



# Minutes

## Council Meeting

7.01pm, Tuesday 2 August 2022

Richmond Town Hall

## 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 Edward Crossland Deputy Mayor
- Cr Gabrielle de Vietri Councillor
- Cr Stephen Jolly Councillor
- Cr Herschel Landes Councillor
- Cr Anab Mohamud Councillor
- Cr Amanda Stone Councillor

#### Council officers

- Sue Wilkinson Chief Executive Officer
- Brooke Colbert Group Manager Advocacy and Engagement
- Ivan Gilbert Group Manager Chief Executive’s Office
- Chris Leivers Director City Works and Assets
- Mary Osman Acting Director Planning and Place Making
- Rhys Thomas Senior Governance Advisor
- Mel Nikou Governance Officer

#### Leave of absence

- Cr Sophie Wade Mayor
- Cr Claudia Nguyen Councillor

#### Apology

- Cr Bridgid O’Brien Councillor

*Council’s Municipal Monitor, Yehudi Blacher watched the meeting via the livestream.*

## **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Crossland

**Seconded:** Councillor Landes

1. That in accordance with section 35(4) of the Local Government Act 2020, Council grant leave of absence to Cr Gabrielle de Vietri for all meetings held from 3 August to 27 November 2022 inclusive.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Cr de Vietri requested that the meeting minutes record her intention to forgo a Councillor allowance during the period of leave.*

## **3. Announcements**

### **Archie Roach**

*On behalf of my fellow Councillors and the City of Yarra, I would like to acknowledge the recent passing of prolific Aboriginal singer, songwriter and truth-teller, Archie Roach AM.*

*Archie was a Gunditjmara and Bundjalung elder and was born in Mooroopna in Regional Victoria.*

*He was a revered voice for the Stolen Generations, sharing his experiences through music and song writing and was the first ever singer/songwriter to win a Human Rights Achievement Award for his song, Took the Children Away.*

*Archie had a strong connection to Yarra and contributed greatly to the local community and was a regular performer at local events and music festivals over the years, like Yarra's Smith Street Dreaming.*

*Archie's passing is a significant loss for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, the Yarra community, and all Australians.*

*Our flags are flying at half-mast on municipal building across Yarra this week, and Yarra extends its deepest condolences to Archie's family, friends and the Aboriginal community during this difficult time.*

*Archie once said of Yarra: "I found my family on the streets of Fitzroy. It is also where I found my voice and was the backdrop to so much of my music and my story".*

### **Cr Tony Driscoll**

*In further news, Council was saddened to learn of the recent passing of the Mayor of the Northern Grampians Shire, Cr Tony Driscoll.*

*Cr Driscoll had been a Councillor since October 2012 and held the role of Mayor on three occasions.*

*The community of Councillors is a small one, and we here at the City of Yarra send our condolences to Cr Driscoll's family and to our colleagues at the Northern Grampians Shire.*

### **Pride Street Party**

*I would like to welcome yesterday's announcement by the Victorian Government that the Pride Street Party will be returning to Collingwood and Fitzroy in the City of Yarra in 2023.*

*This builds on the inaugural event which was held earlier this year which brought thousands of people to the streets of Fitzroy and Collingwood to celebrate our LGBTQIA+ community and to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the decriminalisation of homosexuality in Victoria.*

*I think I speak for all of my fellow councillors when I say this is a fantastic outcome for our community and we look forward to working with the Victorian Government and Midsumma to bring this event to life.*

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

Councillor Landes declared a conflict of interest in relation to Item 8.1. He declared that he has property interests in Bridge Road in the area affected by the amendment which constitutes a General Conflict of Interest under the Local Government Act 2020.

The Chief Executive Officer noted that although she is not a decision-maker and has not provided advice to Council on the matter, it is prudent to declare a conflict of interest in relation to Item 8.1. She declared that her home is located just outside the boundary of the area affected by the amendment.

## **5. Confidential business reports**

Nil

## **6. Confirmation of minutes**

### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Jolly

**Seconded:** Councillor Mohamud

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12 July 2022 be confirmed.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **7. Public question time**

Public Questions

**Page**

6

## 8. Council business reports

<b>Item</b>		<b>Page</b>	<b>Res. Page</b>
8.1	Draft Planning Scheme Amendment C291yara - Bridge Road and Victoria Street Built Form Provisions	10	11

## 9. Notices of motion

Nil

## 10. Petitions and joint letters

Nil

## 11. Questions without notice

<b>Item</b>		<b>Page</b>
11.1	Councillor Jolly - Electric Vehicle Charges	13
11.2	Councillor Stone - Use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticide	14

## 12. Delegates' reports

<b>Item</b>		<b>Page</b>
12.1	Councillor Stone – ALGA National General Assembly 2022	15

## 13. General business

Nil

## 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.

Questioner	Question	Response
Alphington Grammar Student	Why were there only two photos of Old Heidelberg Road tabled at the 5 October 2021 Council meeting of the gate and road facing west, when the issue is of the road facing east? Why were there no photos of the road behind the gate, including the unsealed section near the creek? What are your comments when you see these photos, and in particular what safe community use do you foresee for the road?	The Acting Mayor provided a response.
Greg Smith	We would like to make a proposal to Council regarding the policy on political advertising and campaigning on Council controlled land and assets that: election candidates register with the Council; activities are restricted to three hours at any one location on any single day, for the duration of the VEC's operating hours at pre-poll locations and six locations on any single day; Council waives the fees to obtain a temporary public space permit; activities do not block footpaths, driveways, disrupt businesses or Council services and activities cease at 6.00pm on election day. Would the Council adopt this proposal as a trial?	The question was taken on notice.
Alphington Grammar Student	When there is no access to the Darebin Creek or anywhere else, why open the gate, put students at risk and disrupt the learning environment of Alphington Grammar students?  Why does the Council continuously say that the decision about the Old Heidelberg Road matter was overwhelming community response?	The questions were taken on notice.
Alphington Grammar Student	Can you explain to me tonight the reason why you will not reverse what I and my peers consider a risky situation that puts the school community in harm's way?  If you will not revise this decision what specific considerations have Council members given to children's human rights and child safety matters in which are part of the Health and Children's Safety guidelines?	The questions were taken on notice.

Alphington Grammar Student	What comfort can you provide me and my generation as first time voters that the decisions that matter most to youth such as Child Safety are well understood and considered by this Council?	The question was take on notice
Alphington Grammar Student	What are you going to do to rectify these issues we now all face?	The question was take on notice
Alphington Grammar Student	Has there been any consideration of students and perhaps there opinions on the matter as the school gate pertains to the students?  Has there been any consultation with the school or any students regarding the fence and if there is any possibility for future consultation with students or school members?	The first question was take on notice.  The Group Manager Chief Executive's Office provided a response to the second question.
Max White, Alphington Grammar	Do you agree that Yarra Council has shared responsibilities for the safety of the children at Alphington Grammar School and that the decision to open the gates is contrary to your legislative responsibility to minimise environmental risks to children?  In coming to the decision to remove the gates was a child safe risk assessment undertaken as required by Child Safe Standards 9 and 1 so could I please have a copy of this risk assessment?	The questions were taken on notice.
James Baker	<i>The questions asked was ruled inadmissible and a response was not provided</i>	

*The Acting Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7.48pm*

*The meeting resumed at 7.55pm.*

<b>Questioner</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Response</b>
Phillip Papas	Do you consider the unsealed land to be part of the redundant Old Heidelberg Road and if yes, why was the unsealed section not inspected?  Given that the borders were not clear on the 4 July inspection, how did your inspectors know what to inspect? How did your inspectors know which section of the land was Old Heidelberg Road and which was private land and therefore how accurate in your opinion was the inspection that took place?	The questions were taken on notice.

<p>Alphington Grammar Student</p>	<p>Your community engagement policy states that you enable and encourage community participation. Why wasn't my opinion enabled in your supposed consultation process? Why didn't you encourage my safety, opinion and voice on this matter? So I ask the Council did you ever consider me or the other 600 students opinions or were you bias and only considered a select few opinions?</p> <p>Did you ever consider what you would do to ensure my safety and the other 600 students' safety?</p>	<p>The questions were taken on notice</p>
<p>Andrew Coutie</p>	<p>How will the Council plan to meet their regulatory requirements in regards to the public safety of that road now that the school no longer feel obliged to?</p>	<p>The question was taken on notice.</p>
<p>Manuel Simirus</p>	<p>During the last 32 years, what was the total amount spent by Council to upkeep Old Heidelberg Road?</p> <p>Has the Council allocated any budget for the necessary infrastructure works needed to build a safe road as per all the regulatory requirements now that the school cannot prohibit any users including pedestrians, bicycles, e-scooters and rollerbladers? What has the Council designated in funding?</p>	<p>The questions were taken on notice</p>
<p>Suzy Stamos</p>	<p>What input was sought from Council's advisory committees with regards to Old Heidelberg Road and are there any minutes to their meetings which verify the consultation with members of the committees has taken place?</p> <p>Was there a Councillor Briefing in which the Old Heidelberg Road matter was discussed and if so how many councillors attended?</p>	<p>The first question was taken on notice</p> <p>The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer provided a response to the second question.</p>
<p>Luisa Di Giovine</p>	<p>The Council has yet to explain what measures it will take to clarify the intended use for Old Heidelberg Road – for example: is it a dog on-leash area, can cyclists pass through the gates on their bikes or do they have to dismount as is required on Heidelberg Road over the bridge, can cars now enter via the gate?</p>	<p>The question was taken on notice.</p>
<p>Martha Vazenios</p>	<p>Will Yarra City Council consider republishing the Open Space Strategy 2020 and make a public statement that corrections were required to accurately represent Alphington Grammar School with its true and factorial zoning?</p> <p>Would Council consider reflecting on the</p>	<p>The questions were taken on notice</p>

	<p>recommendations made by the Merri Creek Management Committee and revisit this topic of opening up this space to the public, it goes against advice provided by members of your own council group?</p>	
<p>No name provided</p>	<p>In relation to the questions taken on notice, how will the public access the answers to the questions taken on notice?</p> <p>How will the residents access the creek without going through, and if I may, without trespassing through the school oval and sporting grounds?</p>	<p>The Mayor provided a response to the first question.</p> <p>The second question was taken on notice.</p>
<p>Damian Kipouridis</p>	<p>Has Council contacted the Department of Transport to get their opinion on creating a new access from Old Heidelberg Road to the Darebin Creek trail and building a new bridge?</p> <p>Clark Street goes directly to the Yarra River via a concrete path, with bins and a seating area. Will something like that also be done at Old Heidelberg Road? Is that what is being planned?</p>	<p>The questions were taken on notice</p>
<p>Carol Hanna</p>	<p>Are you able to show us how to find these questions because a lot of us are struggling to find the answers that you have said were answered from the previous meeting.</p>	<p>The Group Manager Chief Executive's Office provided a response to the question.</p>

---

## 8.1 Draft Planning Scheme Amendment C291yara - Bridge Road and Victoria Street Built Form Provisions

---

<b>Reference</b>	D22/103662
<b>Author</b>	Leonie Kirkwood - Project and Planning Coordinator
<b>Authoriser</b>	Manager Statutory Planning

---

*Councillor Landes left the meeting due to a conflict of interest at 8.29pm, not returning.*

*The Chief Executive Officer left the meeting due to a conflict of interest at 8.29pm.*

### **RECOMMENDATION** Start time: 8.29pm

1. That Council:
  - (a) notes the officer report regarding draft Amendment C291yara (the Amendment), officer recommendations and Attachments 1, 2, 3 and 4;
  - (b) notes the public release of the Committee Report for the Amendment under Section 40 of the *Yarra Activity Centres Standing Advisory Committee Terms of Reference*;
  - (c) having considered the Standing Advisory Committee report, adopts the Amendment with the changes as set out in Attachments 3 and 4 to this report;
  - (d) delegates to the Director Planning and Placemaking the authority to finalise the Amendment in accordance with Council's resolution (1)(c), and to make any administrative or formatting changes to the Amendment documentation and maps required to give effect to Council's resolution;
  - (e) submits the Amendment to the Minister for Planning and requests she prepare, adopt, and approve a formal planning scheme amendment in the same form as the Amendment adopted under resolution (1)(c) and (d), in accordance with section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*; and
  - (f) notifies all submitters of this Council resolution.

### **REVISED OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Council:
  - (a) notes the officer report regarding draft Amendment C291yara (the Amendment), officer recommendations and Attachments 1, 2, 3 and 4;
  - (b) notes the public release of the Committee Report for the Amendment under Section 40 of the *Yarra Activity Centres Standing Advisory Committee Terms of Reference*;
  - (c) having considered the Standing Advisory Committee report, adopts the Amendment with the changes as set out in Attachments 3 and 4 to this report;
  - (d) delegates to the Director Planning and Placemaking the authority to finalise the Amendment in accordance with Council's resolution (1)(c), and to make any administrative or formatting changes to the Amendment documentation and maps required to give effect to Council's resolution;
  - (e) submits the Amendment to the Minister for Planning and requests she prepare, adopt, and approve a formal planning scheme amendment in the same form as the Amendment adopted under resolution (1)(c) and (d), in accordance with section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act); ~~and~~
  - (f) notifies all submitters of this Council resolution; and

- (g) provides the correspondence received by Council from Submitters 118 and 69 to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) for the Minister for Planning to consider prior to making a decision under section 20(4) of the Act.

Public Submission

Lyndy U'Ren addressed Council on the matter.

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Crossland

**Seconded:** Councillor de Vietri

1. That Council:

- (a) notes the officer report regarding draft Amendment C291yara (the Amendment), officer recommendations and Attachments 1, 2, 3 and 4;
- (b) notes the public release of the Committee Report for the Amendment under Section 40 of the *Yarra Activity Centres Standing Advisory Committee Terms of Reference*;
- (c) having considered the Standing Advisory Committee report, adopts the Amendment with the changes as set out in Attachments 3 and 4 to this report, subject to the following changes:
- (i) In DDO41-50 (inclusive), retain the following criteria in Building Height Requirements which apply where a proposal exceeds the preferred maximum building height in Plan 1 (which were recommended for deletion by the Standing Advisory Committee): –
- excellence for environmentally sustainable design measured as minimum BESS project score of 70%;
  - provision of end-of-trip facilities, including secure bicycle parking, locker and shower facilities and change rooms in excess of the requirements of Clause 52.34;
  - housing for diverse household types, including people with disability, older persons, and families, through the inclusion of varying dwelling sizes and configurations;
  - accessibility provision objective that exceeds the minimum standards in Clauses 55.07 and/or 58 as relevant; and
  - communal open space provision that exceeds the minimum standards in Clauses 55.07 and 58.03; and/or;
  - secluded private open space provision that exceeds the minimum standards in Clauses 55.07 and 58.05;
- (ii) Change the overshadowing requirement in Overshadowing Requirements from a preferred to a mandatory requirement for the following areas of public open space:
- In DDO41 - Alexander Reserve; and
  - In DDO47 - Butler Street Park.
- (iii) In Clause 11.03-1L Activity Centres - Major Activity Centres, under both Bridge Road, Richmond and Victoria Street, Abbotsford, include the following policy:
- Consider further opportunities for quality shared zones, enhancements to the laneway network and vehicle access outcomes that will provide safe pedestrian and cycle friendly linkages.

- (d) delegates to the Director Planning and Placemaking the authority to finalise the Amendment in accordance with Council's resolution (1)(c), and to make any administrative or formatting changes to the Amendment documentation and maps required to give effect to Council's resolution;
- (e) submits the Amendment to the Minister for Planning and requests she prepare, adopt, and approve a formal planning scheme amendment in the same form as the Amendment adopted under resolution (1)(c) and (d), in accordance with section 20(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act);
- (f) notifies all submitters of this Council resolution; and
- (g) provides the correspondence received by Council from Submitters 118 and 69 to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) for the Minister for Planning to consider prior to making a decision under section 20(4) of the Act.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*The Acting Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8.56pm*

*The meeting resumed at 8.59pm*

## 9. Notices of motion

Nil

## 10. Petitions and joint letters

Nil

## 11. Questions without notice

### 11.1 Councillor Jolly - Electric Vehicle Charges

Question:

In the Transport Strategy we passed unanimously at the last Council meeting, Council's position was for the development of infrastructure in terms of Electrical Vehicle Charges.

Can you please explain in this meeting about the impending public charges that we are expecting ( I think over a dozen) to be up and running in the City of Yarra by January 2023?

Are officers looking at the Port Philip trial and at some stage in the short to medium term will report back to Councillors as to what they think of that trial, whether it's useful for us to look at or not?

Response:

*The Acting Director Planning and Place Making provided a response:*

*There are currently six publicly available off street electrical car charges within Yarra and Council is constructing two new ones with two charging points each as part of the DELWP program at the Fitzroy Town Hall and Richmond in the Docker Street off street car park near Swan Steet. There also a number of private companies who are also looking at installing electrical charging points throughout Yarra and this will bring the total amount of public charging stations in Yarra to fourteen by January 2023.*

*Officers are aware of the kerbside electrical charging trial by the City of Port Philip and have been in discussions with the Port Philip officers on that and they are keeping us abreast of any developments. We are currently awaiting the results of the trial and will give Council more information to make a considered decision on this topic once we have that information.*

11.2 Councillor Stone - Use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticide

Question:

Birdlife Australia is undertaking a campaign urging people to contact their local council to encourage them to cease the use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticide (rat poisons) which is a particular kind that doesn't kill vermin immediately but makes them easier prey for important apex predators in our ecosystem like Owls and so on who then ingest the rats and die, and this a major, major problem for wildlife in Australia at the moment. These anticoagulant poisons are banned or being phased out in Europe and USA but are readily available in supermarkets and Bunnings here.

Given the campaign and we are likely to be contacted by keen biodiversity people, does Yarra Council use these pesticides and if so, what is the plan to phase them out?

Response:

*The Director City Works and Assets provided a response:*

*Second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides are not in use by Council staff or contractors in open space settings, so not in our parks and gardens or at Burnley Golf Course. We understand that they are used by some of our contractors to manage pests in Council buildings and we are seeking further information on the levels of use and alternative options available and the implications of those options in terms of costs and efficiencies and the like. Following earlier investigations we believe that there might be some alternatives we can explore so we will do that in conjunction with those contractors and may make a change based on that. We also understand that the commonwealth government agency that regulate the sale of rodenticides have commenced a review on anticoagulant rodenticides and they will make a determination in 2024 whether those will be available but we would expect to make a decision on our use in advance of that.*

## 12. Delegates' reports

### 12.1 Councillor Stone – ALGA National General Assembly 2022

Start time: 9.06pm

<b>Committee</b>	ALGA National General Assembly 2022
<b>Appointed Councillors</b>	Councillors Amanda Stone, Edward Crossland and Anab Mohamud
<b>Date of Council Meeting</b>	Tuesday 2 August 2022
<b>Date of Report</b>	Monday 1 August 2022
<b>Report Author</b>	Cr Amanda Stone

#### **Australian Local Government Association - National General Assembly 2022**

The National General Assembly was held in Canberra from 20 to 22 June this year. Councillors Crossland, Mohamud and I travelled to Canberra for the conference and to vote on a number of motions that Yarra Council had submitted, as well as to meet face to face with 1000 councillors from around the nation.

Convened by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) the NGA is the largest national gathering of democratically elected representatives in the nation.

The 2 and a half days of the conference heard from a range of speakers, leaders of political parties and subject matter experts on the theme "Partners in Progress".

With the recent election of a new government, the theme of partnership was strong throughout each session.

Also prominent was the role and value of local government in democracies. Key note speakers spoke to the unique and powerful role played by local governments everywhere beyond simply the provision of services. MC Alicia McKay asked what would happen if there was no local government? Who will think long term about community needs? And plan for them? Who will coordinate progress towards them and is not profit driven?

Government is the only institution in society that makes decisions with the public good at its heart.

Speakers Stan Grant and Jonathon Carr-West elaborated on that theme, underscoring the motivation for the 1000 delegates to make the trip to Canberra to plan and advocate for their communities.

#### **Debate on Motions**

Motions submitted by councils across Australia were debated on Days One and Two, but time ran out to consider them all. Those not debated will be determined by the ALGA Board.

All motions can be seen [https://www.conferenceco.com.au/ALGA\\_NGA/NGA22-BusinessPapers-WEB.pdf](https://www.conferenceco.com.au/ALGA_NGA/NGA22-BusinessPapers-WEB.pdf)

#### **Yarra's Motions**

Yarra's 4 motions were passed without debate. Two of these (Motions 43 and 62) were combined with other similar motions.

**Motion number 21** This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide greater national leadership to support the uptake of electric vehicles and market development across Australia by:

- (a) Agreeing and supporting a nationally consistent approach to EV taxes, levies and charges that provide long-term confidence for industry and consumers;
- (b) Implementing best-practice national vehicle emissions standards;
- (c) Providing incentives to businesses and private owners to purchase electric vehicles; and
- (d) Significantly increasing investment in the installation of electric vehicle charging stations across Australia.

**Motion number 43.6** This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish a joint reform process to proactively plan for and seek to mitigate the impacts of flooding, including a review of relevant planning controls, flooding overlays, strategies, and the ability of existing infrastructure to respond to the impacts of climate change; and establish funding stream/s to facilitate this process and implement flood mitigation works.

**Motion number 54** This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- (a) Acknowledge and endorse ALGA's call for a Local Government Climate Response Partnership fund of \$200 million per annum over four years to help councils address the impacts of climate change in their communities;
- (b) Acknowledge that such a fund would create the multi-level governance called for in the Paris Agreement of 2015;
- (c) Note that significant funds and support for local government will be needed to prevent the worst impacts of climate change on local communities and so call on the Federal Government to create a local government climate response partnership fund, of at least \$200 million per annum, and work with local governments on existing and emerging local and regional projects to rapidly drive down emissions before 2030; and
- (d) Put in place a climate action regulatory reform working group to remove regulatory, policy and other barriers to climate action for local governments and communities and ensure policy coherence and synchronisation at all levels of government and with relevant industry stakeholders.

**Motion number 62.2** This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide national leadership to grow the circular economy and reduce levels of household and commercial waste by:

- (a) Implementing a national ban on food waste going into landfill;
- (b) Implementing stricter national sustainable packaging standards and a product stewardship scheme; and
- (c) Providing increased funding to industry and local government to support local processing solutions, sector innovation and market development.

## Summary of Motions

Motions covered a wide range of themes including:

- Intergovernmental relations
- Finance
- Transport
- Infrastructure
- Managing Growth
- Energy
- Health and Ageing
- Natural Disasters
- Climate Change
- Closing the Gap
- Circular Economy
- Water and Environment
- Arts and Culture
- Workforce
- Community Wellbeing
- Taxation Reform

## Key note speakers

- Governor-General David Hurley - on the role councils in supporting disaster impacted communities
- Linda Scott ALGA President
- Alicia McKay – on strategic leadership
- Senator Murray Watt on emergency management
- Catherine King MP, Minister for Local Government
- Marcus Spiller, SGS Economics on Local Government and productivity
- David Littleproud, Leader of the National Party
- Stan Grant on Global Democracy
- Linda Burney MP
- Jonathon Carr-West on Local Government – a Global View
- Valmai Dempsey Senior Australian of the Year.

## Highlights

- Recent NGAs have called for the return of the Australian Council of Local Governments and Minister King stated that she would work with Minister McBain to re-establish this.
- ALGA also called for a Minister with responsibility for Local Government to be included in the cabinet. That has recently been fulfilled with Minister King's appointment.
- Following a presentation by Linda Burney MP, the Assembly committed to progressing the next step of Closing the Gap and passed a motion supporting the Uluru Statement from the Heart.
- The Assembly was addressed by the Ukrainian Ambassador His Excellency Vasyl Myroshnychenko. The Assembly passed a motion of solidarity with the Ukrainian people. The ambassador noted: "Local governments can help mostly by connecting local services to those Ukrainians who have relocated into your communities, and by raising money to help Ukrainians rebuild critical infrastructure such as schools and hospitals."

- Cities Power Partnership launched their Local Leaders Program, Cr Stone addressed the launch and Councillors Stone and Crossland signed up as Local Leaders for Climate Action



### Conclusion

The National Assembly provided an excellent opportunity to:

- (a) join with other local governments and formulate shared positions (through motions adopted) on some vitally important issues, for advocacy to the national government;
- (b) learn from other local governments nationally about their approaches to the challenging issues we all face;
- (c) share Yarra's achievements through informal networking and on a national platform; and
- (d) advocate to other agencies for support and action on behalf of our communities.

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Stone

**Seconded:** Councillor Mohamud

1. That Council note this Delegates' Report.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 13. General Business

Nil

**Conclusion**

The meeting concluded at 9.12pm.

Confirmed Tuesday 23 August 2022

---

Mayor

