



2024/25

Annual Plan



2024/25 Annual Plan

Contents

Introduction.....	4
Financial Sustainability	5
Climate and environment.....	6
Deliver a new Climate Emergency Plan and support community to take climate action (FSS).....	6
Zero Carbon Yarra.....	6
Expand the Library of Things program to support circular economy strategies.	7
Social equity and health	7
Improving access and inclusion	7
Ageing Well in Yarra	8
National aged care reforms (FSS)	8
Planning for our future Kindergarten reforms (FSS).....	9
Youth engagement	9
Digital literacy - library programs and services.....	10
Open Library program	10
Aboriginal Partnerships	10
Celebrating Cultural Diversity.....	11
LGBTIQA+ Partnerships.....	11
Women Making Waves.....	12
Public, Social and Affordable Housing	12
Local Economy	13
Implement Leaps & Bounds Cultural Music Festival	13
Review of Triennial Major Cultural Event Partnerships program	13
Precinct Activation Program	13
Night Time Economy Action Plan	14
Update the Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy.....	14
Place and nature.....	15
Commence development of a new Community Infrastructure Plan (FSS).....	15
Zero carbon development planning scheme amendment	15
Greening Yarra new open space and urban design projects	15
Built Form Provisions for Activity Centres and Employment Precincts	16
Gipps Street Major Employment Precinct Local Area Plan.....	16
Amendment to update Flood Mapping in Yarra.....	17
Rewilding Yarra - Bringing Nature Back to Yarra initiative	17
Protocol for mitigating combustible cladding risks	18

Transport and movement.....	19
Parking Services Systematic Review (FSS)	19
Compliance and Parking Digitalisation (FSS)	19
Kerb Side Strategy (FSS).....	19
Active transport - cycling and public transport (FSS).....	20
Micro mobility	20
Expanding 30km/h Trial.....	20
Democracy and governance	21
Procurement Excellence and Governance (FSS).....	21
Customer Experience (CX) Program	21
Review the Service Landscape Program (FSS)	21
Develop a new Property Strategy (FSS)	22

Introduction

Yarra City Council produces an Annual Plan alongside each year's Budget, setting out specific projects and activities that Council will undertake towards achieving the Council Plan Strategic Objectives. This includes priority projects, actions in response to initiatives in the Council Plan and other Council strategies and plans.

The Council Plan 2021-25 was adopted on 19 October 2021 and addresses the aspirations and priorities identified in the Yarra 2035 Community Vision. For information about how the Council Plan Strategic Objectives respond to the Community Vision Themes please see [Council Plan 2021-25](#).

The Council Plan 2021-25 is an important strategic document that guides all planning and decision making for Council over the Council Plan term as we work towards the Community Vision. It contains Strategic Objectives, Strategies, Initiatives and Indicators.

Council has committed to 38 projects and activities (Actions) in the 2024/25 Annual Plan, from a broad range of services, and contains some but not all Initiatives from the Council Plan 2021-25. The Annual Plan aligns these Actions with one of the six Strategic Objectives in the Council Plan 2021-25.

The following Strategic Objectives represent our Strategic Direction over the Council Plan term:

Climate and environment	Yarra urgently mitigates climate change while also adapting to its impacts and developing resilience in everything we do. The community
Social equity and health	Yarra's people have equitable access and opportunities to participate in community life. They are empowered, safe and included.
Local economy	Yarra's neighbourhoods and major activity centres, nightlife and employment precincts are thriving, accessible and connected. They support and inspire diverse creative communities, cultural activities, businesses, and local employment.
Place and nature	Yarra's public places, streets and green open spaces bring our community together. They are planned to manage growth, protect our unique character and focus on people and nature.
Transport and movement	Yarra's transport network is sustainable and recognises that streets are important shared public spaces. Transport and movement is accessible, safe and well connected.
Democracy and governance	Yarra is smart, innovative and sustainable. Our decisions and advocacy are built on evidence and meaningful engagement. Good governance is at the heart of our processes and decision-making.

Progress of the Actions will be reported in the 2024/25 Quarterly Community Reports.

Financial Sustainability

Council adopted the [Yarra Financial Sustainability Strategy](#) (FSS) at the 12 December 2023 Council Meeting. This marked a major milestone recognising Yarra's leadership in achieving long term sustainability.

The FSS provides an assessment of macro-economic trends, the current financial landscape, long-term financial goals, and importantly, outlines a roadmap to achieve these objectives. It will guide Council on how to best manage our resources for the long-term in the best interests of our community and identifies a program of solutions to find innovative ways to deliver services more cost-effectively, streamline processes through technology and transformation, assess non-essential programs, identify cost-saving measures, and explore alternative revenue sources or partnerships to bridge funding gaps. The underlying goal is to improve Council's unrestricted cash position and build cash reserves for strategic purposes, enabling community infrastructure for a growing population and to respond to unforeseen events.

The 2024/25 Annual Plan includes 11 Actions that are working towards the goals of the FSS and these are indicated throughout the document by '(FSS)' noted in the Action title. They are also listed in the below table:

Actions working towards the goals of the Financial Sustainability Strategy
Deliver a new Climate Emergency Plan and support community to take climate action (FSS)
National aged care reforms (FSS)
Planning for our future kindergarten infrastructure (FSS)
Commence development of a new Community Infrastructure Plan (FSS)
Parking services systematic review (FSS)
Compliance and parking digitalisation (FSS)
Kerbside strategy (FSS)
Active transport – cycling and public transport (FSS)
Procurement excellent and governance (FSS)
Review the service landscape program (FSS)
Develop a new Property Strategy (FSS)

Climate and environment

Deliver a new Climate Emergency Plan and support community to take climate action (FSS)

Branch: Sustainability

Endorse and implement a new climate emergency plan that builds on the success of the last plan, incorporates current best practice, and builds from a foundation of deep community engagement undertaken in 2023/24. Deliver targeted programs and activities to key sectors in our community to take climate action.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Endorse a new Climate Emergency Plan.

Q1. Promote the Climate Action Grants to the Yarra community, seeking strong community-led projects which will continue to build community-led climate action across the municipality.

Q1. Work in collaboration with the Yarra Neighbourhood House Network to implement their Climate Action & Resilience Plan (2023), supporting predominately at-risk Yarra residents.

Q2. Complete annual Climate Active process and submission to remain a certified Carbon Neutral organisation.

Q2. Implement targeted programs to support increased solar uptake, electrification, and emissions reductions for apartments and renters to improve sustainability individually and/or whole building retrofit opportunities, representing a significant proportion of Yarra residents and emissions.

Q3. Deliver a program to engage and work with local sports clubs to support their communities to take climate action, noting the significant reach and social license they have in the community, as well as the potential impact of future climate change on sports and continue to support teams to understand and deliver on their Climate emergency roles and actions.

Q4. Review and update how we will support our communities to understand and prepare for the climate risks, based on implementation to date.

Q4. Implement programs which support young people to respond to the climate emergency.

Zero Carbon Yarra

Branch: Sustainability

Support community uptake of renewable energy and transition to electrification and battery storage in Yarra. Engage and support Yarra businesses and partners to electrify and transition to circular economy and zero emissions, as a key action towards a zero emissions municipality.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Finalise the next group procurement for the Business Renewables Buying Group, supporting businesses in Yarra and other municipalities to collectively purchase renewable energy.

Q1. Promotion of CitySwitch, Solar Savers, and other opportunities to support Yarra residents and business to electrify and transition to circular economy and zero emissions increase uptake of renewable energy and electrification in Yarra.

Q2. Undertake recruitment for next collective buying group of businesses to participate in the Business Renewables Buying Group.

Q2. Deliver event for local businesses to support electrification, circular economy, and transition to zero emissions.

Q2. Complete the State Government funded PowerLink - Linking council assets to Neighbourhood Batteries project (with Merri-bek Council).

Q3. Continue to deliver and grow the Sustainable Business Yarra Working Group of local businesses engaged in taking action, as well as the Sustainable Business Newsletter.

Q3. Review the future of the Business Renewables Buying Group and update Councillors on progress and next steps.

Q3. Review potential to deliver a significantly expanded program linking accelerated solar and battery uptake together with a local renewable energy uptake offer that reduces costs and is targeted to at-risk residents and/or those otherwise locked out of the renewables market.

Q4. Deliver event for local businesses to support electrification, and transition to circular economy and zero emissions.

Q4. Report on number of commercial solar installations on percentage of dwellings with solar installations.

Q4. Report on Number of businesses engaged in programs and activities on renewable energy power purchase agreements, plastic free campaigns, and circular economy waste initiatives.

Expand the Library of Things program to support circular economy strategies.

Branch: Libraries Arts and Events

Curb consumer consumption and reduce landfill by supporting the lending of additional objects (tools, gadgets, etc).

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Project plan including community consultation scoped.

Q2. Monitor loans and report on the user experience and feedback on new items added to the initiative.

Q3. Resources acquired and catalogued.

Q4. Objects available and actively loaned by library users.

Social equity and health

Improving access and inclusion

Branch: Aged and Disability Services

Strengthen Council's commitment to improve access and inclusion for people with disability, including the development of a renewed Access and Inclusion plan and associated actions informed by community engagement undertaken in FY24.

Quarterly milestones:

Q2. Develop a draft Access and Inclusion plan to guide Council's ongoing commitment to the community, which details Council's approach to developing an accessible and inclusive city.

Q3. Present the draft plan to Council for endorsement.

Q3. Develop the action plan to implement the Access and Inclusion plan to respond to needs identified by the community.

Q4. Commence the implementation of actions identified in the action plan.

Ageing Well in Yarra

Branch: Aged and Disability Services

Amplify Council's commitment to promoting ageing well in Yarra, to enable people who are aged 50+ opportunities to actively participate and connect.

Develop an Ageing Well plan, detailed goals and actions in response to identified issues, consistent with Council's commitment to the Age Friendly Cities framework promoted through the World Health Organisation and informed by community engagement undertaken in FY24 and Council's endorsed role in aged care (approved March 2024 Council meeting).

Quarterly milestones:

Q2. Develop an Ageing Well plan to guide Council's ongoing commitment to the community and Council's approach to deliver an age friendly city.

Q3. Present the draft plan Council for endorsement.

Q3. Develop the action plan that identifies key actions in response to the Ageing Well policy and responds to needs identified by the community.

Q4. Commence implementation of actions identified for the first phase of the action plan.

National aged care reforms (FSS)

Branch: Aged and Disability Services

Develop plans in response to the Commonwealth's aged care reforms in the context of the implementation of the new Commonwealth Support at Home program model, informed by the needs of older people and their families. Identify areas where Council can develop and enhance services that meet the needs of older people, with a focus on actions that support social connections, participation and promote independence.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Implement plans to transition home care clients to Mercy Health.

Q2. Develop and improve a range of aged care services and supports, which align with Council's commitment to enhance social support, prevent social isolation, and build community resilience, such as, community transport, meals and nutritional support, and social support groups.

Q3. Develop a model to provide a Community Connector function to support people access the My Aged Care system, other health and well-being services and linking with locally based support services.

Q3. Continue to monitor and advocate in the interests of older residents in accessing the national My Aged Care system – from the introduction of the single assessment service to the staged introduction of the Support at Home program.

Planning for our future Kindergarten reforms (FSS)

Branch: Family Youth and Childrens Services

Prepare an updated Kindergarten Infrastructure Service Plan that incorporates current and future supply and demand, population forecasting and updated policy direction of the State Government's Best Start, Best Life kindergarten reform. Respond to the future demands for kindergarten places in Yarra, by undertaking the refurbishment and re-activation of the new 44-place Atherton Gardens Kindergarten.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Undertake a review and update the supply and demand data to 2032, to inform our future municipal kindergarten and service planning and Capital Works Program.

Q1. Commencement of building construction phase at Atherton Gardens kindergarten by Homes Victoria.

Q2. Prepare and finalise our Kindergarten Infrastructure Services Plan.

Q2. Building construction and handover of Atherton Gardens kindergarten site to Council completed.

Q3. Atherton Gardens Kindergarten service to be operational including license approval, and room(s) fitted out.

Q4. Advocate to the State Government for increased funding and kindergarten infrastructure opportunities, as evidenced in our Kindergarten Infrastructure Services Plan and aligned to Council's Advocacy Action Plan (2023).

Youth engagement

Branch: Family Youth and Childrens Services

Provide specific programs/activities in partnership with other agencies, for young people aged from 12 to 25 years, which seek empower young people to have a greater voice through youth led and supported action, including establishing youth entrepreneurship, youth justice and community safety.

Continue to operate the Richmond Youth Hub, providing targeted services to vulnerable young people who access the North Richmond estate, and complete the implementation of the recommendations of the 2023 evaluation.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Evaluate the Yarra Youth Advocacy to inform potential improvements/changes and external grant application(s) for youth led advocacy and engagement.

Q1. Funding, lease and performance agreements established for the management of the Richmond Youth Hub.

Q2. Assess youth participation and engagement activities auspiced by Yarra Youth Services.

Q2. Assess and measure youth participation and engagement in the Richmond Youth Hub.

Q3. Assess community partnerships that support youth participation and engagement in Yarra.

Q3. Continue to assess and measure youth participation and engagement in the Richmond Youth Hub.

Q4. Report on youth participation and engagement, auspiced by Yarra Youth Services.

Q4. Report on the community engagement and partnership outcomes achieved via the Richmond Youth Hub Reference Group and associated youth activities.

Digital literacy - library programs and services

Branch: Libraries, Arts and Events

Continue to bridge the digital divide through impactful learning programs and services that improve the digital literacy and confidence of community members in using technology to actively participate in modern life.

Deliver programs and services across all five libraries and outreach locations.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. NA

Q2. Report on the number and outcomes of digital technology group sessions and individual sessions delivered across five branches with a focus on life-long learning outcomes for older people, school groups and young adults, and at-risk community members.

Q4. Full year report on the number and outcomes of digital technology group sessions and individual sessions delivered across five branches with a focus on life-long learning outcomes for older people, school groups and young adults, and at-risk community members.

Open Library program

Branch: Libraries Arts and Events

Fully implement the Open Library program at Collingwood Library and conduct and implement the findings of a review of opening hours across all five library locations.

Quarterly milestones:

Q2. Review on the impact of Open Library program conducted.

Q3. N/A

Q4. Implement review findings and ongoing service improvements.

Aboriginal Partnerships

Branch: Equity and Community Development

The Victorian First Peoples Assembly will soon negotiate a statewide Treaty and will also empower Traditional Owner groups to negotiate local Treaties, as outlined by the Victoria Treaty Authority and other Treaty Elements Act 2022.

Whilst the timing of local Treaties is not yet known, Council will undertake respectful participation in advancing treaty negotiations with the Wurundjeri Corporation. This includes the potential to partner with Wurundjeri and neighbouring Councils. Further, the dedication to truth-telling and recognition continues through the Yoorrook Justice Commission, which will inform Council's role and provide important context for the successor strategy to the Yana Ngargna Plan. Guided by the Principal Advisor for Aboriginal Partnerships, and the Yana Ngargna Advisory Group, Council will continue to be intensively focused on building core cultural capabilities and strengthening community partnerships.

Throughout FY25, Council will develop the successor strategy of the Yana Ngargna Plan, with strong input from Yana Ngargna Advisory Group.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Evaluate the Yana Ngargna Plan, engage with stakeholders and the community to gather feedback, and document insights for strategic planning.

Q1. Commence discussions with Wurundjeri regarding Council's role in relation to treaty.

Q2. Initiate development of the successor plan to Yana Ngargna, assembling a project team to outline scope and commence drafting based on earlier feedback.

Q2. Continue to develop plans with Wurundjeri regarding treaty.

Q3. Advance the drafting of the successor plan, hold consultation sessions for validation and amendment, and communicate progress through interim reports.

Q3. Continue to develop plans with Wurundjeri regarding treaty.

Q4. Complete and refine the strategy document, review it with stakeholders, and seek final endorsement from the Council to exhibit Draft Plan.

Q4. Continue to develop plans with Wurundjeri regarding treaty.

Celebrating Cultural Diversity

Branch: Equity and Community Development

Elevate and celebrate cultural diversity and the ways in which people from refugee and asylum-seeking backgrounds have enriched our community, by offering material and in-kind support for a range of local community-led activities and events for Cultural Diversity Week and World Refugee Day. Advocate and make a stand against racism by collaborating with health, social support, law enforcement, and human rights partners in a workshop aimed at addressing racial and religious vilification in Yarra.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Consult with community to determine activities.

Q1. Provide an update regarding the Multicultural Partnership Policy.

Q2. Provide an update regarding the Multicultural Partnership Policy.

Q3. Create and share information about Cultural Diversity Week activities in Yarra, with an additional focus on the UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on 21 March.

Q3. Provide an update regarding the Multicultural Partnership Policy.

Q4. Deliver event for World Refugee Week.

Q4. Provide an update on outcomes of the 'Speak Out Against Racism' project.

Q4. Provide an update regarding the Multicultural Partnership Policy.

LGBTIQA+ Partnerships

Branch: Equity and Community Development and Strategic Planning

Collaborate with community stakeholders to assess the impact of the Yarra LGBTIQA+ Strategy 2021–24 and develop a policy framework to replace and build upon the current strategy and ensure the long-term effectiveness and sustainability of Council's partnerships with Yarra's LGBTIQA+ community.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Collaborate with stakeholders to evaluate the outputs and outcomes of the existing LGBTIQ+ strategy.

Q1. The completed LGBTIQ+ cultural heritage study presented to Council for adoption.

Q2. Finalise the heritage background work and plan for the future Planning Scheme Amendment.

Q3. Use the evaluation to consult the Rainbow Advisory Committee and the wider community about the Yarra LGBTIQ+ community's needs and aspirations, focusing on how the Council can enhance its support for the community through its programs, statutory remit, and strategic advocacy.

Q4. Produce a revised policy framework, including new positions, objectives, and goals, for the consideration of Council.

Women Making Waves

Property and Leisure

Review and refresh the Women Making Waves program. This program provides subsidised and exclusive access for women to gym access, casual swimming, aqua classes, open lap lanes and swimming lessons to women of all ages, cultures and abilities.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Generate a survey for current users and engage with community groups in program review.

Q2. Establish recommendations to improve program delivery and attendance.

Q2. Report on attendance levels and increases over first 6 months.

Q3. Continue delivery of program for existing users.

Q4. Implementation of program recommendations.

Q4. Report on satisfaction in program delivery by users.

Public, Social and Affordable Housing

Branch: Equity and Community Development

Monitor the Victorian Government's policies and programs, regarding the implementation of the 2023 Housing Statement, leverage partnerships, and undertake strategic advocacy to mitigate negative impacts on public housing residents and ensure the future viability of public housing.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Engage with stakeholders, including peak bodies, and other Councils and levels of government, through relevant networks and seminars, and respond to advocacy opportunities as relevant.

Q3. Provide an update on progression of policy and advocacy positions concerning public, community and affordable housing.

Q4. Report on the impact of relevant networks in responding to advocacy opportunities as relevant.

Local Economy

Implement Leaps & Bounds Cultural Music Festival

Branch: Libraries, Arts and Events

Implement the annual Leaps & Bounds Cultural Music Festival for its 12th year with a focus on supporting diverse artists and music workers, new programs, live music venues in Yarra and building audiences and local economy in the winter months when trade slows.

Quarterly milestones:

- Q1. Scope, consult and develop the 2025 festival framework and project plan.
- Q2. Run the Expression of Interest process for venue programs and funding.
- Q3. Finalise the program and key marketing delivery.
- Q4. Deliver and evaluate festival.

Review of Triennial Major Cultural Event Partnerships program

Branch: Libraries, Arts and Events

Undertake a review of the Triennial Major Event Partnerships program, including scoping investment and delivery models regarding impacts and outcomes of major events Yarra.

While undertaking the review, continue to support community organisations to deliver key major events with a significant cultural, historical and economic impact in Yarra.

Quarterly milestones:

- Q1. Review parameters and scope defined and determine dates of festivals and formalise funding agreements.
- Q2. Commence review, research and scoping of models including scheduling of stakeholder meetings and permit schedule.
- Q3. Support and ensure the delivery of the festivals.
- Q4. Review outcomes assessed and proposed recommendations determined for Council's consideration.

Precinct Activation Program

Branch: City Strategy

Continue to work with trader groups and associations to co-design and deliver 4 projects/campaigns within Yarra's retail and services precincts. This program creates awareness, drives visitation, increase spend and revitalise our main streets.

Quarterly milestones:

- Q1. Deliver Program 1 – Smith Street.
- Q2 Deliver Program 2 – Brunswick Street.
- Q3 Deliver Program 3 – Queens Parade.
- Q4 Deliver Program 4 – Swan Street.

Night Time Economy Action Plan

Branch: Economic Development

In collaboration with the Cities of Stonnington and Port Phillip develop a Night Time Economy Plan

Quarterly milestones:

- Q1. Prepare and agree on the scope of work and deliverables between the three Councils.
- Q2. Assist in the collection and analysis of data.
- Q3. Continue to help with data analysis and commence the preparation of a draft action plan.
- Q4. Finalisation of Action Plan crossing three LGA's and finalisation of Yarra's specific Action Plan.

Update the Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy

Branch: Strategic Planning

Update the Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy 2018 to protect employment land and generally guide land uses across Yarra. The project will ensure Yarra retains sufficient employment land into the future for a diversity of businesses.

Quarterly milestones:

- Q1. Present outcomes of Stage 1 update to Council to consider adoption. Commence procurement to undertake Stage 2 update.
- Q2. Assist consultant to undertake Stage 2 analysis.
- Q3. Continue to assist consultant to undertake Stage 2 analysis.
- Q4. Present outcomes of Stage 2 update to Council to consider adoption.

Place and nature

Commence development of a new Community Infrastructure Plan (FSS)

Branch: City Strategy

A new Community Infrastructure Plan for Yarra will establish the strategic agreement between Council and the community about Council's approach to planning, delivering, and operating/maintaining community infrastructure for the purposes of meeting community needs. The new Community Infrastructure Plan will also inform Council's investment priorities through a comprehensive audit and analysis of community needs, service delivery and asset use and performance that will drive recommended priorities.

Quarterly milestones:

- Q1. Commence community services and infrastructure audit.
- Q2. Commence community engagement.
- Q3. Continue and finalise community engagement.
- Q4. Finalise strategic components of the Community Infrastructure Plan, and complete audit data collection.

Zero carbon development planning scheme amendment

Statutory Planning

A key action in the Climate Emergency Plan, Council is pursuing a 'zero carbon development' planning scheme amendment and developing further environmentally sustainable development guidelines.

Quarterly milestones:

- Q1. Continue to advocate and engage with DTP and the Minister for Planning to support the progression of the amendment in conjunction with CASBE.
- Q2. If amendment is not authorised, continue to advocate and engage with DTP and the Minister for Planning to support the progression of the amendment in conjunction with CASBE. If authorised, request Council consent to place the amendment on exhibition.
- Q3. If amendment is not authorised, continue to advocate and engage with DTP and the Minister for Planning to support the progression of the amendment in conjunction with CASBE. If authorised, request Council consent to place the amendment on exhibition.
- Q4. If amendment is not authorised, continue to advocate and engage with DTP and the Minister for Planning to support the progression of the amendment in conjunction with CASBE. If authorised, request Council consent to place the amendment on exhibition.

Greening Yarra new open space and urban design projects

Branch: City Strategy

Continue to increase the provision of open space by converting road space into open space, investigating opportunities to acquire land for open space and enhance our existing open spaces and public realm.

Quarterly milestones:

- Q1. Complete Smith Reserve Play space construction, progress Charlotte Street road discontinuance (STCA), Commence process and installation of new pop-up space.

Q2. Complete Gertrude Street Brunswick Public Space Project design and documentation. Complete Charlotte Street Road discontinuance (STCA), complete Charles Evans Reserve design.

Q3. Complete Golden Square play space design and documentation. Commence Charlotte Street Roads to Parks construction (STCA) and Charles Evans Reserve construction. Commence process and installation of new pop-up space.

Q4. Complete Gertrude Street Brunswick Public Space Project and Charlotte Street Roads to Parks Construction (STCA).

Built Form Provisions for Activity Centres and Employment Precincts

Branch: City Strategy

Several planning scheme amendments are being progressed to introduce design guidance and built form requirements to main streets and employment areas across Yarra. First, we are working on areas that currently are under the most significant development pressure and have no local permanent guidance. When completed and approved by the Minister for Planning, the amendments will assist to manage private development proposals.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. C273 Heidelberg Road: Council to consider the Standing Advisory Committee report after the public hearing and seek approval from the Minister for Planning to introduce the new guidelines and requirements.

Q1. If authorised, C318 Cremorne and the Urban Design Framework: Council to consider submissions from the community after public exhibition and request referral to the Standing Advisory Committee.

Q2. If authorised C271 Fitzroy-Collingwood: Analyse community submissions after public exhibitions

Q2. Commence internal scoping for design and built form guidance and requirements for the Neighbourhood Activity Centres (dependent on progress of other amendments).

Q3. If able to be progressed C271 Fitzroy-Collingwood: Council to consider submissions from the community after public exhibition and request referral to the Standing Advisory Committee.

Q3. If able to be progressed C318 Cremorne and Urban Design Framework: Participate in the Standing Advisory Committee hearing which considers all submissions and expert opinions.

Q4. If able to be progressed C318 Cremorne and Urban Design Framework: Council to consider the Standing Advisory Committee report after the public hearing and seek approval from the Minister for Planning to introduce the new guidelines and requirements.

Gipps Street Major Employment Precinct Local Area Plan

Branch: Strategic Planning

It is proposed to develop a local area plan for the Precinct to help guide and communicate desired changes in the precinct. It will consider land use and affordable workspace issues and transport, public realm, urban design and built form matters. During Phase 1, an issues and opportunities paper will be prepared in-house to inform engagement efforts and future detailed technical work.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Continue preparing an issues and opportunities paper to inform future engagement efforts and technical work.

Q2. Finalise the issues and opportunities paper, report to Council, prepare targeted engagement.

Q3. Undertake targeted engagement to inform issues, opportunities and future directions.

Q4. Report back on engagement findings and prepare procurement work to commence technical background work.

Amendment to update Flood Mapping in Yarra

Branch: Strategic Planning

Commence an amendment to the Yarra Planning Scheme updating the flood mapping across Yarra.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Report to Council and confirm support for the MBS to designate Flood Areas and commence an amendment to the Yarra Planning Scheme updating flood mapping.

Q2. Prepare amendment documentation to update the stormwater flood mapping (Special Building Overlay) in Yarra and Council to seek authorisation from State Government to publicly exhibit the amendment, giving the community the opportunity to participate in the process.

Q3. Await authorisation from State Government, prepare public exhibition.

Q3. If authorised, exhibit the amendment.

Q4. If exhibition is completed, analyse submissions and prepare a report to Council to consider submissions from the community.

Rewilding Yarra - Bringing Nature Back to Yarra initiative

Branch: City Works

Rewilding Yarra - Bringing Nature Back to Yarra initiative embodies a set of actions that encourage the return of local, native species, from soil bacteria to charismatic vertebrates, to areas within urban environments where they have become uncommon, rare, or locally extinct. A total of 100,000 ground and mid storey plants will be planted over the year.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Identify sites for planting for the new planting season and continue planting out areas for the existing planting season.

Q2. Prepare sites for planting including weeding and mulching of area and then plant out areas until planting season concludes in October 2024.

Q3. Purchase plant stock ready for new planting season.

Q4. Plant stock into ground and begin water/maintenance.

Q4. Report on number and diversity of indigenous ground cover, understory and trees planted annually in bushland areas.

Protocol for mitigating combustible cladding risks

Branch: Yarra Building Services

Cladding Safe Victoria have adoption of a newly approved “Protocol for Mitigating Cladding Risk” to address residential buildings containing Combustible Cladding, in line with the new Minister’s Guideline 15. The aim of the Guideline is to give alternative rectification methods that can be implemented by a Council to address and resolve the current dangers associated with buildings containing “Combustible Cladding”.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. NA

Q2. Continue to work with Cladding Safe Victoria to better understand and manage the frameworks of a risk-based/mitigation approach when attempting to resolve buildings containing Combustible Cladding.

Q3. Adopt the Cladding Safe Victoria Protocol for mitigation cladding risk methodology as a means/tools in resolving the remaining outstanding Combustible Cladding Buildings within our Municipality.

Q4. Continue to liaise with Building Owners, Body and Corporate Managers, in a concerted effort in resolving the current dangers associated with Combustible Cladding on residential buildings.

Transport and movement

Parking Services Systematic Review (FSS)

Branch: Compliance and Parking

Conduct a comprehensive review of current parking services to identify opportunities for innovation and improvement, ultimately enhancing the experience for the community. Specific target areas for review will include, but not limited to, parking availability and utilisation, technology integration, variable pricing and operations.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Gather data on current parking regulations, infrastructure, usage patterns, and traffic observations. Based on the collected data and analysis, identify areas for improvement, potential innovative solutions, and anticipated implementation challenges.

Q2. Establish clear parameters for the review, including timeframes, focus areas and specific aspects of parking service that can be innovated and improved.

Q3. Develop practical, actionable recommendations for improving parking services, considering feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and the community's needs.

Q4. Develop an implementation plan that outlines a phased approach to deliver the digital solutions considering budget, resources and timelines.

Compliance and Parking Digitalisation (FSS)

Branch: Compliance and Parking

Undertake a project to streamline compliance and parking permits to improve accessibility, enhance functionality and user experience through digital solutions.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Complete a project feasibility assessment, undertake research and benchmarking to determine best approach practices that meets the needs of our community.

Q2. Develop an implementation plan that outlines a phased approach to deliver digital solutions considering budget, resources and timelines.

Q3. System creation and rollout with user acceptance training.

Q4. Ongoing monitoring and evaluation to ensure digital solutions are effective and adjusting as needed.

Kerb Side Strategy (FSS)

Branch: Strategic Transport

Review and update the Parking Strategy and parking management approach (incorporating technology utilisation) with a view to reduce car dependency in Yarra and support a modal shift towards active and public transport.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Analyse detailed data set and produce mapping.

Q2. Analyse detailed data set and produce mapping.

Q3.

Q4. Determine next steps.

Active transport - cycling and public transport (FSS)

Branch: Strategic Transport

Scope and Design active transport projects (cycling, pedestrian and public transport) aligning with the Yarra Transport Strategy and Transport Action Plan.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Scope allocated projects and commence preliminary design work.

Q2. Undertake design work for projects allocated in the Council budget as per agreed processes.

Q3. Finalise design work for projects allocated in the Council budget to be shovel ready.

Q4. Complete design projects and prepare projects list for design progressing in the 2025/26 budget.

Micro mobility

Branch: Strategic Transport

Support shared micro-mobility, car share and ride share schemes.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Finalise an operational plan to guide decision making on e-scooter parking locations.

Q2. Implement operational plan and continue to work closely with neighbouring councils and state government.

Q3. Implement operational plan and continue to work closely with neighbouring councils and state government.

Q4. Implement operational plan and continue to work closely with neighbouring councils and state government.

Expanding 30km/h Trial

Branch: Infrastructure Traffic and Civil Engineering

Council has begun the expansion of its 30km/h speed limit trial area in Fitzroy and Collingwood. The trial area has expanded the previous 30km/h area to cover the southern parts of Fitzroy and Collingwood from Johnston Street to Victoria Parade (excluding Johnston St itself). The next 2 years will focus on adjustments, monitoring and evaluation of this new trial area.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Continue monitoring the trial and make amendments as required.

Q2. Continue monitoring the trial and make amendments as required.

Q3. Update Councillors on progress of the trial and any amendments required and implemented.

Q4. Begin evaluation of the first year of the trial.

Democracy and governance

Procurement Excellence and Governance (FSS)

Branch: Finance

Review Council's procurement and contract management processes to ensure better value and hold costs.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Develop a procurement excellence roadmap to strengthen overall strategy, ensuring efficiency and adherence to governance principles.

Q2. Review overall strategy for utilising appointed Contract Panels to deliver value.

Q3. Evaluate purchase card expenditures to review and strengthen the existing corporate credit card policy.

Q4. Uplift Council's contract management practice by providing training and guidance to contract managers.

Customer Experience (CX) Program

Branch: Customer Experience

Implement the CX Strategy's program of initiatives to support customer responsiveness and deliver the best service value for Yarra's customers, community, and internal teams.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Develop a Voice of Customer Program to understand customer expectations, preferences, and pain points, informing continuous improvement strategies.

Q2. NA

Q3. Review and publish updated service response timeframes (SLAs).

Q4. NA

Review the Service Landscape Program (FSS)

Branch: Business Transformation

Commence a Service Review program which will identify opportunities to improve financial sustainability and better meet the needs of our community today and into the future.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Using the agreed service review framework and prioritised triggers for change, identify 4 services that will best benefit from service review.

Q2. Analyse service metrics for the 4 selected services.

Q3. Analyse improvement opportunities for the 4 selected services and apply/address the service review principles that were developed through the 2024 deliberative engagement with community.

Q4. Recommend improvement opportunities and an implementation plan for the 4 selected services.

Develop a new Property Strategy (FSS)

Branch: Property and Leisure

Adopt and commence the implementation of a new Property Strategy. This strategy will aim to create a clear decision-making framework to ensure Council's property decisions are intentional, transparent and provide maximum value for our community. The strategy will also reflect the objectives of the Financial Sustainability Strategy and work towards achieving its outcomes.

Quarterly milestones:

Q1. Endorse the new Property Strategy.

Q2. Complete the internal onboarding to ensure all relevant stakeholders are well informed on the strategy and have clarity on their roles and responsibilities.

Q3. Continue to apply the property strategy's principles to all property transactions.

Q4. N/A