
Draft Yarra Economic Development Strategy	1
Improve City Amenity	2
Supprrt Economic Development	1
Libraries	
Increase Library Services	1
User Pay Library Services	1
6. Connected Yarra	
Roads, Traffic and Parking	
Address drainage and flood damage	1
Adopt and Integrated Transport Plan	2
Improve footpath assets	1
Increase Bicycle Infrastructure	3
Increase LAPM budgets	1
Increase parking and permit fees	4
Narrow Brunswick Street North (north section) to one lane	3
Reduce bluestone laneways	1
Review capital expenditure priorities	1
Road maintenance	4
Funding for traffic/speed mitigation in MacPherson St, Princes Hill	1
Sustainable Transport	
Increase Bicycle Infrastructure	4
Rushall park bike path	1
Temporary social distancing walking and cycling initiatives	1
7. Leading Yarra	
Council expenditure and Rates	
Community and Economic Support Package	1
Improve Community facilities	1
Increase Capital spending	1
Pensioner rebate	1
Rates	15
Reduce construction fees	1
Reduce Council expenditure	6
Council planning	
Long-term strategy	1
Services	
Advocacy	1
Grand Total	103