



# Agenda

## Special Council Meeting

7.00pm, Monday 30 May 2022

Richmond Town Hall

## Council Meetings

Council Meetings are public forums where Councillors come together to meet as a Council and make decisions about important, strategic and other matters. The Mayor presides over all Council Meetings, and they are conducted in accordance with the City of Yarra Governance Rules 2020 and the Council Meetings Operations Policy.

Council meetings are decision-making forums and only Councillors have a formal role. However, Council is committed to transparent governance and to ensuring that any person whose rights will be directly affected by a decision of Council is entitled to communicate their views and have their interests considered before the decision is made.

There are two ways you can participate in the meeting.

### Public submissions

Before each item is considered, the meeting chair will ask people in attendance if they wish to make submission. If you want to make a submission, simply raise your hand and the Mayor will invite you to come forward, take a seat at the microphone, state your name clearly for the record and:

- Speak for a maximum of five minutes;
- direct your submission to the Mayor;
- confine your submission to the subject under consideration;
- avoid repetition and restating previous submitters;
- refrain from asking questions or seeking comments from the Councillors or other submitters;
- if speaking on behalf of a group, explain the nature of the group and how you are able to speak on their behalf.

Once you have made your submission, please remain silent unless called upon by the Mayor to make further comment or to clarify any aspects.

Once all submissions have been received, the formal debate may commence. Once the debate has commenced, no further submissions, questions or comments from submitters can be received.

### Arrangements to ensure our meetings are accessible to the public

Council meetings are held at either the Richmond Town Hall or the Fitzroy Town Hall. The following arrangements are in place to ensure they are accessible to the public:

- Entrance ramps and lifts (off Moor Street at Fitzroy, entry foyer at Richmond).
- Interpreting assistance is available by arrangement (tel. 9205 5110).
- Auslan interpreting is available by arrangement (tel. 9205 5110).
- A hearing loop is available at Richmond only and the receiver accessory is available by arrangement (tel. 9205 5110).
- Proposed resolutions are displayed on large screen.
- An electronic sound system amplifies Councillors' debate.
- Disability accessible toilet facilities are available at each venue.

### Recording and Publication of Meetings

An audio recording is made of all public Council Meetings and then 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.

## Order of business

1. **Acknowledgement of Country**
2. **Attendance, apologies and requests for leave of absence**
3. **Announcements**
4. **Declarations of conflict of interest**
5. **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

### Attendance

#### Councillors

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

#### Council officers

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| • Chris Leivers    | Interim Chief Executive Officer          |
| • Brooke Colbert   | Group Manager Advocacy and Engagement    |
| • Malcolm Foard    | Director Community Wellbeing             |
| • Ivan Gilbert     | Group Manager Chief Executive’s Office   |
| • Geoff Glynn      | Director City Works and Assets           |
| • Gracie Karabinis | Group Manager People and Culture         |
| • Diarmuid McAlary | Director Corporate, Business and Finance |
| • Bruce Phillips   | Director Planning and Place Making       |
| • Mel Nikou        | Governance Officer                       |

#### Municipal Monitor

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| • Yehudi Blacher | Municipal Monitor |
|------------------|-------------------|

## 3. Announcements

An opportunity is provided for the Mayor to make any necessary announcements.

## 4. Declarations of conflict of interest (Councillors and staff)

Any Councillor who has a conflict of interest in a matter being considered at this meeting is required to disclose that interest either by explaining the nature of the conflict of interest to those present or advising that they have disclosed the nature of the interest in writing to the Chief Executive Officer before the meeting commenced.

## 5. Council business reports

| <b>Item</b> |  | <b>Page</b> | <b>Rec.<br/>Page</b> | <b>Report Presenter</b>   |
|-------------|--|-------------|----------------------|---|
| 5.1         | Draft 2022/23 Budget - Hearing of feedback | 6           | 8                    | Julie Wyndham –<br>Manager Corporate<br>Business and<br>Performance |

## 5.1 Draft 2022/23 Budget - Hearing of feedback

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|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>Reference</b>  | D22/120802                               |
| <b>Author</b>     | Wei Chen - Chief Financial Officer       |
| <b>Authoriser</b> | Director Corporate, Business and Finance |

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### Purpose

1. To hear any person who wishes to speak in support of written feedback to the Draft 2022/23 Budget and Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2031/32.

### Critical analysis

#### History and background

2. Section 94 of the Local Government Act 2020 provides that Council must prepare and adopt a Budget for each financial year and the subsequent 3 financial years.
3. Section 96 of the Local Government Act 2020 provides that Council must develop the budget in accordance with its community engagement policy.
4. Section 91 of the Local Government Act 2020 provides that Council must develop, adopt and keep in force a Long-Term Financial Plan for period of at least the next 10 financial years in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices.
5. Yarra has a policy to update its Long-Term Financial Plan annually and release it in conjunction with its budget.

#### Discussion

6. Community engagement to inform the Draft 2022/23 Budget commenced in November 2021 and is detailed below.
7. Following this 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.
8. The Draft 2022/23 Budget was presented to the Ordinary Council meeting on 19 April 2022, and was adopted in principle, to seek community feedback.

#### Options

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

### Community and stakeholder engagement

#### Stage 1 – Pre-Budget community engagement

10. Significant community engagement was undertaken in November and December 2021 inviting the community to share their priorities and aspirations for the future of Yarra. The community engagement was facilitated via online Your Say Yarra page and pop-up in person events. It was also prompted via e-mail campaign, Yarra Life eNews, social media and postcards at all neighbourhood houses. We heard from approximately 376 participants and the results have assisted the in development of this Draft Budget.
  - (a) Participants were invited to vote for their top 5 service area priorities from a pre-defined list of 16. Approximately 278 participants voted, and the following top 5 service area priorities account for 55% of the votes recorded:
    - (i) Environment and sustainability 12%;
    - (ii) Parks, reserves and other open spaces 12%;

- (iii) Cycling and pedestrian infrastructure 11%;
  - (iv) Cleaning and maintenance public space 10%;
  - (v) Recycling and waste 10%; and
- (b) 98 pieces of written feedback were received, and they were grouped by the Council Plan Strategic Objectives and themed under service areas. The top 5 service areas are:
- (i) Parks, reserves and other open spaces (37 mentions);
  - (ii) Cycling and pedestrian infrastructure (26 mentions);
  - (iii) Recycling and waste management (22 mentions);
  - (iv) Environment and sustainability (19 mentions);
  - (v) Roads and traffic and parking management (16 mentions);
- The top 5 themes are:
- (i) Waste and recycling (21 mentions);
  - (ii) Pedestrian infrastructure (13 mentions);
  - (iii) Cycling infrastructure (13 mentions);
  - (iv) Community safety (13 mentions); and
  - (v) Trees and greening (13 mentions).

### Stage 2 – Draft 2022/23 Budget community engagement

11. The Draft 2022/23 Budget and Draft LTFP were adopted in principle for a period of 14 days from Friday 22 April until Friday 6 May 2022.
12. Engagement during the exhibition period was facilitated online, in person and via email and hard copy. The following methods were used to encourage and facilitate the Yarra community to engage in our budget consultation process:
  - (a) **[yoursayyarra.com.au/budget2223](https://yoursayyarra.com.au/budget2223)** – Feedback tool – Go live: Friday 22 April 2022;
  - (b) Mayor’s video – Introducing the Budget – Available via **[yoursayyarra.com.au/budget2223](https://yoursayyarra.com.au/budget2223)**;
  - (c) Hard copy draft budgets available at town halls and posted if requested; and
  - (d) Three information sessions were promoted to the broad community. They included an online webinar, one in person session and another in person session dedicated for youth. The webinar was recorded so our community could watch in their own time during the exhibition period.
13. Council received feedback from 162 contributors. Some contributors raised multiple issues in their feedback with 178 comments being received across 22 themes.
14. Feedback has been received since the closing date and has been included for Council’s consideration.
15. A summary of the themes raised in the feedback can be found at **Attachment 1**.

### Policy analysis

#### Alignment to Council Plan

16. Council has adopted its first Community Vision on 20 July 2021, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020. The Vision – Yarra 2036 - identifies the long-term aspirations and priorities of the community and provide a future lens to guide planning and decision making.
17. The Council Plan 2021-25, formally adopted on 19 October 2021 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, addresses Yarra 2036 Community Vision and outlines six Strategic Objectives, representing Council’s direction for the next four years.

18. The Draft Budget and Draft LTFP incorporate the financial resources necessary to implement the Council Plan objectives and strategies over the next 4 years and to work towards achieving the Community Vision over the next 10 years.

[Climate emergency and sustainability implications](#)

19. There are no climate emergency and sustainability implications considered in the report.

[Community and social implications](#)

20. There are no community and social implications considered in this report.

[Economic development implications](#)

21. There are no economic development implications considered in this report.

[Human rights and gender equality implications](#)

22. There are no human rights and gender equality implications considered in this report.

## Operational analysis

[Financial and resource impacts](#)

23. The Budget has major financial implications for Council's current and future operations and financial direction into the future.

[Legal Implications](#)

24. The Draft 2022/23 Budget has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

## Conclusion

25. Council has received feedback on the Draft 2022/23 Budget and is providing an opportunity for contributors to present their feedback in person prior to the Council meeting to adopt the 2022/23 Budget on 23 June 2022.

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
- (a) hear oral feedback on the Draft 2022/23 Budget and Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2031/32.

## Attachments

- 1 [↓](#) Attachment 1 - Draft 2022/ 23 Budget Feedback - Summary



**Attachment 1 - Attachment 1 - Draft 2022/ 23 Budget Feedback - Summary**

**Draft 2022/23 Budget Feedback - Summary**

| Categories and themes                            | Count      |
|--|------------|
| Climate and environment                          | 11         |
| Environment and sustainability                   | 4          |
| Street lighting                                  | 1          |
| SES funding                                      | 1          |
| Environmental sustainability                     | 2          |
| Recycling and waste management                   | 7          |
| Waste service                                    | 7          |
| Social equity and health                         | 3          |
| Cleaning and maintenance of public spaces        | 2          |
| Community Safety                                 | 1          |
| Street maintenance                               | 1          |
| Aged and disability services                     | 1          |
| Support for aged and disability services         | 1          |
| Place and nature                                 | 17         |
| Sport (courts, ovals, fields and pavilions)      | 2          |
| Yambla pavilion refurbishment                    | 2          |
| Town planning and heritage                       | 4          |
| Heritage   | 1          |
| Planning   | 2          |
| Developer open space contribution                | 1          |
| Parks, reserves and other open spaces            | 11         |
| Open space                                       | 11         |
| Transport and movement                           | 25         |
| Road and traffic and parking management          | 23         |
| Support LAPMS                                    | 15         |
| Oppose Parking fee increases                     | 5          |
| Support Parking fee increases                    | 3          |
| Cycling and pedestrian infrastructure            | 2          |
| Transport Action Plan                            | 1          |
| Cycling pedestrian infrastructure                | 1          |
| Democracy and Governance                         | 6          |
| Financial management                             | 6          |
| Support proposed budget                          | 1          |
| Financial management                             | 1          |
| Capital works                                    | 4          |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                 | <b>62</b>  |
| Social equity and health                         |            |
| Leisure centres and pools - fees and charges     |            |
| Supportive                                       | 6          |
| General enquiry on individual impact             | 18         |
| Suggestion on the inclusions                     | 3          |
| Objection to any fee increases                   | 66         |
| Objection to removal of 50+ and family subsidies | 23         |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                 | <b>116</b> |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                               | <b>178</b> |