

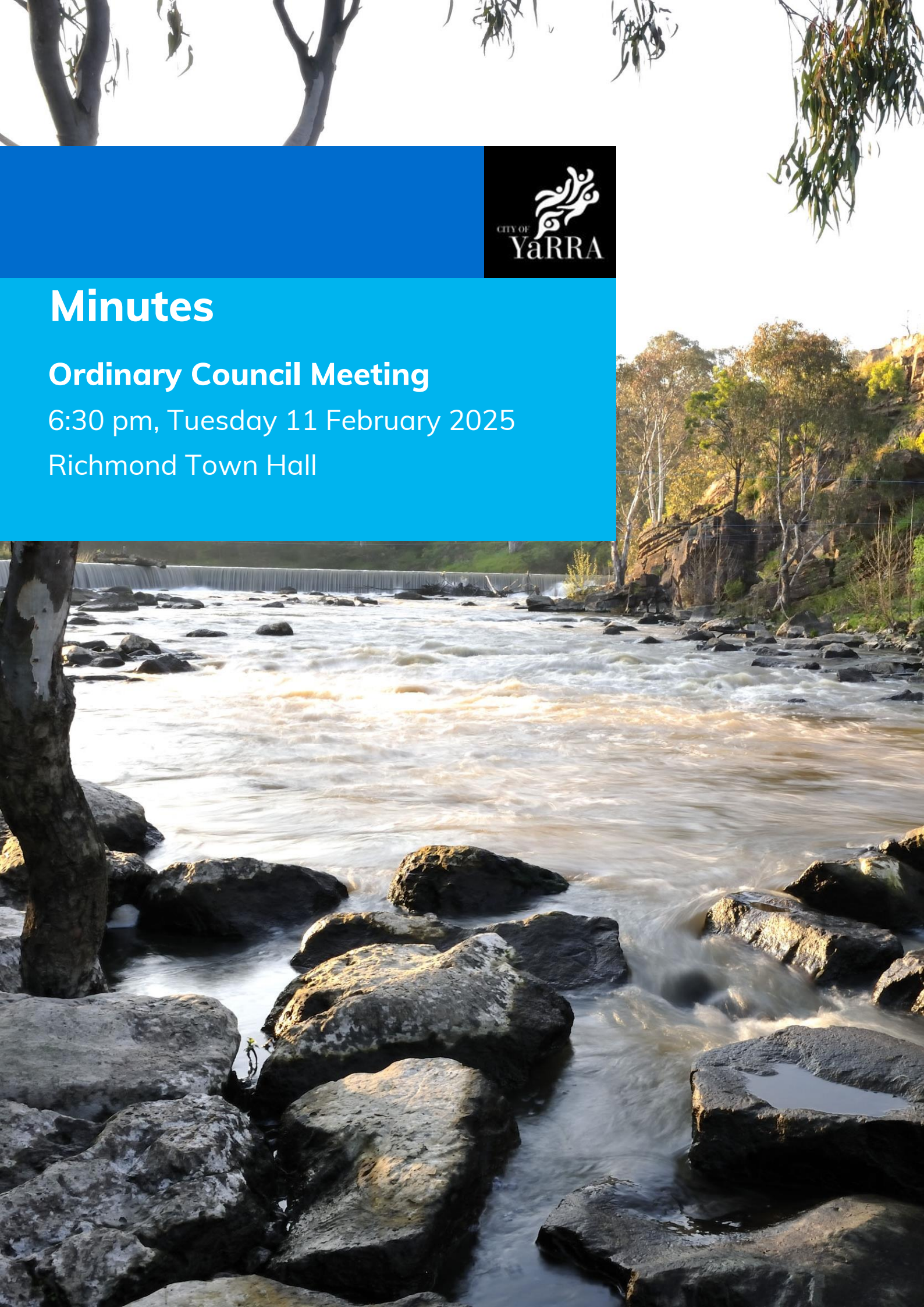


Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

6:30 pm, Tuesday 11 February 2025

Richmond Town Hall



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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.”

2. Attendance, apologies and requests for leave of absence

Attendance

Councillors:

- Cr Stephen Jolly Mayor
- Cr Sarah McKenzie Deputy Mayor
- Cr Evangeline Aston
- Cr Edward Crossland
- Cr Andrew Davies
- Cr Kenneth Gomez
- Cr Sharon Harrison
- Cr Meca Ho
- Cr Sophie Wade

Council staff:

Chief Executive Officer

- Sue Wilkinson

General Managers

- Brooke Colbert Governance, Communications and Customer Experience
- Sam Hewett Infrastructure and Environment
- Kerry McGrath Community Strengthening
- Mary Osman City Sustainability and Strategy
- Lucy Roffey Corporate Services

Governance

- Phil De Losa Manager Governance and Integrity
- Patrick O’Gorman Senior Governance Coordinator
- Mel Nikou Governance Officer

3. Announcements

No announcements were made.

4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interests.

5. Confirmation of Minutes

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Harrison

Seconded: Councillor Gomez

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17 December 2024 be confirmed.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Question Time

This record is provided from members of the public upon registration and also asked during Question Time and the responses provided is not a transcript of proceedings. A recording of the Council Meeting is available on Council's website for twelve months following the meeting.

The following questions were asked:

1. Michael Oxe:

Question:

"Does Council have a policy regarding provision of additional bicycle parking rails in Yarra, and if so does it include a budget for purchasing and installing new rails, per calendar year, and any procedure for residents of Yarra to request and nominate a location?"

The General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy provided the following response:

Thank you Michael for your question.

Council allocates funding each year for the provision of bicycle hoops during its annual budget process. In the 24/25 budget, \$30k was allocated for street furniture including bike hoops. To date Council have installed approximately 15 hoops in various locations across the municipality.

Council has a process where the community can request bicycle hoops be installed, and we can provide this information to you. Council will publish a draft budget in around late April and welcome submissions.

2. Shane Delphine:

Question:

In 2022 Yarra City Council was awarded \$70,000 by the state government to install 4 electric vehicle chargers. According to the relevant state government website, Council has committed to the installation of these chargers by end February. Could Officers please confirm that this timeframe will be met? Yarra needs to see the installation of hundreds, perhaps thousands, of on-street EV chargers in the short term to meet resident demand. Can Officers please provide assurance that the delays that have beset the installation of chargers under this program will not be indicative of future delays in facilitating the needed roll-out?

The General Manager Infrastructure and Environment provided the following response:

Thanks for your question Shane.

Four EV chargers were funded by the State Government across two locations, Piedimonte's in North Fitzroy and Richmond Library. Chargers are installed and operational. They can be complex projects to deliver but we're pleased they're in and being used.

Regarding future installations, Council will consider funding additional EV charging stations when it considers future budgets.

3. Andy Calder:

Question:

Recent upgrades at the Yambla/Ramsden intersection have not addressed the danger of speeding cars crossing the footpath on approaching the stop sign.

In a recent petition the question raised was why have speed reduction measures not been installed on the approach?

The General Manager Infrastructure and Environment provided the following response:

Thanks for your question Andy.

There are a range of approaches to manage vehicle speeds and conflicts between road users.

At this intersection we have installed measures to deflect the approach angle of vehicles to the intersection prior to the stop line and we've installed slow line marking on the approach. These are standard approaches we have adopted at many other locations in Yarra.

We will monitor the effectiveness of the treatments as road users adapt to the changes over the next 12 months. And if required, we will investigate additional measures at that time.

4. Elizabeth Honey:

Question:

At November's Council meeting Charlotte Street Library Park was summarily cancelled despite it being a park not just for those in surrounding streets but for all in Richmond who use the library. We're exhorted to 'Love Your Library' and we do, dearly, and value it and its programs as major community glue. At the meeting Council asked for a report with options and costs for an alternative site for this park in Cremorne, including off-leash dog exercise areas, and the amount currently in Public Open Space Reserve and funds expected in 2025/26. What are the findings of that report?

The General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy provided the following response:

Thank you, Elizabeth for your question.

A report is scheduled for the Council Meeting on 13 May, which will provide responses to all the items listed in the Notice of Motion (NOM) approved at the November 2024 Council Meeting.

5. Christine Maynard:

Question:

Last year at a council meeting I asked how much the City of Yarra ratepayers have spent on picking up drug paraphernalia including around 18000 syringes per month, rubbish and other related matter due to this so called Government funded failed experiment.

What are the new councillors doing to recoup the over 3 million \$\$\$ that has been spent since it opened as trial in June 2018?

This cost is going to continue to be paid by the ratepayer unless someone does something about it.

The General Manager Community Strengthening provided the following response:

Thanks for your question.

Over several years, through numerous meetings and formal correspondence from the Mayor to the Premier and the Minister for Mental Health, and the CEO to senior officers at the Victorian Department of Health, Council has consistently advocated for the state government to either directly commission a relevant agency to deliver syringe management services and associated cleansing, or to provide full financial support to Council for the delivery of this service.

This advocacy will continue.

In response to a Notice of Motion No. 21 (December 2024), regarding an integrated Urban Renewal Strategy for Victoria Street, Richmond, and Abbotsford, a report will be considered by Council in March 2025, which will include reference to this important matter.

6. Diana Courtney:

Question:

I live in an area where there are a lot of large trucks on local residential streets. I want to know what can be done about it, i.e. what CoY can do.

The General Manager Infrastructure and Environment provided the following response:

Thanks for your question Diana

Local streets are generally accessible to all vehicles but Council can restrict, slow or discourage some larger vehicles through traffic treatments like kerb outstands, one way restrictions, bike lanes and pedestrian friendly interventions like shared zones or 30km speed restrictions.

When we consider these sorts of interventions we are careful not to restrict some access – like that access required for trucks collecting waste and recycling material from residential properties.

7. Jenny Backholer:

Question: (raised during item 7.3 as the submitter had arrived)

Unoccupied housing and vacant buildings. I would like to ask Councillors to request a report outlining available data regarding:

- (a) the number of privately owned unoccupied dwellings / residential properties in Yarra;
- (b) the number of privately owned retail and commercial properties in Yarra that are vacant or unoccupied; and
- (c) actions that Council could take to improve the utilization of existing buildings that are currently uninhabitable or vacant.

The General Manager Corporate Services provided the following response:

Thank you for the questions Jenny.

Council does not have data on the number of vacant buildings, either residential or commercial.

However, the 2021 census data reported that 7,151 or 15% of private dwellings were unoccupied.

Council's Local Law enables, Council to ensure that land is not kept in an unsightly condition or in a way that is detrimental to the neighbourhood and under the Building Regulations, Council also has a duty to ensure buildings are safe. However, Council does not have the power to require vacant properties to be occupied.

The State Government introduced a vacant residential land tax (VRLT) in 2018 which may be a disincentive to some property owners.

The VRLT does not apply to land without a home on it (unimproved land), commercial residential premises, residential care facilities.

Relevant to commercial spaces, Council's Economic Development Strategy contains strategies that seek to address vacancy rates in retail and services precincts, including Bridge Road and Victoria Street.

7. Council Business Reports

7.1. Hearing of Submission - Proposed Discontinuance of Road Abutting 609 – 615 Church Street, Richmond

Author	Fadi Fakhoury – Manager Property Services
Authoriser	General Manager Infrastructure and Environment

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the written submission received and verbal address.
2. Thanks the submitter for their participation in the road discontinuance process.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Harrison

Seconded: Councillor Davies

That Council:

1. Notes the written submission received.
2. Thanks the submitter for their participation in the road discontinuance process.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.2. Alphington Bowls Club Renewal Design Options

Author	Garry Kumar – Project Manager Buildings
Authoriser	General Manager Infrastructure and Environment Chief Executive Officer

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the independent expert analysis of the 2 options to renew the Alphington Bowls Club (new modular build and a refurbishment of the existing building) and its assessment that a new modular replacement is best placed to provide long term service to Yarra's community.
2. Proceeds with the design and development of a new modular replacement pavilion at the Alphington Bowls Club.
3. Refers funding for the construction phase for a new modular replacement pavilion at the Alphington Bowls Club to Council's budget process.
4. Communicates Council's decision with representatives at the Alphington Bowls Club and ensures a co-design process is employed with relevant club members to ensure a fit-for-purpose redevelopment at the site.

Public Submissions

The following people addressed Council on the matter:

John Grattidge; and

Kim Rockman.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor McKenzie

Seconded: Councillor Jolly

That Council:

1. Notes the independent expert analysis of the two options to renew the Alphington Bowls Club (a new modular build and a refurbishment of the existing building) and acknowledges the club's preference for refurbishment.
2. Proceeds with the design and development of a refurbishment of the existing building at the Alphington Bowls Club (Option 2).
3. Requests council undertake further design work with relevant representatives of Alphington Bowls Club based on their design for the refurbishment, including but not limited to alterations to the design that seeks to:
 - (a) ensure all bathrooms to be accessed via the same corridor; and
 - (b) mitigate the need for the ramp turnback to the deck adjacent to the BBQ area while ensuring it remains DDA compliant.
4. Refers funding for the construction phase of the refurbishment to Council's budget process.
5. Communicates Council's decision with representatives of the Alphington Bowls Club and ensures a co-design process is employed with relevant club members to ensure a fit-for-purpose redevelopment at the site.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.3. Graffiti Management Framework - Response to Notice of Motion November 2024

Author Brett Grambau – Manager City Works

Authoriser General Manager Infrastructure and Environment

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Adopts the Graffiti Management Framework 2024-2030.
2. Notes that \$500,000 additional operational funding has been allocated to the graffiti program 2024/25 in the mid-year budget review to support the immediate implementation of the Service Levels outlined in the Graffiti Management Framework 2024-2030.
3. Refers consideration of additional operating budget for graffiti management to the 2025/26 annual budget process.
4. Requests that the M9 continue advocacy efforts to the State Government to improve efforts to remove graffiti from assets it owns.

Public Submissions

The following people addressed Council on the matter.

Ian Talbot;

Jenny Backholer; and

Bradley Reynolds.

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Gomez

Seconded: Councillor Ho

That Council:

1. Adopts the Graffiti Management Framework 2024-2030.
2. Notes that \$500,000 additional operational funding has been allocated to the graffiti program 2024/25 in the mid-year budget review to support the immediate implementation of the Service Levels outlined in the Graffiti Management Framework 2024-2030.
3. Investigate the option of providing a voucher for users to treat repeatedly targeted areas with a preventative treatment that enables easier graffiti removal and amend the Graffiti Management Framework accordingly.
4. Assesses and reports on the effectiveness of the new Graffiti Management Framework by:

- (a) Reporting back to Council in 6 months and 12 months on key performance indicators including:
 - (i) Number of working days to remove graffiti;
 - (ii) The number and location of graffiti removal activities;
 - (iii) The effectiveness of the implementation of the new framework by interviewing a sample number of business operators across Yarra's Activity Centers;
 - (iv) Any other measures as appropriate; and
 - (v) Adding Graffiti Management as an item, in addition to the existing 9 items, to track in the Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey (Other Major Services and Facilities).
- 5. Refers consideration of additional operating budget for graffiti management to the 2025/26 annual budget process.
- 6. Requests that the M9 continue advocacy efforts to the State Government to improve efforts to remove graffiti from assets it owns.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor Crossland

That Council:

- 1. Adopts the Graffiti Management Framework 2024-2030 with the following addition:
 - (a) On page 20 of the Graffiti Management Framework, under Prevention Actions, add: Encourage the planting of creepers and establishing vertical greenery to deter graffiti, in alignment with the Vertical Greening Guidelines.

The amendment was accepted by the mover and seconder and incorporated into the motion.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Gomez

Seconded: Councillor Ho

That Council:

- 1. Adopts the Graffiti Management Framework 2024-2030 with the following addition:
 - (a) On page 20 of the Graffiti Management Framework, under Prevention Actions, add: Encourage the planting of creepers and establishing vertical greenery to deter graffiti, in alignment with the Vertical Greening Guidelines.
- 2. Notes that \$500,000 additional operational funding has been allocated to the graffiti program 2024/25 in the mid-year budget review to support the immediate implementation of the Service Levels outlined in the Graffiti Management Framework 2024-2030.
- 3. Investigate the option of providing a voucher for users to treat repeatedly targeted areas with a preventative treatment that enables easier graffiti removal and amend the Graffiti Management Framework accordingly.

4. Assesses and reports on the effectiveness of the new Graffiti Management Framework by:
 - (a) Reporting back to Council in 6 months and 12 months on key performance indicators including:
 - (i) Number of working days to remove graffiti;
 - (ii) The number and location of graffiti removal activities;
 - (iii) The effectiveness of the implementation of the new framework by interviewing a sample number of business operators across Yarra's Activity Centers;
 - (iv) Any other measures as appropriate; and
 - (v) Adding Graffiti Management as an item, in addition to the existing 9 items, to track in the Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey (Other Major Services and Facilities).
5. Refers consideration of additional operating budget for graffiti management to the 2025/26 annual budget process.
6. Requests that the M9 continue advocacy efforts to the State Government to improve efforts to remove graffiti from assets it owns.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

- For:** Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison and Councillor Ho
- Against:** Councillor Crossland and Councillor Wade

CARRIED

7.4. 2024/25 Mid Year Budget Review and Quarterly Community Report (September and December 2024)

Author Dennis Bastas – Manager Financial Services

Authoriser General Manager Corporate Services

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the 2024/25 Community Report Quarter One and Two (Attachment 1) including the outcomes of the mid-year forecast review and the progress of the 2024/25 Annual Plan.
2. Notes that in accordance with Section 97 (3) of the Local Government Act 2020 the CEO has advised that a revised budget is not required.
3. Endorses Option 1 – Safety at Pedestrian Crossings to undertake additional pruning, upgrade streetlight fixtures and report inappropriate behaviour to Victoria Police.

Public Submission

Shane Delphine addressed Council on the matter.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Gomez

Seconded: Councillor Aston

That Council:

1. Notes the 2024/25 Community Report Quarter One and Two (Attachment 1) including the outcomes of the mid-year forecast review and the progress of the 2024/25 Annual Plan.
2. Notes that in accordance with Section 97 (3) of the Local Government Act 2020 the CEO has advised that a revised budget is not required.
3. Endorses Option 1 – Safety at Pedestrian Crossings to undertake additional pruning, upgrade streetlight fixtures and report inappropriate behaviour to Victoria Police.
4. Refers the necessary traffic studies and community consultation for the potential installation of flashing safety lights at the pedestrian and cyclist crossings at the Scotchmer and Apperley Streets (Fitzroy North), Peel and Wellington Streets (Collingwood) and Nicholson St near Johnston Street (Abbotsford) crossings to Council's 2025/26 operating and capital budget processes for consideration.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.5. Sportsgrounds Fees and Charges - Response to Notice of Motion November 2024

Author Steven Jackson – Manager Leisure and Recreation

Authoriser General Manager Infrastructure and Environment

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Completes the full implementation of the previously approved model of seasonal hire fees (noting the proposed third year fees are subject to Council 2025-26 budget process).
2. Continues to implement the Crown lease as agreed by Council, DEECA and Fitzroy Victoria Bowling Club.
3. Continues to work with all sporting clubs who call Yarra home to deliver outcomes proposed by the Fair Access Policy and Roadmap, ensure Yarra's sporting facilities (as best as possible) are fit for purpose, and to ensure ongoing viability of all clubs.

Public Submissions

The following people addressed Council on the matter:

Rodney Draper;

Jane Seeber; and

Shane Delphine.

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Gomez

Seconded: Councillor Aston

That Council:

1. Completes year 1 of the sports club seasonal hire fees changes (including adjustment for usage of lighting and adjustments for club usage of sports facilities).
2. Increases seasonal hire fees (including adjustment for usage of lighting and club usage of sports facilities) annually by no more than CPI.
3. Prepares and signs a new Crown lease with the Fitzroy Victoria Bowling Club and seeks DEECA's approval for a lease of \$20,000 per annum, increasing annually by no more than CPI.
4. Continues to work with all sporting clubs who call Yarra home to deliver outcomes proposed by the Fair Access Policy and Roadmap, ensure Yarra's sporting facilities (as best as possible) are fit for purpose, and to ensure ongoing viability of all clubs.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor Crossland

Seconded: Councillor Wade

Insert in clause 3:

Prepares and signs a new Crown lease with the Fitzroy Victoria Bowling Club and seeks DEECA's approval for a lease commencing at \$20,000 in the first year, incrementally increasing on an annual basis by \$10,000, up to a total of \$60,000.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Crossland and Councillor Wade

Against: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison and Councillor Ho

LOST

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Gomez

Seconded: Councillor Aston

That Council:

1. Completes year 1 of the sports club seasonal hire fees changes (including adjustment for usage of lighting and adjustments for club usage of sports facilities)
2. Increases seasonal hire fees (including adjustment for usage of lighting and club usage of sports facilities) annually by no more than CPI.
3. Prepares and signs a new Crown lease with the Fitzroy Victoria Bowling Club and seeks DEECA's approval for a lease of \$20,000 per annum, increasing annually by no more than CPI.
4. Continues to work with all sporting clubs who call Yarra home to deliver outcomes proposed by the Fair Access Policy and Roadmap, ensure Yarra's sporting facilities (as best as possible) are fit for purpose, and to ensure ongoing viability of all clubs.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8.46pm.

The meeting resumed at 8.52pm.

7.6. Determining Funding for the Next Multi-Year Agreement to Support Neighbourhood Houses

Author Cristina Del Frate – Senior Coordinator Community Development

Authoriser General Manager Community Strengthening

Councillors Aston, Davies and Gomez returned to the meeting at 8.53pm.

Councillor Crossland returned to the meeting at 8.54pm.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Resolves to link funding increases in the next four-year funding agreement for the financial years 2025/26 to 2028/29 for Yarra's nine Neighbourhood Houses to the annual local government rate cap, as recommended by the Essential Services Commission (ESC) and determined by the Minister for Local Government each December.

MOTION

Moved: Councillor McKenzie

Seconded: Councillor Gomez

That Council:

1. Resolves to implement annual funding increases of 3.5% or CPI (whichever is greater) for Yarra's nine Neighbourhood Houses in the next four-year funding agreement (2025/26 to 2028/29).
2. Further resolves to enable Neighbourhood Houses to access additional funding through the Yarra Community Grants Program.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor Wade

Seconded: Councillor Crossland

Insert the following clauses:

1. Notes that Neighbourhood Houses across the state are facing insufficient and unstable funding models, including as noted in the ABC article "Victoria's Neighbourhood Houses face rising debts as funding dries up" on 14 January 2025.
2. Note the recommendations in the Parliamentary Inquiry report of November 2024 titled "Local government funding and services".
3. Requests that the Mayor write to the Minister for Consumer Affairs and Local Government to advocate for increased, sustainable funding for Neighbourhood Houses, through direct funding and/or a review of the rate cap, and invites each Neighbourhood House to co-sign this letter.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Crossland and Councillor Wade

Against: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison and Councillor Ho

LOST

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor McKenzie

Seconded: Councillor Gomez

That Council:

1. Resolves to implement annual funding increases of 3.5% or CPI (whichever is greater) for Yarra's nine Neighbourhood Houses in the next four-year funding agreement (2025/26 to 2028/29).
2. Further resolves to enable Neighbourhood Houses to access additional funding through the Yarra Community Grants Program.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.7. Linear Parklands Master Plan Development

Author Susan Stanes – Senior Coordinator Design and Place Making
Authoriser General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Approve the draft Linear Parklands Masterplan to proceed to community consultation in collaboration with Merri-bek Council in March 2025.

REVISED RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Approve the draft Linear Parklands Masterplan (Attachment 1) to proceed to community consultation in collaboration with Merri-bek Council in March 2025, subject to amending the wording on page 86 of the Master Plan under the heading of “Open Space, Passive and Active Recreation” to remove the wording: "Street closure of Brunswick Street North to increase open space amenity" to read: "Street closure of Rae St to increase open space amenity".

Public Submissions

The following people addressed Council on the matter:

Ernesto Arriagada;

Elizabeth Honey; and

Glenn Morrison.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION (PROCEDURAL)

Moved: Councillor Gomez

Seconded: Councillor Wade

That item 7.7: Linear Parklands Master Plan Development be deferred to the March Ordinary Council Meeting.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.8. Angled Car Parking - Response to Notice of Motion November 2024

Author	Simon Exon – Unit Manager Strategic Transport
Authoriser	General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy Chief Executive Officer

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Amend the resolution 26 November 2024 requiring 'all and any proposal for the permanent removal of angled parking to be presented to an ordinary Council meeting for a decision' to read;
"Requires that the removal of angled car parking, including as the result of a trial or as part of a specific project (e.g. New Deal for Cycling) or as part of another project (e.g. a road re-sheet) be presented to Council for decision except:
 - (a) *Projects that will not result in a net loss in angled car parking;*
 - (b) *Temporary changes (including closures) to angled car parking that are subject to other approval processes such as road closure permits;*
 - (c) *Temporary changes to angled car parking required for emergency management and maintenance reasons;*
 - (d) *Changes to angled car parking proposed as part of a planning permit application;*
 - (e) *Changes to angled car parking which align to an existing approved planning permit (e.g. a subsequent vehicle crossing permit request) where the removal of crossover was subject to an assessment of whether the associated removal of car parking would accord with Council's adopted traffic and transport related plans and policies;*
 - (f) *Proposed changes to angled car parking that Council Officers do not support and would not proceed; and*
 - (g) *Any process that requires officers to proceed with community consultation on street tree planting proposals that impact angled parking before seeking a Council approval."*
2. Refers the update of the Transport Action Plan for consideration as part of the 2025/26 budget noting that the second iteration of the TAP will provide Council the opportunity to set its transport priorities and approaches across all modes for 2024 to 2034 with a focus on the 2024-2028 Council term.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Harrison

Seconded: Councillor Davies

That Council:

1. Acknowledges the sensitivities around road space allocation in Yarra, and in particular Richmond, and emphasizes the need for community consultation and evidence-based decision-making when considering the removal of existing angled on-street carparking.
 2. Reaffirms its position that the removal of parking should only occur if there is local community support within the ward and locality directly affected by any proposed change.
 3. Amend the resolution 26 November 2024 requiring 'all and any proposal for the permanent removal of angled on-street parking to be presented to an ordinary Council meeting for a decision' to read:

"Requires that the removal of angled car parking, including as the result of a trial or as part of a specific project (e.g. New Deal for Cycling) or as part of another project (e.g. a road re-sheet) be presented to Council for decision except:

(a) Projects that will not result in a net loss in angled car parking;
(b) Temporary changes (including closures) to angled car parking that are subject to other approval processes such as road closure permits;
(c) Temporary changes to angled car parking required for emergency management and maintenance reasons;
(d) Changes to angled car parking proposed as part of a planning permit application;
(e) Changes to angled car parking which align to an existing approved planning permit (e.g. a subsequent vehicle crossing permit request) where the removal of crossover was subject to an assessment of whether the associated removal of car parking would accord with Council's adopted traffic and transport related plans and policies;
(f) Proposed changes to angled car parking that Council Officers do not support and would not proceed; and
(g) Any process that requires officers to proceed with local community consultation on street tree planting proposals that impact angled parking before seeking a Council approval."
 4. Refers the update of the Transport Action Plan (TAP) for consideration as part of the 2025/26 budget noting that the second iteration of the TAP will provide Council the opportunity to set its transport priorities and approaches across all modes for 2024 to 2034 with a focus on the 2024-2028 Council term, with a new draft TAP to be placed on exhibition in May/June 2025.
 5. Requests that Officers update the relevant Council internet page informing people wishing to view the Yarra Transport Strategy that a Council resolution supersedes the advice regarding angled parking and outlines a clear process for the removal of these spaces.
 6. Requests that a report be presented to a Councillor workshop in August to outline how Council engages with the community when changes are proposed to parking, current projects already scheduled to continue.
-

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.9. Supporting Local Businesses - Response to Notice of Motion July 2024

Author Simon Osborne – Coordinator Economic Development

Authoriser General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Recognises that the State Government is leading reform work through their Economic Growth Statement, noting that the details and implications are not fully known and that many of the potential reforms require the support of the Victorian Government.
2. Requests that a further report be provided to Council in August 2025 outlining potential changes to the Yarra Planning Scheme aimed at reducing planning permit triggers for businesses and including an analysis of whether changes can be made by Council or need to be made by the State Government (or a combination of both).

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Aston

Seconded: Councillor Ho

That Council:

1. Notes the officer report responding to Notice of Motion No.14 of 2024 resolved by Council at the July 2024 Council meeting.
2. Requests a report of all in progress initiatives related to supporting local businesses; the report data and format to be developed in a Councilor Workshop, completed by no later than 1 May 2025.
3. Requests monthly reports to Council on KPIS for all Permit and Planning Applications submitted by local businesses; the report data and format to be developed in a Councilor Workshop, completed by no later than 1 May 2025.
4. Requests a report on all known and potential opportunities to support local business that Council can implement without requiring State Government changes or approval, to be presented to Council by no later than 1 June 2025.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION (PROCEDURAL)

Moved: Councillor Wade

Seconded: Councillor Jolly

That item 7.9 be adjourned to after the Notice of Motion.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Item 7.9 resumed following the Notice of Motion.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor McKenzie

Bring in the original clause 2:

Requests that a further report be provided to Council in August 2025 outlining potential changes to the Yarra Planning Scheme aimed at reducing planning permit triggers for businesses and including an analysis of whether changes can be made by Council or need to be made by the State Government (or a combination of both).

The amendment was accepted by the mover and seconder and incorporated into the motion.

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor Davies

That Council:

1. Notes the officer report responding to Notice of Motion No.14 of 2024 resolved by Council at the July 2024 Council meeting.
2. Requests a report of all in progress initiatives related to supporting local businesses, the report date and format to be developed in a Councillor Workshop, completed by no later than 1 May 2025.
3. Requests monthly reports to Council on KPIS for all Permit and Planning Applications submitted by local businesses; the report data and format to be developed in a Councillor Workshop, but should include:
 - (a) Number of local businesses;
 - (b) Commercial/business vacancy levels;
 - (c) Number of all new and repeat/renewal Business Permit Applications, and trading-related permits (i.e. footpath trading).

Applications to be categorized by specific activity center, shopping strip location and other trading locations identified by officers, completed by no later than 1 May 2025.

4. Requests a report on all known and potential opportunities to support local business that Council can implement without requiring State Government changes or approval, and an update to be provided on possible Planning Scheme opportunities to be presented to Council by no later than 1 June 2025.

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

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor Wade

Seconded: Councillor Crossland

Requests ~~quarterly~~ monthly reports to Council on KPIS for all Permit and Planning Applications submitted by local businesses; the report data and format to be developed in a Councilor Workshop, but should include:

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Crossland and Councillor Wade

Against: Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison and Councillor Ho

LOST

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Aston

Seconded: Councillor Ho

That Council:

1. Requests that a further report be provided to Council in August 2025 outlining potential changes to the Yarra Planning Scheme aimed at reducing planning permit triggers for businesses and including an analysis of whether changes can be made by Council or need to be made by the State Government (or a combination of both).
2. Notes the officer report responding to Notice of Motion No.14 of 2024 resolved by Council at the July 2024 Council meeting.
3. Requests a report of all in progress initiatives related to supporting local businesses, the report date and format to be developed in a Councilor Workshop, completed by no later than 1 May 2025.
4. Requests monthly reports to Council on KPIS for all Permit and Planning Applications submitted by local businesses; the report data and format to be developed in a Councilor Workshop, but should include:
 - (a) Number of local businesses;
 - (b) Commercial/business vacancy levels;
 - (c) Number of all new and repeat/renewal Business Permit Applications, and trading-related permits (i.e. footpath trading).

Applications to be categorized by specific activity centre, shopping strip location and other trading locations identified by officers, completed by no later than 1 May 2025.

5. Requests a report on all known and potential opportunities to support local business that Council can implement without requiring State Government changes or approval, and an update to be provided on possible Planning Scheme opportunities to be presented to Council by no later than 1 June 2025.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.10. Response to Vic Govt Housing Statement - short stay resolution July 2024

Author Sarah Ernst – Senior Policy Advisor
Authoriser General Manager Community Strengthening

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Advocates to the Victorian Government to enact the changes that will give local Councils the power to consider local options for regulation of short-stay accommodation; and
2. Requests that a report be presented to Council following the announcement of any potential local regulatory options by the Victorian Government, with the report to include an analysis of local applicability and implications, along with recommendations on next steps, including operational feasibility and community engagement.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Wade

Seconded: Councillor Crossland

That Council:

1. Advocate the Victorian Government to enact the changes that will give local Councils the power to consider local options for regulation of short-stay accommodation, including by a letter from the Mayor to the Minister for Consumer Affairs and Local Government, the Hon. Nick Staikos, Minister for Planning, Hon. Sonya Kilkenny and local Members of Parliament.
2. Requests that a report be presented to Council following the announcement of any potential local regulatory options by the Victorian Government, with the report to include an analysis of local applicability and implications, along with recommendations on next steps, including operational feasibility and community engagement.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7.11. Governance Report - February 2025

Author Patrick O'Gorman – Senior Governance Coordinator

Authoriser General Manager Governance, Communications and Customer Service

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. In the exercise of the powers conferred by s 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, resolves that Patryk KROLEWSKI and Stephen MELOURY be appointed and authorised as set out in the instrument at Attachment 1 and 2 with the instrument coming into force immediately upon it being signed by Council's Chief Executive Officer, and remaining in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it.
2. Appoint Kylie Maher as the Audit and Risk Committee Chair for 2025.
3. Endorses the Woi Wurrung word, Dill-be-din, in the naming of the new Atherton Gardens Kindergarten in Fitzroy following permission being provided to Council by the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Jolly

Seconded: Councillor Gomez

That Council:

1. In the exercise of the powers conferred by s 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, resolves that Patryk KROLEWSKI and Stephen MELOURY be appointed and authorised as set out in the instrument at Attachment 1 and 2 with the instrument coming into force immediately upon it being signed by Council's Chief Executive Officer, and remaining in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it.
2. Appoint Kylie Maher as the Audit and Risk Committee Chair for 2025.
3. Endorses the Woi Wurrung word, Dill-be-din, in the naming of the new Atherton Gardens Kindergarten in Fitzroy following permission being provided to Council by the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Notices of Motion

8.1. – Notice of Motion No.1 of 2025 - Citizens Park

Author	Councillor Harrison
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Motion

That Council:

1. Encourage all users of Citizens Park need to share this space and be considerate of others using this space, including:
 - (a) ensuring that other users exit the ground when organised sport is underway (matches and training);
 - (b) sporting clubs adhere to booking times and cancel bookings if bookings are not required; and
 - (c) dog walkers monitor their dogs, clean up after them and ensure that their dog does not dig up the turf.
2. Establishes a Citizens Park working group, including Ward Councillors (Boulevard, Lennox, Melba and Langridge), representatives of Council's Animal Management team, and representatives of stakeholder groups (sporting clubs, the boxing club, personal trainers, dog walkers, Richmond High School, the general public and visitors from the Melbourne Clinic) with no more than 15 community/stakeholder members and with the first meeting to be held by the end of February 2025. The working group will cease on the 30 June 2025.
3. Seek a report to the May Council meeting regarding implementation of the following actions suggested at the public meeting on Saturday 24 January 2025:
 - (a) no alteration to the off-lead status of the oval at Citizens Park;
 - (b) increased enforcement, including dog registrations;
 - (c) Council ensures that dog poo bags are replenished, and toilets are regularly cleaned;
 - (d) Citizens Park be lit until 10.00pm;
 - (e) Council provide real-time data on bookings;
 - (f) Council consider installing a CCTV camera with a live feed so that park users can check when the ground is in use;
 - (g) The development of a protocol around interactions between the sporting clubs and vulnerable park users;
 - (h) Prioritises work on the establishment of additional open spaces that are suitable for multiple uses, as well as improved infrastructure for safer dog-walking areas in existing parks; and

- (i) The establishment of further open space in Richmond, Cremorne and Abbotsford where there has been a significant increase in the population and further population growth is forecast, having regard to the recommendations in Council's Open Space Strategy 2020-2024.
- 4. Refer to the 2025/26 budget process the allocation of additional resources for Citizens Park for:
 - (a) increased enforcement and cleaning;
 - (b) infrastructure for safer dog-walking; and
 - (c) improved turf maintenance.
- 5. Resolves that if this motion is carried it will supersede the resolution at the Council meeting on 26 November 2024 for Item 8.1 part 16 - Citizens Park - *"That a report be presented to the March 2025 Council meeting cycle on the options and costs in relation to the 25/26 budget for the establishment of a safe off lead dog exercise area to accommodate separate dedicated areas for large and small dogs elsewhere from Citizens Park"*.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Harrison

Seconded: Councillor Aston

That Council:

- 1. Encourage all users of Citizens Park need to share this space and be considerate of others using this space, including:
 - (a) ensuring that other users exit the ground when organised sport is underway (matches and training);
 - (b) sporting clubs adhere to booking times and cancel bookings if bookings are not required; and
 - (c) dog walkers monitor their dogs, clean up after them and ensure that their dog does not dig up the turf.
- 2. Establishes a Citizens Park working group, including Ward Councillors (Boulevard, Lennox, Melba and Langridge), representatives of Council's Animal Management team, and representatives of stakeholder groups (sporting clubs, the boxing club, personal trainers, dog walkers, Richmond High School, the general public and visitors from the Melbourne Clinic) with no more than 15 community/stakeholder members and with the first meeting to be held by the end of February 2025. The working group will cease on the 30 June 2025.
- 3. Seek a report to the May Council meeting regarding implementation of the following actions suggested at the public meeting on Saturday 24 January 2025:
 - (a) no alteration to the off-lead status of the oval at Citizens Park;
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 - (c) Council ensures that dog poo bags are replenished, and toilets are regularly cleaned;
 - (d) Citizens Park be lit until 10.00pm;

- (e) Council provide real-time data on bookings;
 - (f) Council consider installing a CCTV camera with a live feed so that park users can check when the ground is in use;
 - (g) The development of a protocol around interactions between the sporting clubs and vulnerable park users;
 - (h) Prioritises work on the establishment of additional open spaces that are suitable for multiple uses, as well as improved infrastructure for safer dog-walking areas in existing parks; and
 - (i) The establishment of further open space in Richmond, Cremorne and Abbotsford where there has been a significant increase in the population and further population growth is forecast, having regard to the recommendations in Council's Open Space Strategy 2020-2024.
4. Refer to the 2025/26 budget process the allocation of additional resources for Citizens Park for:
- (a) increased enforcement and cleaning;
 - (b) infrastructure for safer dog-walking; and
 - (c) improved turf maintenance.
5. Resolves that if this motion is carried it will supersede the resolution at the Council meeting on 26 November 2024 for Item 8.1 part 16 - Citizens Park - *"That a report be presented to the March 2025 Council meeting cycle on the options and costs in relation to the 25/26 budget for the establishment of a safe off lead dog exercise area to accommodate separate dedicated areas for large and small dogs elsewhere from Citizens Park"*.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Aston, Councillor Crossland, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Ho and Councillor Wade

Against: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Petitions and Joint Letters

Nil.

10. Questions without Notice

10.1 – Councillor Harrison - Privacy

Question:

How many complaints have Council received in relation to privacy in the last 12 months?

The Chief Executive Officer took the question on notice.

11. Delegates Reports

Nil.

12. General Business

Nil.

13. Urgent Business

Nil.

14. Confidential Business Reports

Nil.

Conclusion

The meeting concluded at 10:13 pm.

Confirmed on Tuesday 11 March 2025.

Mayor