



# **Council Meeting Minutes**

**held on Tuesday 20 October 2020 at 7.01pm  
MS Teams**

**[www.yarracity.vic.gov.au](http://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au)**

## **1. Acknowledgement 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."*

### **1. A. Special Announcements**

#### **Mary Rogers**

*Earlier today, I had the pleasure of hosting a special event to commemorate the election of Mary Rogers one hundred years ago. In 1920, Mary became Victoria's first female Local Government councillor, and second in Australia, when she was elected to Richmond Council.*

*We were joined at the event by Cr Kylie Spears, President of the Australian Local Government Women's Association – Victoria Branch and two of Mary Rogers' descendants – her grandson Gerard Rogers and great granddaughter Marita Carmody.*

*In recognition of the significance of the anniversary, I had the honour of unveiling a plaque to commemorate the occasion, and because the event was online, I now have the opportunity to share that moment with you.*

*The entire event was live streamed and captured for posterity. I encourage you to visit our website to view the event and hear some wonderful stories of Mary Rogers' contribution and life in Richmond in the 1920s.*

#### **Helen Reddy**

*I would like to pay tribute to Helen Reddy, an outstanding woman who made a gigantic impact not just in the world of entertainment, but in writing and performing the single most influential and powerful anthem for women the world has ever heard.*

*Helen came from a show business family. She was born here in Richmond on the 25th of October 1941. I don't know how long she lived here in Richmond, because the family were on the move regularly. At age four, Helen joined her parents on the Australian vaudeville circuit, singing and dancing. But by the time she was a teenager, Helen decided to live with her Aunt Helen, intent on making a different life for herself, but a life of domestic bliss wasn't to be. And by the time she was 21, divorced, with a 3 year old on her hip, she left for the US.*

*To support herself as a single mother to daughter Traci, she resumed her performing career. She sang on radio and television, eventually winning a talent contest on the Australian pop music TV show Bandstand, the prize ostensibly being a trip to New York City to cut a single for Mercury Records. After arriving in New York in 1966, she was informed by Mercury that her prize was only the chance to "audition" for the label and that Mercury considered the Bandstand footage to constitute her audition, which was deemed unsuccessful. Despite having only US\$200 (equivalent to \$1,576 in 2019) and a return ticket to Australia, she decided to remain in the United States with 3-year-old Traci and pursue a singing career. And the rest as they say, is history.*

*Reddy's stardom was solidified when her single "I Am Woman" reached number one on the Billboard Hot 100 in December 1972. The song was co-written by Reddy with Ray Burton; Reddy attributed the impetus for writing "I Am Woman" and her early awareness of the women's movement to expatriate Australian rock critic and pioneer feminist Lillian Roxon. Reddy is quoted in Fred Bronson's The Billboard Book of Number One Hits as having said that she was looking for songs to record which reflected the positive self-image she had gained from joining the women's movement, but could not find any, so "I realised that the song I was looking for didn't exist, and I was going to have to write it myself."*

*Helen Reddy went on to build an incredible career. The success of "I Am Woman" made Reddy the first Australian singer to top the U.S. charts, and for which she won a Grammy Award.*

*Three decades after her Grammy, Reddy discussed the song's iconic status: "I think it came along at the right time. I'd gotten involved in the women's movement, and there were a lot of songs on the radio about being weak and being dainty and all those sort of things. All the women in my family, they were strong women. They worked. They lived through the Depression and a world war, and they were just strong women. I certainly didn't see myself as being dainty," she said.*

*It is so important that we recognise and acknowledge her story that began here in Richmond that gave the world a song that still has the same power and relevance to women all over the world.*

### **Jacinta McManamon**

*I want to send a big thank you to Jacinta McManamon, who recently left the Holden Street Neighbourhood House after 18 years as Manager of this magnificent community facility.*

*Jacinta has been the heart and soul of the Holden Street neighbourhood house, and has over the many years, contributed to building a warm, embracing, bustling, place that is open to everyone in the community. This is not a quiet house, its bursting at the seams with programs, activities, ideas and great people who nurture and support those who come to belong there.*

*I know that it will continue to be a welcoming and vibrant part of our community, and thanks to the great stewardship of Jacinta and her teams over the past 18 years, its foundation is strong and forward looking.*

*Jacinta, Thank you for your great contribution and we wish you well in the future.*

## **2. Attendance, apologies and requests for leave of absence**

### **Attendance**

#### Councillors

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

#### 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 Officer)
- Mel Nikou (Governance Officer)

#### Apology

- Cr Daniel Nguyen

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

Nil

## **4. Confidential business reports**

Nil

## 5. Confirmation of minutes

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Fristacky

**Seconded:** Councillor O'Brien

That the amended minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 18 August 2020 be confirmed.

That the amended minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1 September 2020 be confirmed.

That the amended minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 15 September 2020 be confirmed.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 6. Petitions and joint letters

Nil

## 7. Public question time

In accordance with the City of Yarra Governance Rules 2020 (incorporating the Election Period Policy), Public Question Time is suspended at the meeting. Public Question Time will resume following the swearing in of a new Council after the election results are declared.

## 8. Delegates' reports

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8.1	Councillor Fristacky - Business Advisory Group	7	8
8.2	Councillor Coleman - Inner Melbourne Action Plan (IMAP) Implementation Committee	9	10

## 9. General business

Nil

## 10. Questions without notice

Nil

## **11. Council business reports**

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## **12. Notices of motion**

Nil

## **13. Urgent business**

Nil

## 6. Petitions and joint letters

Nil

## 7. Public question time

Nil

## 8. Delegates' reports

### 8.1 Councillor Fristacky - Business Advisory Group

Start time: 7.08pm

<b>Committee</b>	Business Advisory Group Meeting
<b>Appointed Councillors</b>	Cr Jackie Fristacky, Cr Daniel Nguyen
<b>Date of Council Meeting</b>	20 October 2020
<b>Date of Report</b>	30 September 2020
<b>Report Author</b>	Cr Jackie Fristacky

### DELEGATES REPORT

This report covers the Business Advisory Group (BAG) meeting on 17 September 2020 with over 20 attendees including 2 new members, Council's Coordinator Economic Development, other Council officers, and Cr Jackie Fristacky who chaired the meeting.

Apart from formalities covering the minutes of last meeting and matters arising, the meeting focused on the two key items below. Attendees were also advised that:

- (a) the Chair's delegate's report on BAG meetings of 16 July 2020 and 9 April 2020 had been presented at Council's meeting 21 July 2020;
- (b) Council's draft Economic Development Strategy 2020-2025, discussed at prior BAG meetings (September 2019 - July 2020) had been endorsed by Council at its 1 September 2020 meeting;
- (c) a key emphasis in the Economic Development Strategy's 1<sup>st</sup> year was supporting COVID Recovery for Yarra's businesses and local economy.

#### 1. Council's COVID-19 response

Council's Coordinator Economic Development updated BAG members on COVID-19 economic responses and assistance for business highlighting:

- (a) Council's COVID-19 Support Package with Precinct Recovery Grants of up to \$20,000 per successful applicant, waivers of footpath and other permit fees, deferred food and health registration fees, other financial and other supports for Yarra's businesses as regards both economic survival and economic recovery;
- (b) the Economic Development Unit (EDU) engaging with 9 units across Council meeting twice weekly on proposals to fast track applications from

Yarra's business and hospitality sectors for extended footpath trading with additional outdoor spaces (footpaths, roadway, laneways, and other open spaces) for COVID recovery. Explained were tiers of solutions for outdoor dining in Yarra: simple footpath applications aiming to be processed within 24 hours, then with tiers of complexity depending on levels of engagement needed with neighbouring businesses and residents: up to 3 days for larger footpath areas, up to 7 days for use of on-street parking spaces; 7-21 days if impacting residential areas requiring community consultation, or 21-30 days if involving intermittent road closures; and

- (c) supports for business available through the State Government with \$58M in grants announced by the State, Small Business Victoria programs through workshops, and assistance with tenancy disputes, rent reductions and deferrals.

Issues raised by members included: extent of communication to businesses of extended outdoor dining proposals; parking access including for disability access and visitors from outside Yarra; impact of clearways; and competition from food trucks. Suggested was that BAG members could help speed up processes of consideration and approval of outdoor dining proposals by advising local businesses to talk to neighbours, engage with adjacent residents on use of on-road areas of side streets, and mapping out clearly what was being sought for their business and what would be considered as reasonable.

## 2. Report from Council's Sustainability Team

This presentation covered Yarra's adopted Climate Emergency Plan, policy on carbon neutral development and supports available for business to shift to carbon neutrality, including Yarra's role in helping businesses form or join power purchase agreements (PPAs).

Members reported the challenge for small businesses being regularly bombarded by energy retailers and not knowing which were reputable. Suggestions were shifting from gas and comparing energy retailers through [www.energyumpire.com.au](http://www.energyumpire.com.au)

Also raised was the need tackle increasing emissions in transport which, unlike positive strides in the energy sector, had increased 17% to 19% nationally. Businesses were invited to examine shifting deliveries from petrol/diesel vehicles to electric vans/trucks powered by renewables.

## 3. Appreciation of Input by BAG

Members were sincerely thanked for their participation in BAG and advised that following Council elections on 24 October 2020, there would be new Councillor delegates'. A member responded for all with thanks to "everyone for a great meeting!"

## **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Fristacky

**Seconded:** Councillor Coleman

That Council notes this Delegates report on Yarra's Business Advisory Group Meeting held 17 September 2020

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



## 8.2 Councillor Coleman - Inner Melbourne Action Plan (IMAP) Implementation Committee

Start time: 7.10pm

<b>Committee</b>	Inner Melbourne Action Plan Implementation Committee
<b>Appointed Councillors</b>	Councillor Misha Coleman
<b>Date of Council Meeting</b>	Tuesday 20 October 2020
<b>Date of Report</b>	Tuesday 20 October 2020
<b>Report Author</b>	Cr Misha Coleman (Mayor)

### DELEGATES REPORT

#### IMAP Implementation Committee – 12 June 2020

Actions from this meeting:

##### COVID-19 Legislative Requirements

The IMAP Executive Officer to make the Meeting recording available for IMAP Councils' websites.

##### Communications and Governance

The IMAP Executive Officer and Governance staff to prepare reports for the IMAP councils regarding establishment of Joint Delegated Committees.

IMAP Executive Officer to prepare correspondence for CEO, City of Stonnington to Melbourne Convention Bureau to vary the schedule to our Agreement and defer the map payments to August 2020 and August 2021.

##### Wayfinding

The Wayfinding Project Team Leader, Martin Whittle of City of Melbourne to advertise Wayfound Victoria website, request for quotation and let contract for completion in 2-3 months.

##### Bicycle Network Model Project

The Cycling Network Project team Leader – Damon Rao is to expedite final analysis with consultants to assist identification of key linkages in the network between the IMAP council municipalities that could be addressed as part of the stimulus package request.

The IMAP CEOs are to develop a list of the top 5-10 projects within the network to refer to the SG as stimulus projects.

##### Social and Economic Dashboard

City of Port Phillip to note DELWP funding opportunities, referred to I Item 14.

## **IMAP Implementation Committee – 28 August 2020**

### Outcomes from the meeting

The IMAP Implementation Committee approved the IMAP Annual Report and Summary and authorised the CEO Chief of Staff to approve distribution of the Annual Report and Summary, inclusive of any final amendments prior to the Caretaker period.

Actions from the public meeting:

### COVID-19 Legislative Requirements

The IMAP Executive Officer to make the Meeting recording available for IMAP Councils' websites.

### Annual Report

IMAP Executive Officer to finalise and send out Annual Report and Summary.

## **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

**Moved:** Councillor Coleman

**Seconded:** Councillor Fristacky

1. That Council note this Delegate's Report.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **9. General Business**

Nil

## **10. Questions without notice**

Nil

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## 11.1 Adoption of the Yarra City Council Annual Report 2019/20

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Reference: D20/145448

Authoriser: Group Manager Advocacy and Engagement

### RECOMMENDATION

**Start time: 7.12pm**

1. That:
  - (a) Council notes and formally adopts the Yarra City Council Annual Report 2019/20 (Attachment 1) for submission to the Minister for Local Government prior to 30 November 2020.

### REVISED OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council notes the already submitted Yarra City Council Annual Report 2019/20 (Attachment 1) to the Minister for Local Government prior to 30 November 2020.

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**Moved:** Councillor Jolly

**Seconded:** Councillor Stone

1. That Council notes and endorses the Yarra City Council Annual Report 2019/20 (Attachment 1) as submitted to the Minister for Local Government prior to 30 November 2020.
2. That Council thanks the submitter and notes that a response will be provided to them following the Election Period.

**CARRIED**

*Councillors, that brings us to the end of the formal business this evening, but of course you are all aware that this has been our final meeting for the term that commenced back in November 2016. While remaining aware of the restrictions on us brought about by the election period, it would be remiss of me if I did not provide each of you with an opportunity to say a few words in closing. I'll invite each Councillor in turn to address the meeting should you wish.*

The following Councillors provided a closing address:

Councillor Misha Coleman;

Councillor Mi-Lin Chen Yi Mei;

Councillor Danae Bosler;

Councillor Jackie Fristacky;

Councillor Stephen Jolly;

Councillor Bridgid O'Brien;

Councillor James Searle; and

Councillor Amanda Stone.

## **Conclusion**

The meeting concluded at 8.03pm.

Confirmed Tuesday 24 November 2020

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Mayor