



Minutes

Council Meeting

7.03pm, Tuesday 1 December 2020

MS Teams

1. Statement of recognition of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Land

"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

Attendance

Councillors

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| • Cr Gabrielle de Vietri | Mayor |
| • Cr Claudia Nguyen | Deputy Mayor |
| • Cr Edward Crossland | Councillor |
| • Cr Stephen Jolly | Councillor |
| • Cr Herschel Landes | Councillor |
| • Cr Anab Mohamud | Councillor |
| • Cr Bridgid O'Brien | Councillor |
| • Cr Amanda Stone | Councillor |
| • Cr Sophie Wade | Councillor |

Council officers

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| • Vijaya Vaidyanath | Chief Executive Officer |
| • Brooke Colbert | Group Manager Advocacy and Engagement |
| • Ivan Gilbert | Group Manager Chief Executive's Office |
| • 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. Announcements

Nil

4. Declarations of conflict of interest

No declarations were made.

5. Confidential business reports

Nil

6. Confirmation of minutes

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Jolly

Seconded: Councillor Stone

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20 October 2020 be confirmed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Public question time

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14. Urgent business

Nil

7. Public question time

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. A recording of the Council Meeting (including Public Question Time) is available on Council's website for twelve months following the meeting. Where a question is taken on notice and unable to be answered at the meeting, the full response is also published on Council's website when it becomes available.

7.1 Clinton Kitt – Toilets at Edinburgh Gardens

Question:

As part of the master plan and the current situation with the portaloo's sitting on the outskirts of Alfred Crescent are very unsightly and am just wondering where Council is at with either planning to or able to accommodate more toilets within Edinburgh Gardens?

Response:

The Director Community Wellbeing advised:

In relation to the current toilets that are available in Edinburgh Gardens and we are certainly aware of the high degree of use at the moment. Council officers along with Councillors and the CEO have been engaged with a number of residents. The park is extremely popular with the COVID situation and we are aware of the range of issues that have been raised. The toilets were put in place at the request of residents to assist with some of the activities at the park and also arranging extra cleansing. We are also working with Victoria Police and meet with them twice a week to discuss some issues.

The Director City Works and Assets also advised:

The proposal is to install an additional public toilet in the southern part of Edinburgh Gardens next financial year and that's part of our draft Capital Works program that we are putting together. Some Councillors and community members might be aware that we did have it in our draft program to be delivered this year, however that project needed to be deferred along with all other discretionary projects due to the financial impacts of COVID. We have had that plan for some time and that will be our next priority, for a public toilet in Yarra.

We also have a significant redevelopment being designed for the Edinburgh Gardens sporting precinct and that design would also include public toilets. There are currently toilets within the community facility but they are not generally accessible by the community other than when that pavilion is open. The new pavilion would include some externally facing public toilets, however that project is still two years away.

7.2 Ranko Cosic – Planning Scheme Amendment C269

Question:

I would like to ask a question about the impending planning scheme amendment C269.

There is a legislative requirement to consult with the community and I would like to know if any literature other than English has been distributed to public housing tenants to ensure that everybody in Yarra no matter what their background can be involved in this exercise.

When will someone get back to me regarding this?

Response:

The Director Planning and Place Making advised:

The Planning Scheme Amendment C269 is on exhibition until the 4 December, submissions will be received and then summarised and a report back to Council in the New Year. The amendment is on the website and believe there are certain languages subscribed to that, but probably not in all languages for the building. We certainly endeavour to contact people and provide opportunities for people to lodge a submission.

I am happy to speak with Mr Cosic further and will provide him with my details so we can discuss and clarify the languages.

7.3 David Trimboli – New Year's Eve and Edinburgh Gardens

Question:

My question relates to Edinburgh Gardens and in particular the intended use or non-use of the gardens by Council on New Year's Eve this year.

Historically the gardens have been used for New Year's Eve celebrations until in recent years a previous Council locked down the gardens.

In light of the COVID-19 restrictions requiring gatherings to be outside and people not being able to celebrate at home and hospitality businesses having limited space, have Council thought about this issue?

Response:

The Director Community Wellbeing advised:

Just to note that there is an alcohol ban on all Yarra parks and gardens, in line with the current local law that comes into effect from 9am on New Year's Eve through to 9am the following day.

We need to think about how we safely activate our parks and gardens in a way that is in line with the current COVID restrictions. As you would be aware social gatherings are allowed outside for up to 50 people. The licenced venues can have up to 100 people indoors and up to 200 people outdoors and we are waiting to hear any further updates from the State Government.

For this New Year's Eve there will be some activation in place but of course we are not presenting that in a way of please come to the park, people will of course naturally do that, we need to be thinking about how do we also have some family friendly activities, so that there is a strong focus on making sure that all of our activities are safe. We will also be applying some of those resources to some of our other parks such as Barkly Gardens.

8.1 Mayoral and Councillor Allowances

Reference D20/159068

Author Rhys Thomas - Senior Governance Advisor

Authoriser Group Manager Chief Executive's Office

RECOMMENDATION

Start time: 7.43pm

1. That Council:
 - (a) give public notice of its intent to set:
 - (i) the Mayoral allowance at \$88,918.38; and
 - (ii) the Councillor allowance at \$28,738.28; and
 - (b) hear and consider any submissions received at a Council Meeting scheduled at least 28 days after the public notice of such proposal.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Mohamud

Seconded: Councillor Crossland

1. That Council:
 - (a) give public notice of its intent to set:
 - (i) the Mayoral allowance at \$88,918.38; and
 - (ii) the Councillor allowance at \$28,738.28; and
 - (b) hear and consider any submissions received at a Council Meeting scheduled at least 28 days after the public notice of such proposal.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9.1 Notice of Motion No. 18 of 2020 - A Green New Deal for Yarra

Reference	D20/161918
Author	Ivan Gilbert - Group Manager Chief Executive's Office
Authoriser	Group Manager Chief Executive's Office

RECOMMENDATION

Start time: 7.46pm

1. That Yarra Council acknowledges that:
 - (a) the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in serious, negative and ongoing impacts to many Yarra residents and businesses;
 - (b) recovery from the pandemic will require significant investment of funds and resources from all levels of government;
 - (c) we have an opportunity to help rebuild the local economy, boost community wellbeing, and create local jobs, based on principles of social justice and environmental sustainability; and
 - (d) we also have an opportunity to plan our recovery in a way that builds community resilience to future social, economic and environmental shocks including but not limited to the impacts of climate change.
 2. That Yarra Council:
 - (a) commit to addressing the health, economic, social and climate crises we currently face, considering a suite of interconnected initiatives, many of which are already underway and that these initiatives be based on:
 - (i) reviving our local economies
 - a. continue to invest in reactivating our high streets, making outdoor dining, active transport and creative interventions a permanent part of our communities; and
 - b. continue to invest in the arts to revitalise our communities, public space and attract visitors to Yarra.
 - (ii) fixing the waste crisis:
 - a. roll out organic waste bins to reduce emissions and waste to landfill as soon as possible; and
 - b. urge the State Government to build 23 new recycling centres across Victoria by 2025.
 - (iii) housing for all:
 - a. advocate to the State Government to:
 - commit to building new public housing in Yarra so everyone can have a place to call home;
 - maintain and improve current public housing in Yarra, so that everyone has enough space to live in and amenities are in good functioning order; and
 - introduce “inclusionary zoning” for new major developments in Yarra to enforce a high minimum of affordable housing.
 - (iv) investment in active transport:

- a. develop an Integrated Transport Plan, making Yarra a place where everyone can ride, walk or cycle to where they need to be, through an integrated network of best practice protected bike lanes, improved footpaths and support for level access tram stops.
 - (v) making great green spaces:
 - a. continue to increase urban tree canopy, create nature corridors and plant more native species across Yarra;
 - b. progress Yarra's Open Space Strategy to Increase the footprint of green open spaces, with parks for everyone to enjoy; and
 - c. implement Yarra's Nature Strategy to restore our urban ecosystems and preserve Yarra's unique urban biodiversity.
 - (vi) transitioning to renewable energy:
 - a. fast track delivery on the Climate Emergency Plan;
 - b. continue to support the Yarra Energy Foundation to provide pathways to all businesses, renters and property owners - to transition to renewable energy and increase energy efficiency; and
 - c. complete work on the Zero Carbon Developments Planning Scheme Amendment to ensure that all new developments have mandatory renewable energy, no new gas, higher standards of energy efficiency, minimum bike storage.
3. That as part of the Council Plan process, a workshop to focus on these priorities be held at the beginning of 2021 with Councillors, Executive Members and other relevant officers with a report back to Council on a proposed Green New Deal Recovery Plan and recommendations for resourcing the Plan, which may include borrowing.

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Stone

Seconded: Councillor Crossland

1. That Yarra Council acknowledges that:
 - (a) the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in serious, negative and ongoing impacts to many Yarra residents and businesses;
 - (b) recovery from the pandemic will require significant investment of funds and resources from all levels of government;
 - (c) we have an opportunity to help rebuild the local economy, boost community wellbeing, and create local jobs, based on principles of social justice and environmental sustainability; and
 - (d) we also have an opportunity to plan our recovery in a way that builds community resilience to future social, economic and environmental shocks including but not limited to the impacts of climate change.
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 - a. continue to invest in reactivating our high streets, making outdoor dining, active transport and creative interventions a permanent part of our communities; and
 - b. continue to invest in the arts to revitalise our communities, public space and attract visitors to Yarra.

- (ii) fixing the waste crisis:
 - a. roll out organic waste bins to reduce emissions and waste to landfill as soon as possible; and
 - b. urge the State Government to build 23 new recycling centres across Victoria by 2025.
 - (iii) housing for all:
 - a. advocate to the State Government to:
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 - a. develop an Integrated Transport Plan, making Yarra a place where everyone can ride, walk or cycle to where they need to be, through an integrated network of best practice protected bike lanes, improved footpaths and support for level access tram stops.
 - (v) making great green spaces:
 - a. continue to increase urban tree canopy, create nature corridors and plant more native species across Yarra;
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3. That as part of the Council Plan process, a workshop to focus on these priorities be held at the beginning of 2021 with Councillors, Executive Members and other relevant officers with a report back to Council on a proposed Green New Deal Recovery Plan and recommendations for resourcing the Plan, which may include borrowing.
4. That this workshop be informed by the responses received from the community (November 2020 - Jan 2021) as part of the Community Visioning process currently underway and that community and business leaders be engaged on the proposed Green New Deal Recovery Plan before its adoption.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor Jolly

2. (a) (ii) c. urge the State Government to re-introduce recycling services on the high rise estates in Yarra, as recycling should be available for all citizens.
2. (a) (iv) d. Council will seek at the upcoming mid-year budget review to implement the important environmental initiatives that were deferred in the last budget.

The amendments were accepted by the mover and seconder and incorporated into the motion.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor O'Brien

1. That Yarra Council acknowledges that:
 - (a) The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in serious, negative and ongoing impacts to many Yarra residents and businesses;
 - (b) Recovery from the pandemic will require significant investment of funds and resources from all levels of government;
 - (c) We have an opportunity to help rebuild the local economy, boost community wellbeing, and create local jobs, based on principles of social justice and environmental sustainability; and
Council's role in and responsibility to; rebuild the local economy, care for our whole community's wellbeing and redress the inequalities exposed by the pandemic; and
 - (d) We also have an The unique opportunity afforded our community to reconsider and reconfigure the way forward, to plan our recovery in a way that builds community resilience, addresses social and economic inequalities and prioritises our environment and the impacts of climate change, to future social, economic and environmental shocks including but not limited to the impacts of climate change.
2. That Yarra Council:
 - (a) Commit to addressing the health, economic, social and climate crises we currently face, considering a suite of interconnected initiatives, many of which are already underway and that these initiatives be based on, but not limited to:
 - (i) Reviving our local economies:
 - a. Continue to invest in reactivating our high streets, making outdoor dining, active transport and creative interventions a permanent part of our communities; and
 - b. Continue to invest in the arts to revitalise our communities, public space and attract visitors to Yarra.
 - (ii) Fixing the waste crisis:
 - a. Roll out organic waste bins to reduce emissions and waste to landfill as soon as possible; and
 - b. Urge the State Government to build 23 new recycling centres across Victoria **by 2025.**
 - (iii) Housing for all:
 - a. Advocate to the State Government to:
 - commit to building new public housing in Yarra so everyone can have a place to call home;

- maintain and improve current public housing in Yarra, so that everyone has enough space to live in and amenities are in good functioning order; and
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- a. Develop an Integrated Transport Plan, making Yarra a place where everyone can ride, walk or cycle to where they need to be, through an integrated network of best practice protected bike lanes, improved footpaths and support for level access tram stops.
- (v) Making great green spaces:
- a. Continue to increase urban tree canopy, create nature corridors and plant more native species across Yarra;
 - b. Progress Yarra’s Open Space Strategy to Increase the footprint of green open spaces, with parks for everyone to enjoy; and
 - c. Implement Yarra’s Nature Strategy to restore our urban ecosystems and preserve Yarra’s unique urban biodiversity.
- (vi) Transitioning to renewable energy:
- a. Fast track delivery on the Climate Emergency Plan;
 - b. Continue to support the Yarra Energy Foundation to provide pathways to all businesses, renters and property owners - to transition to renewable energy and increase energy efficiency; and
 - c. Complete work on the Zero Carbon Developments Planning Scheme Amendment to ensure that all new developments have mandatory renewable energy, no new gas, higher standards of energy efficiency, minimum bike storage.
3. ~~That as part of the Council Plan process, a workshop to focus on these priorities be held at the beginning of 2021 with Councillors, Executive Members and other relevant officers with a report back to Council on a proposed Green New Deal Recovery Plan and recommendations for resourcing the Plan, which may include borrowing.”~~
3. That as part of this Council Plan process, a workshop or series of workshops, open to all community members, led by key community stakeholders and Councillors be held at the beginning of 2021 to develop a plan and possible new Council priorities. The workshop/s will be facilitated by Executive Members and other relevant officers and result in a report back to Council on a proposed Green New Deal Recovery Plan and recommendations for resourcing the Plan, which may include borrowing.

The mover and seconder accepted incorporating clause 2 (a). The other clauses were not accepted so the amendment was formally put.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor O’Brien

Seconded: Councillor Nguyen

1. ~~That Yarra Council acknowledges that:~~

- (a) ~~The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in serious, negative and ongoing impacts to many Yarra residents and businesses;~~
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- (c) ~~We have an opportunity to help rebuild the local economy, boost community wellbeing, and create local jobs, based on principles of social justice and environmental sustainability; and~~
- Council's role in and responsibility to; rebuild the local economy, care for our whole community's wellbeing and redress the inequalities exposed by the pandemic; and
- (d) ~~We also have an The unique opportunity afforded our community to reconsider and reconfigure the way forward, to plan our recovery in a way that builds community resilience, addresses social and economic inequalities and prioritises our environment and the impacts of climate change. to future social, economic and environmental shocks including but not limited to the impacts of climate change.~~

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LOST

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillors Jolly, O'Brien, Mohamud and Nguyen

Against: Councillors Stone, Crossland, de Vietri, Landes and Wade

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Stone

Seconded: Councillor Crossland

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 - b. urge the State Government to build 23 new recycling centres across Victoria by 2025; and
 - c. urge the State Government to re-introduce recycling services on the high rise estates in Yarra, as recycling should be available for all citizens.
 - (iii) housing for all:
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 - a. fast track delivery on the Climate Emergency Plan;
 - b. continue to support the Yarra Energy Foundation to provide pathways to all businesses, renters and property owners - to transition to renewable energy and increase energy efficiency;
 - c. complete work on the Zero Carbon Developments Planning Scheme Amendment to ensure that all new developments have mandatory renewable energy, no new gas, higher standards of energy efficiency, minimum bike storage; and
 - d. Council will seek at the upcoming mid-year budget review to implement the important environmental initiatives that were deferred in the last budget.
3. That as part of the Council Plan process, a workshop to focus on these priorities be held at the beginning of 2021 with Councillors, Executive Members and other relevant officers with a report back to Council on a proposed Green New Deal Recovery Plan and recommendations for resourcing the Plan, which may include borrowing.

-
4. That this workshop be informed by the responses received from the community (November 2020 - Jan 2021) as part of the Community Visioning process currently underway and that community and business leaders be engaged on the proposed Green New Deal Recovery Plan before its adoption.

CARRIED

9.2 Notice of Motion No. 19 of 2020 - Fast Tracking Zero Carbon Developments in the Planning Scheme

Reference D20/161935
Author Ivan Gilbert - Group Manager Chief Executive's Office
Authoriser Group Manager Chief Executive's Office

RECOMMENDATION **Start time: 8.15pm**

1. That the Mayor write to the Minister for Planning:
 - (a) commending him on the state government announcement on 17th November of 9300 new 7-star social housing homes for Victorians, and its announcements on energy efficiency upgrades, minimum energy standards for rental properties and subsidies for batteries;
 - (b) highlighting the important role played by local governments in supporting our most vulnerable residents in adapting to climate change and the difference these measures will make;
 - (c) reminding him of the work being undertaken by Yarra Council in collaboration with Moreland City Council, the City of Melbourne and CASBE to develop a Zero Carbon Developments Planning Scheme amendment; and
 - (d) requesting that he act to fast-track this amendment when presented, in the same way he has fast-tracked approvals for major developments in Yarra, transport projects and other proposals which require state government authorisation and approval, in the interests of sustainable development, good quality new development and a safe climate future.

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Stone **Seconded:** Councillor Wade

1. That the Mayor write to the Minister for Planning:
 - (a) commending him on the state government announcement on 17th November of 9300 new 7-star social housing homes for Victorians, and its announcements on energy efficiency upgrades, minimum energy standards for rental properties and subsidies for batteries;
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AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor O'Brien

- (d) once the Zero Carbon Developments Planning Scheme amendment has been endorsed by a resolution of Council, and is presented for the Minister's consideration, request that he urgently addresses Local Government recommendations and collaborate to fast track climate emergency action that requires State Government authorisation and approval.

The amendment was not accepted by the mover and seconder. It was then formally put.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor O'Brien

Seconded: Councillor Jolly

- (d) once the Zero Carbon Developments Planning Scheme amendment has been endorsed by a resolution of Council, and is presented for the Minister's consideration, request that he urgently addresses Local Government recommendations and collaborate to fast track climate emergency action that requires State Government authorisation and approval.

LOST

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Stone

Seconded: Councillor Wade

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- (b) highlighting the important role played by local governments in supporting our most vulnerable residents in adapting to climate change and the difference these measures will make;
- (c) reminding him of the work being undertaken by Yarra Council in collaboration with Moreland City Council, the City of Melbourne and CASBE to develop a Zero Carbon Developments Planning Scheme amendment; and
- (d) requesting that he act to fast-track this amendment when presented, in the same way he has fast-tracked approvals for major developments in Yarra, transport projects and other proposals which require state government authorisation and approval, in the interests of sustainable development, good quality new development and a safe climate future.

CARRIED

9.3 Notice of Motion No. 20 of 2020 - Public Housing and Inclusionary Zoning

Reference D20/161988

Author Ivan Gilbert - Group Manager Chief Executive's Office

Authoriser Group Manager Chief Executive's Office

RECOMMENDATION

Start time: 8.30pm

1. That the Mayor write to the Minister for Housing, Richard Wynne to:
 - (a) congratulate the State Government on the “big housing build” new social and affordable housing build included in the Victorian State budget of November 24 2020;
 - (b) note that the proposal for the site earmarked for public housing in 147 – 161 Elizabeth Street, Richmond is a proposal for social and affordable housing, with 5% DDA compliant social housing and that no other commitments in terms of the housing mix have been publicly made by the State Government;
 - (c) recommend that the site be used entirely for public housing to urgently address the long public housing waiting list;
 - (d) acknowledge that addressing the housing crisis in Victoria requires long-term mechanisms to be established to ensure that there are sustainable solutions in addition to the proposed housing build; and
 - (e) request that the State Government prepare to introduce inclusionary zoning into the Yarra Planning Scheme in 2021 to allow the Council to enforce an ambitious minimum percentage of between 10 and 20% social and affordable housing in all new developments.

Public Submission

Penelope Drummond, North Richmond Estate Public Tenant Association addressed Council on the matter.

MOTION

Moved: Councillor de Vietri

Seconded: Councillor Mohamud

1. That the Mayor write to the Minister for Housing, Richard Wynne to:
 - (a) congratulate the State Government on the “big housing build” new social and affordable housing build included in the Victorian State budget of November 24 2020;
 - (b) note that the proposal for the site earmarked for public housing in 147 – 161 Elizabeth Street, Richmond is a proposal for social and affordable housing, with 5% DDA compliant social housing and that no other commitments in terms of the housing mix have been publicly made by the State Government;
 - (c) recommend that the site be used entirely for public housing to urgently address the long public housing waiting list;
 - (d) acknowledge that addressing the housing crisis in Victoria requires long-term mechanisms to be established to ensure that there are sustainable solutions in addition to the proposed housing build; and

- (e) request that the State Government prepare to introduce inclusionary zoning into the Yarra Planning Scheme in 2021 to allow the Council to enforce an ambitious minimum percentage of between 10 and 20% social and affordable housing in new developments.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor Jolly

- (f) request that the State Government through Housing Victoria, enter into negotiations with Yarra Council to explore feasible social and affordable housing outcomes on Council owned land in and around Collingwood Town Hall precinct.

The amendment was not accepted by the mover. It was then formally put.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor Jolly

Seconded: Councillor O'Brien

- (f) request that the State Government through Housing Victoria, enter into negotiations with Yarra Council to explore feasible social and affordable housing outcomes on Council owned land in and around Collingwood Town Hall precinct.

CARRIED

The amendment was incorporated into the motion.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor de Vietri

Seconded: Councillor Mohamud

1. That the Mayor write to the Minister for Housing, Richard Wynne to:
 - (a) congratulate the State Government on the “big housing build” new social and affordable housing build included in the Victorian State budget of November 24 2020;
 - (b) note that the proposal for the site earmarked for public housing in 147 – 161 Elizabeth Street, Richmond is a proposal for social and affordable housing, with 5% DDA compliant social housing and that no other commitments in terms of the housing mix have been publicly made by the State Government;
 - (c) recommend that the site be used entirely for public housing to urgently address the long public housing waiting list;
 - (d) acknowledge that addressing the housing crisis in Victoria requires long-term mechanisms to be established to ensure that there are sustainable solutions in addition to the proposed housing build;
 - (e) request that the State Government prepare to introduce inclusionary zoning into the Yarra Planning Scheme in 2021 to allow the Council to enforce an ambitious minimum percentage of between 10 and 20% social and affordable housing in new developments; and
 - (f) request that the State Government through Housing Victoria, enter into negotiations with Yarra Council to explore feasible social and affordable housing outcomes on Council owned land in and around the Collingwood Town Hall precinct.

CARRIED

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillors Jolly, Stone, O'Brien, Crossland, de Vietri, Mohamud, Nguyen and Landes

Against: Councillor Wade

10. Petitions and joint letters

10.1 Petition – Noise and Air Pollution caused by traffic on Hoddle Street, Collingwood

Lead Petitioner: Thomas Shepherd addressed Council on the matter.

Reference: D20/164117

A petition containing 53 signatures from residents are requesting that Council take action to protect residents and students from noise and air pollution caused by traffic on Hoddle Street and that Council consider countermeasures such as building a wall or protective barrier that will separate Hoddle Street from residential areas, schools and childcare centres.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor O'Brien

Seconded: Councillor Jolly

That the petition be received and referred to the appropriate officer for consideration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.2 Petition – Impact of Train Noise to Gordon Street, Clifton Hill Residents

Reference: D20/163946

A petition containing 32 signatures from residents of Gordon Street, Clifton Hill request that Council advocate on behalf residents to VicTrack for a solution to reduce the noise coming from the trains behind the resident's properties.

For many years the laneway property behind Gordon Street had a 2 layered, large 3 meter corrugated iron fence and trees on the train line. It was replaced with a wire fence without any notice or feedback from residents. Residents would like the corrugated fence reinstated or replaced with something similar that will reduce the noise.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Jolly

Seconded: Councillor O'Brien

That the petition be received and referred to the appropriate officer for consideration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.3 Petition – Night Cat Proposal for Outdoor Music

Reference: D20/163934

A petition containing 43 signatures from Yarra residents request that:

- Council monitor and ensure the Night Cat's outdoor music complies with the conditions of their extended redline permit which ends June 2021 and allows only background music
- Council note that the Night Cats online petition titled "Bring Live Music to the outdoors", makes a false claim that they have written consent from neighbours as none of the attached signed petitioners have received any information or given consent.

- Council also ensure that venues continue to protect the local residents by keeping all amplified live music indoor as per Yarra's Policy.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor O'Brien

Seconded: Councillor Nguyen

That the petition be received and referred to the appropriate officer for consideration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.4 Petition – Bring Live Music to outdoors! (Change.org)

Reference: D20/163713

A petition currently containing 1,621 online signatures from the Yarra and broader community request that Council consider the Night Cats proposal for outdoor music:

*"The Night Cat is home to all Melbourne musicians and we want to bring live music back as soon as possible and recreate **jobs for local musicians**. We appreciate that this has been an unprecedented time for everyone involved and local councils are doing their best to accommodate and pivot with the changing circumstances. We want to ensure that live music doesn't get lost in the sea of restriction changes and that we are advocated for and supported.*

We need your help to aid musicians by bringing live music to the outdoors!"

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Jolly

Seconded: Councillor Landes

That the petition be received and referred to the appropriate officer for consideration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.5 Petition – Removal of Nicholson Street Abbotsford Traffic Barrier

Lead Petitioner: James Edwards, Abbotsford addressed Council on the matter.

Reference: D20/164112

A petition containing (464) online signatures from the Yarra residents request that Council consider removing the traffic barrier that was put up on the corner of Nicholson, Mollison and Langridge Streets earlier this year.

"The barrier has affected our ability to move around our local neighbourhood without undue encumbrance and this adversely affects the amenity and liveability of this beautiful area."

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Jolly

Seconded: Councillor Landes

That the petition be received and referred to the appropriate officer for consideration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10.6 Petition – Recycling

Lead Petitioner: Theresa Saldanha addressed Council on the matter.

Reference: D20/164091

A petition containing over 600 online signatures from the Yarra residents request that Council consider the community feedback to put in place more nuanced recycling options that benefit the whole community and in doing so improve the recycling efforts within the community.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Jolly

Seconded: Councillor O'Brien

That the petition be received and referred to the appropriate officer for consideration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Questions without notice

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. A recording of the Council Meeting (including Questions Without Notice) is available on Council's website for twelve months following the meeting. Where a question is taken on notice and unable to be answered at the meeting, the full response is also published on Council's website when it becomes available.

- 11.1 Councillor Jolly – Bollards left outside of Grocon Site, Collingwood

Question:

It was recently mentioned in the paper that Grocon have gone bust. Bollards and barriers have been left outside the Grocon site on the corner of Wellington and Northumberland and luckily it hasn't blocked the bicycle lane on Wellington Street.

Are Council officers aware of this?

Can officers enter in negotiations with VicRoads and or the State Government but also Grocon, whatever is left of Grocon, to try and get rid of this mess as it is inappropriate that they have just left this mess on Council land?

Can this be followed up on before there is an accident?

Response:

The Chief Executive Officer took the questions on notice.

12. Delegates' reports

- 12.1 Councillor O'Brien – Merri Creek Management Committee

Start time: 8.50pm

Councillor Jolly left the meeting at 8.51pm

Committee	Merri Creek Management Committee
Appointed Councillors	Bridgid O'Brien
Date of Committee Meeting	19 November 2020
Date of Report	28 November 2020
Report Author	Bridgid O'Brien

DELEGATES REPORT

The MCMC Committee of Management met on 19 November 2020. Cr O'Brien was in attendance and provides this report to Council.

Agenda items for this meeting included:

1. MCMC Strategic Plan:

The Strategic Plan for 2020 – 2024 has now been finalised and can be found at this link.

https://mcmc.org.au/images/image/general/MCMC_Strategic_Plan_2020.pdf

An update on the Implementation Plan priority actions within the Strategic Plan was provided.

2. Priority Action from MCMC Strategic Plan – Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Agreement.

3. MCMC and COVID-19 response:

MCMC will begin accepting individual volunteers seeking work-experience with the Ecological Restoration Team, providing they are able to get to sites using their own vehicles. The site-based work is, by its nature, socially distanced.

Friends of Merri Creek planning for 2021 to manage safe community activities includes managing size limits, rigorous on-site registration procedures, food/refreshments if provided how this will be managed and planning to include flexibility and possible contingencies.

4. Presentation - New Sustainable Subdivision Framework:

Amanda Dodd, Environmental Planning Coordinator, Hume City Council: "CASBE's New Sustainable Subdivision Framework. (CASBE - Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment".

<https://www.casbe.org.au/resources/sustainable-subdivisions-resources/>

<https://www.casbe.org.au/news/sustainable-subdivision-framework-officially-launched/>

5. Standing Committee Reports including Executive, Finance, Merri Creek Environment Fund and the Sodic Soils Working Group. Important highlights to note:

The Merri Creek Environment Fund is again selling Holiday Season cards.

The order form can be found here

[Merri_Christmas_Card_Writable_Order_Form_2020.pdf \(mcmc.org.au\)](Merri_Christmas_Card_Writable_Order_Form_2020.pdf)

The MCMC Sodic Soils Working Group made a submission to the Panel Hearing for the C106 Mitchell Planning Scheme Amendment. The Panel concluded that Sodic & Erosive Soils Management Plans should be a requirement for a planning permit.

Two important conclusions of the Panel were:

- (a) It will be incumbent on planning permit applicants to prepare soil management plans and for the responsible authority to assess, approve and administer these plans to ensure that the PSP requirements are met; and
- (b) Urban development in accordance with the revised PSP provides a significant opportunity for existing waterways to be improved and waterways constructed as part of the PSP development to deliver an environmentally sustainable outcome in terms of the management of sodic and dispersive soils.

These planning requirements will be a first for Victorian Planning Schemes and provide a way forward to protect our waterways. It also raises important questions:

- What guidance will be developed for those preparing the plans?
- How are Councils going to assess the adequacy of these plans?
- What are the performance criteria and objectives?

[Mitchell C106mth \(PSA\) \[2020\] PPV 73 \(7 October 2020\) \(austlii.edu.au\)](Mitchell C106mth (PSA) [2020] PPV 73 (7 October 2020) (austlii.edu.au))

6. MCMC Program Reports

These included the Planning & Coordination Report, the Ecological Restoration Program Report and the Catchment Program Report.

7. Member Reports:

These included Friend of Merri Creek, Moreland City Council Wallan Environment Group, Darebin City Council and Yarra City Council.

From Yarra:

- (a) YCC Motion No.13 of 2020 carried unanimously on 1 September 2020 in response to concerns for wildlife along the Merri Creek Trail has been shared widely and used as a model for similar initiatives at other Councils within the Merri Creek catchment.
- (b) On Sunday 20 September, Merri Creek Management Committee held a webinar about our urban relationships with magnificent Powerful Owls. Urban Ecologist and PhD Candidate, Nick Bradsworth (Deakin University), and Senior Biodiversity Officer, Craig Lupton (City of Yarra), shared their experience of the secret lives of Powerful Owls (*Ninox strenua*) in inner Melbourne.
- (c) A recording of the presentation can be found at this link, so you can see how we can protect the long-term survival of the Powerful Owl in Yarra, even in our own backyards.

<https://mcmc.org.au/living-together-powerful-owls-in-yarra-s-neighbourhood>

More information here:

<https://birdlife.org.au/projects/urban-birds/powerful-owl-project-pow>

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor O'Brien

Seconded: Councillor Crossland

1. That Council note this Delegate's Report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 12.2 Councillor Stone - Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA)

Start time: 8.54pm

Councillor Jolly returned to the meeting at 8.55pm

Committee	Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA)
Appointed Councillors	Cr Amanda Stone
Date of Council Meeting	1 st December 2020
Date of Report	30 th April 2020
Report Author	Cr Amanda Stone

DELEGATES REPORT

The City of Yarra is a member of NAGA.

NAGA formed in 2002 as a network that shares information, coordinates emission reduction and adaptation activities and cooperates on the research and development of innovative projects. NAGA's goal is to substantially contribute to the transition to a low-carbon future by delivering effective programs and leveraging local government, community and business action.

Due to the election period, the NAGA Executive has not met since August but work has continued by officers in the 9 member councils and the NAGA team, especially on advocacy.

Advocacy

NAGA has recently signed off on 4 key submissions:

1. **Advocacy to the National COVID Coordination Commission** - through the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances on stimulus measures for the pandemic recovery; urging the Commission to consider:
 - (a) Improving the quality of housing, especially the energy efficiency of housing for low income households; and
 - (b) Leveraging the unique capabilities and capacity of councils to support local economies, create jobs and tackle climate change.
e.g. to include energy efficient street lighting, a state-wide food and organics program, statewide EV charging network, conversion of landfills to solar farms.
2. **Advocacy through the Climate Council to the State Government budget** for stronger energy efficiency measures.
3. **Advocacy to the Planning Minister Richard Wynne** on the recent announcement of the state's investment in social housing and urging him to take the opportunity to ensure these are Zero Carbon Homes, with 7 star energy rating, using renewable energy and no gas. The letter also encouraged him to use the work underway by Yarra, Moreland and Melbourne City Councils, with CASBE, to extend the Zero Carbon Developments Planning Scheme Amendment across the state of Victoria.

4. **Submission on the Climate Change (National Framework for Adaptation and Mitigation) Bill 2020**, welcoming the bill as a step forward but expressing concern with the draft legislation as:
 - (a) it potentially locks in targets that will be quickly superseded by emerging scientific evidence; and
 - (b) it relies heavily on the Minister of the day acting in good faith to enact the recommendations of the Climate Change Commission.

It recommended changes to address these concerns.

Strategic Plan

NAGA has also signed off on a new 4 year Strategic Plan which can be found here:
<https://www.naga.org.au/strategy.html>

The 7 aims of the plan are to:

- Increase the resilience of member councils and their communities to respond to projected climate change impacts in the region.
- Ensure that responding to climate change is deeply embedded within the governance practices of member councils.
- Deliver a pro-active program of advocacy to support our climate change mitigation and adaptation objectives.
- Develop and deliver a program of initiatives to reduce emissions from the non-residential sector, through investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- Investigate, support and deliver energy efficiency and renewable energy programs to reduce emissions in the residential sector.
- Work to overcome energy market barriers to the uptake of renewable energy, both for corporate and community needs.
- Assist member councils to move rapidly away from dependences on fossil fuels, both for corporate and community needs.

Projects

NAGA continues work on key projects to reduce emissions across the region:

- A power purchase agreement for Victorian Councils
- Involvement in Exploring Vulnerabilities – a DELWP regional adaptation plan
- Climate governance – measures to support councils dealing with climate risk and governance issues

NAGA also continues a range of activities in network and knowledge sharing across the region and research with the tertiary education sector.

NAGA auspiced the establishment of **Climate Emergency Australia**, a new body to support and advocate for councils across Australia who have declared a Climate Emergency and to advocate for stronger action at the federal level. Yarra is a founding member of CEA. A future delegate's report will be provided on its progress to date.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Stone

Seconded: Councillor Jolly

That this Delegate's Report be accepted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. General Business

- 13.1 Councillor O'Brien – Audit of City of Yarra Land and Buildings

Start time: 8.57pm

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor O'Brien

Seconded: Councillor Jolly

That Council request Officer's present a report on a stocktake of City of Yarra land and building assets, noting their current usage and tenure arrangement.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Background

As part of the Government of Victoria's \$5.3b social housing package, it is likely that the City of Yarra will commence work to identify current assets that may potentially be utilised to leverage more social housing and residential opportunities to protect the diversity of our community.

Alongside this, Council should determine all land and building assets that are currently held, including their usage and tenure to identify any redundant, vacant and under-utilised spaces. These could be redirected to service the arts, community-based groups and other cultural activities under arrangements that give those potential uses certainty of tenure at lower-than-market rates.

The express purpose of this audit should be to support industries, activities and groups based in Yarra that are affected by COVID-19 or that are priced out of attaining medium- to long-term tenure arrangements.

- 13.2 Councillor Jolly – Yarra Comes to Life Festival – Early 2021

Start time: 9.12pm

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Jolly

Seconded: Councillor O'Brien

1. That Council:

- (a) note the significance of Yarra's vibrant night-time economy to the business and employment base of our community and the severe impact which the COVID-19 lockdown has had on each of the financial and lifestyle aspects of our city;
- (b) note Council's current support to businesses and community in Yarra via the recently adopted Council Community and Business Support package -(\$7.4 Million);
- (c) note recent media coverage concerning a City of Melbourne proposal to consider how people can be encouraged into the city when it is safe to do so and the possible conduct of a giant street party or other ideas, opportunities and activities which would serve to:
 - (i) celebrate the re-opening of the city once restrictions on large gatherings are lifted;
 - (ii) promote opportunities for businesses to re-energise and start-up;

- (iii) encourage community to return to the city to participate in and enjoy the wonderful services and activities on offer and which we have missed over the recent months; and
- (iv) overall, encourage the re-birth of businesses and community activities in the city;
- (d) now seek an Officers report on possible options for the conduct of a major activity in partnership with businesses which would encourage:
 - (i) visitors and patrons back to the iconic night-time economy venues in Brunswick Street, Gertrude Street and Smith Street environs and in Victoria Street, Bridge Road and Swan Street, Richmond environs; and
 - (ii) offer support to re-establish the vibrancy of the area; and
- (e) request the report include necessary information to assist the Council to make a determination on the most appropriate style and extent of an activity which would be most suited to achieve the intended goals.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BACKGROUND

The proposed activity by the City of Melbourne is outlined in a Herald Sun article via the following link:

<https://www.google.com.au/amp/s/amp.heraldsun.com.au/news/victoria/giant-street-party-may-rock-melbourne-after-coronavirus/news-story/b293a0a1fb0fccea3e10f25a1086d4661>

13.3 Councillor Nguyen – Options for Rate Relief

Start time: 9.21pm

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Nguyen

Seconded: Councillor O'Brien

1. That:

- (a) Council request an Officers Report on the potential for implementing a formal residential rate waiver program and relief mechanisms for City of Yarra residents who have been most impacted by financial hardship as a result of COVID-19 by end of January 2021; and
- (b) The report:
 - (i) should focus on providing a strict and defined criterion of eligibility for the program to ensure that the program targets and only benefits those residents who have been most financially disadvantaged during the COVID period; and
 - (ii) could also canvas ways Council can financially support renters who have been significantly impacted.

CARRIED

13.4 Councillor Nguyen – Student Internships

Start time: 9.31pm

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Nguyen

Seconded: Councillor Crossland

That Council request an Officers Report on the potential for establishing student internships within the City of Yarra organisation, for the young people in our public housing areas and those attending community schools, by end of January 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Conclusion

The meeting concluded at 9.32pm.

Confirmed Tuesday 15 December 2020

Mayor