



Agenda

Ordinary Council Meeting

6:30 pm, Tuesday 12 August 2025

Richmond Town Hall

Council Meetings

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

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

Question Time

Yarra City Council welcomes questions from members of the community.

Asking your question

During Question Time, the Mayor will invite a person wishing to ask a question to come forward to the microphone.

Please:

- state your full name;
- direct your question to the Mayor;
- don't ask questions about matter listed on tonight's agenda;
- don't engage in debate; and
- if speaking on behalf of a group, explain the nature of the group and how you are able to speak on their behalf.

You will be provided a maximum of three minutes to ask your question, but do not need to use all of this time.

You may be asked to provide your contact details for the purpose of any necessary follow-up response to the matter raised.

Comments not allowed

A question may be disallowed by the Chair if the Chair determines that it:

- relates to a matter that is being considered by Council at this meeting;
- relates to something outside the powers of the Council;
- is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable;
- deals with a subject matter already answered;
- is aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or a member of Council staff;
- includes or relate to confidential information; or
- relates to something that is subject to legal proceedings.

Addressing the Council

An opportunity exists to make your views known about a matter that is listed on the agenda for this meeting by addressing the Council directly before a decision is made.

Registration

To address Council, you will need to register by 6.30pm on the day before the meeting. Late registrations cannot be accepted, and you will be unable to address the meeting without registration.

Before each item is considered by the Council, the Mayor will invite everyone who has registered in relation to that item to address the Council. When your turn comes, come forward to the microphone and:

- state your name;
- direct your statement to the Mayor;
- confine your submission to the subject being considered;
- avoid repeating previous submitters;
- don't ask questions or seek comments from Councillors or others; and
- if speaking on behalf of a group, explain the nature of the group and how you are able to speak on their behalf.

You will be provided a maximum of three minutes to speak, but do not need to use all of this time.

Comments not allowed

When you are addressing the meeting, don't make any comments which:

- relate to something other than the matter being considered by the Council;
- are defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable;
- are aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or a member of Council staff;
- include or relate to confidential information; or
- relate to something that is subject to legal proceedings.

Arrangements to ensure our meetings are accessible to the public

Access to the building is available either by the stairs or lift. Seating is provided to watch the meeting, and the room is wheelchair accessible. Accessible toilet facilities are available. Speakers at the meeting are invited to be seated at the table to address the Council, and all participants are amplified via an audio system. Meetings are conducted in English.

If you are unable to participate in this environment, we can make arrangements to accommodate you if sufficient notice is given. Some examples of adjustments are:

- a translator in your language;
- the presence of an Auslan interpreter;
- loan of a portable hearing loop;
- reconfiguring the room to facilitate access; and
- modification of meeting rules to allow you to participate more easily.

Recording and Publication of Meetings

A recording is made of all public Council Meetings and then published on Council's website. By participating in proceedings (including during Question Time or in making a submission regarding an item before Council), you agree to this publication. You should be aware that any private information volunteered by you during your participation in a meeting is subject to recording and publication.

Order of Business

1. Acknowledgement of Country	6
2. Attendance, apologies and requests for leave of absence.....	6
3. Announcements	6
4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest	7
5. Confirmation of Minutes	7
6. Question Time	7
7. Council Business Reports	8
7.1. Elizabeth Street Concept Plans.....	8
7.2. Council Advisory Committees - Appointments.....	63
7.3. Draft Yarra Rainbow Policy	71
7.4. 2024/25 Quarterly Community Report Quarter Four	109
7.5. Proposed Discontinuance of Road abutting 74-76 Rose Street, Fitzroy.....	205
7.6. Governance Report - August 2025	229
7.7. Response to Notice of Motion No. 7 2025: Opposition to Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund Levy	236
8. Notices of Motion.....	241
8.1. Notice of Motion No.10 of 2025 - Council Priorities	241
8.2. Notice of Motion No.11 of 2025 - AFL Football Finals Festival.....	243
8.3. Notice of Motion No.12 of 2025 – State Planning Reforms.....	244
8.4. Notice of Motion No.13 of 2025 - Road Renewals	246
8.5. Notice of Motion No.14 of 2025 - Gleadell Street Market	247
9. Petitions and Joint Letters	248
10. Questions without Notice	248
11. Delegates Reports.....	248
12. General Business	248
13. Urgent Business.....	248
14. Confidential Business Reports.....	248
14.1. Council Advisory Committees - Appointments	248
14.2. C1773 ERP Implementation Partner Tender - Commercial in Confidence	249

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 Andrew Davies
- Cr Kenneth Gomez
- Cr Sharon Harrison
- Cr Meca Ho
- Cr Sophie Wade
- Absent
- Cr Edward Crossland Parental Leave

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
- Rose Barletta Corporate Services (Acting)

Governance

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

3. Announcements

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

4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

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

5. Confirmation of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1 July and Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8 July 2025, be confirmed.

6. Question Time

An opportunity is provided for questions from members of the public.

7. Council Business Reports

7.1. Elizabeth Street Concept Plans

Author Simon Exon – Unit Manager Strategic Transport

Authoriser General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

Executive Summary

In April 2025, Council resolved to redesign the protected bike lanes on Elizabeth Street in Richmond North. Concept designs have now been produced in response to this resolution.

These plans require Council approval before detailed design work can commence and final State Government approvals can be obtained to enable the final detailed design to be delivered.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Approves the baseline concept design plan that incorporates all high and medium-risk recommendations including sightline requirements from the Road Safety Audit.
2. Approves all optional additional street features identified in the report in the scope, that will increase tree canopy, reduce vehicle speeds on side street approaches, and improve bike facilities on side street approaches acknowledging that additional budget allocation is likely to be required.
3. Requests that officers engage a consultant to develop detailed design plans and traffic signal plans for submission to State Government for final review and approval.
4. Requests that officers use the detailed design plans to confirm final cost estimates for delivery of the bike lanes and traffic signal modifications.
5. Requests that officers inform the community when this project is scheduled for delivery.
6. Requests that officers monitor the street conditions once the final design is installed.

History and background

1. The Elizabeth Street protected bike lanes were installed in July 2020, as a 12-month trial following a Council resolution in December 2019. The trial has subsequently been extended via various Council resolutions.

2. At the April 2025 Council meeting, it was resolved to narrow the protected bike lanes to create additional space for the reinstatement of on street parking on the northern side of Elizabeth Street. A copy of the resolution is provided in **Attachment 1**.

Discussion

3. The Road Management Act requires State Government approval for changes on the local road network that are classed as 'Major Traffic Control' (MTC) items listed in schedule 1 (of the Act). This includes any changes to the road layout within 20 metres of an intersection.
 4. The redesign of Elizabeth Street involves changes to the road layout close to intersections, which requires authorisation of the State Government's Head, Transport for Victoria (HTFV).
 5. Council sought the informal preliminary views of the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) on the draft concept plans. State Government provided the following summarised comments.
 - (a) A general statement acknowledging the Council decision, but not being supportive of the proposed narrowing of the protected bike lanes;
 - (b) 1 parking space within 20 metres of a MTC item needs to be removed for visibility and safety reasons; and
 - (c) Minor design modifications elsewhere on the street were flagged including cyclist access (turning in and out from side streets).
 6. Suggestions were made elsewhere on the street beyond 20 metres of a MTC to improve safety that would result in additional parking being removed if implemented.
 7. A Road Safety Audit (RSA) was commissioned by Council in June 2025, which was an independent assessment of the draft concept design and is standard practice. The RSA was completed in line with the procedures set out in the Austroads Guide to Road Safety Part 6: Road Safety Audits (2022). A copy of the RSA is provided at **Attachment 2**.
 8. A key objective of the April 2025 Council resolution was to reinstall as much car parking as possible and retain the protected bike lanes. The concept plans submitted to the State Government for a preliminary view showed the reinstatement of a significant amount of car parking.
 9. If the various changes suggested by both external parties (DTP and RSA) were all incorporated, it is anticipated that between 13 to 25 parking bays would be removed from the concept design submitted to the State Government for initial comment primarily to improve visibility.
 10. When the trial was implemented in 2020, 72 bays were removed primarily on the northern side of Elizabeth Street (in the eastbound direction of travel). The requirement to remove parking on the northern side of Elizabeth Street to accommodate protected bike lanes and meet compliance guidelines was first flagged in the 2010 Yarra Bike Strategy.
 11. Officers have assessed the requirements and suggestions by DTP and the RSA and have incorporated the changes to the concept plan. Additionally, potential Council liabilities have also been assessed including possible incidents to a person or property as a result of the proposed changes to Elizabeth Street.
-

12. A formal process is required to obtain approvals from the DTP. Council needs to be aware of the key risks when considering this report.
13. Officers are clear that any State Government comments outside the designated areas for crossings or signalised intersections (20 meters either side), are advice or recommendations, rather than binding legal requirements. The preliminary State Government advice requests that 1 parking bay is removed in the vicinity of an intersection.
14. Should Council not seek the relevant approvals and/or not adhere to mandatory requirements, then State could seek an injunction against Council requiring it to cease any unlawful installation of works or to remove any bays or infrastructure that have already been unlawfully installed. Any dispute arising under this Act between two or more road authorities would be determined by the relevant Minister or a nominee and is likely to have reputational and relationship consequences for Council.
15. The RSA has recommended 12 parking spaces deemed a 'high' risk be removed along the street as they block driver sightlines. A further 12 parking spaces have been identified as a 'medium' risk. Hence up to 25 parking bays would need to be removed from the initial concept plans originally submitted to State to consider State and RSA high to medium risk comments. Not implementing all these recommendations would be a significant risk for Council on this project. It may increase Council's exposure to liability.
16. The concept design plan provided as **Attachment 3** incorporates the Council resolution regarding the key design features of the street and considers input from the State Government and the RSA. Four options have been identified, which are oriented around maximising car parking provision and balancing this against the potential risk to Council.
17. **Option 1** maximises parking provision by only removing one car parking space in line with State Government at the intersections.
18. **Option 2** does the same and adds some additional street features.

These additional features can be added to Options 3 and 4 also. These additional features are independent of each other, hence all could be added or some added at Council's direction. The street features are summarised, as shown on the plans in **Attachment 3**, as follows:

- (a) Additional speed cushions on some side streets to calm traffic;
- (b) A new contraflow bike lane on Jonas Street, which does not require removal of any car parking or traffic lanes;
- (c) A short extension of the westbound protected bike lane at the western end of the street before the Hoddle Street intersection. This will relocate 2 existing parking bays slightly and potentially add 1 additional parking bay on the southern side of Elizabeth Street. Two existing small trees will be removed from the roadway and replaced with 3 new trees planted on the adjacent footpath. A plan of this extension is provided in **Attachment 4**; and,
- (d) Provision of up to 14 new trees on the footpath along the street pending community consultation and underground services checks. The locations of these trees have been provided by Council's Landscape Architecture team. Consultation would be undertaken as per the tree policy.

19. This option also seeks to make changes to parking restrictions on and around Elizabeth Street to optimise the use of these spaces. The aim is to ensure that the reinstatement of these spaces meets the needs of the community.
20. **Option 3** reduces the maximum parking provision by 12 high-risk spaces and 12 medium-risk spaces. It responds to the minimum requirements in the context of State Government and high-risk visibility splay items in the RSA.
21. **Option 4** responds to wider requirements from the State Government and the RSA and would require the removal of a further 12 medium-risk parking spaces (a total of 25 spaces).
22. Low-risk items from the RSA have not been included in any option, however they will be monitored once the endorsed redesign option is delivered. Some of these items, such as modifications to speed humps in the bike lanes, can be addressed as part of a future road re-sheet, which is required given the condition of the road. Major building development on Elizabeth Street is expected in relation to the North Richmond Housing Estate project, which will impact the street through future construction traffic and a requirement for the State to contribute to the program for the re-sheet of Elizabeth Street.
23. The concept plan shows parking impacted by the various scenarios as follows:
 - (a) Cars highlighted in red occupy parking spaces that would be removed under option 3 (12 spaces) which addresses 'high risk' visibility issues;
 - (b) Cars highlighted in yellow occupy parking spaces that would be removed under option 4 (an additional 12 spaces) addressing high and medium risk visibility issues; and
 - (c) The car highlighted in blue is an additional parking space that could be provided, should Council extend the westbound protected bike lane slightly near Hoddle Street as an optional extra.
24. Noting the status of RSA comments as advice, the degree to which any recommendation from a RSA is implemented depends on various factors relating to risk, the cost of remediation versus the benefit and other practical considerations.
25. The table below provides a summary of the options:

Option	Total Car Parking Bays	Hoddle Bike Lane Extension	Footpath Trees	Speed Cushions	Contraflow Bike Lane & Bike-friendly Grated Lid	Update Parking Restrictions
1 – Maximum car parking bays as per Council resolution with no optional extras	147	No	0	0	0	No
2 – Maximum car parking bays with optional extras	148	Yes	Up to 14	3	1	Yes

3 – Remove high-risk car parking bays with or without optional extras	136	Yes	Up to 14	3	1	Yes
4 – Remove high- and medium-risk car parking bays with or without optional extras	124	Yes	Up to 14	3	1	Yes

26. In addition to the changes to car parking, the concept design plan consists of:
- (a) Narrowed protected bike lanes;
 - (b) Replacement of the existing dilapidated bollards with new ones; and,
 - (c) Removal and updating of road line marking, bike symbols and green surface treatments.

Options

27. Four options have been identified for Council's consideration as follows:

Option 1 – Approval of baseline concept design plan as per Council's resolution (by meeting the minimum safety requirements from external feedback) with no optional extras.

28. This option would result in:
- (a) narrowed protected bike lanes; and
 - (b) the provision of 147 car parking spaces on Elizabeth Street.

NOT RECOMMENDED

Option 2 – Approval of baseline concept design plan with the maximum amount of parking returned (by meeting the minimum safety requirements from external feedback) and delivering optional additional street features.

29. This option would result in:
- (a) narrowed protected bike lanes;
 - (b) the provision of 148 car parking spaces on Elizabeth Street;
 - (c) the installation of footpath trees, speed cushions on some side streets, a contraflow bike lane on Jonas Street, a bike-friendly weaved grated lid, and a short extension of the westbound protected bike lane near Hoddle Street; and,
 - (d) an update of parking restrictions on and around Elizabeth Street.

NOT RECOMMENDED

Option 3 – Approval of baseline concept design plan with the amount of car parking returned reflecting all high-risk recommendations from the RSA, noting that optional additional street features could be added to this option.

30. This option would result in:

- (a) narrowed protected bike lanes;
- (b) the provision of 136 car parking spaces on Elizabeth Street;
- (c) installation of footpath trees, speed cushions on some side streets, a contraflow bike lane on Jonas Street, a bike-friendly weaved grated lid, and a short extension of the westbound protected bike lane near Hoddle Street; and,
- (d) an update of parking restrictions on and around Elizabeth Street.

NOT RECOMMENDED

Option 4 – Approval of baseline concept design plan with the amount of car parking returned reflecting all high- and medium-risk recommendations from the RSA, noting that optional additional street features could be added to this option.

31. This option would result in:
- (a) narrowed protected bike lanes;
 - (b) the provision of 124 car parking spaces on Elizabeth Street;
 - (c) installation of footpath trees, speed cushions on some side streets, a contraflow bike lane on Jonas Street, a bike-friendly weaved grated lid, and a short extension of the westbound protected bike lane near Hoddle Street; and,
 - (d) An update of parking restrictions on and around Elizabeth Street.

RECOMMENDED**Next Steps**

32. Once a concept design plan has been endorsed by Council, officers will engage a consultant to undertake a detailed design plan and traffic signal plans for formal submission to the State Government to review and approve as per the requirements of the Road Management Act. Once approvals have been secured, a contractor will be engaged to deliver the works as quickly as possible.

Community and stakeholder engagement

33. Extensive community engagement and feedback has occurred on Elizabeth Street since the pilot trial of protected bike lanes commenced in 2020. There were over 7,000 touch points between the community and Council.

Strategic Analysis

Alignment to Council Plan

Strategic Objective one - Living in the City

Strategy 1. Make our streets and shopping strips safer and more beautiful.

Climate emergency

34. The Climate Emergency Plan outlines the targets for increasing active transport as stated in the Yarra Transport Strategy and Transport Action Plan.

Community and social implications

35. Community and social implications were considered when the decision was made to change the layout of Elizabeth Street. There are no additional community and social implications associated specifically with approving a concept design reflecting a Council decision.

Economic development implications

36. Not applicable

Human rights and gender equality implications

37. Human rights and gender equity implications were considered when the decision was made to change the layout of Elizabeth Street. There are no additional human rights and gender equity implications associated specifically with approving a concept design plan reflecting a Council decision.

Finance and Resource Impacts and Interdependencies

38. An allocation of \$200k is provided in the 2025/26 budget for road design changes to Elizabeth Street. Initial estimates indicate that this will be sufficient for the scope of works proposed in Option 1. All the optional additional street works proposed in Options 2, 3 and 4 are likely to require additional funding. This will be quantified during the detailed design process and reported to Council.

Legal and Legislative obligations

Conflict of interest disclosure

39. Section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of interest in a matter to which the advice relates.
40. The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Risks Analysis

41. The risks to all road users of narrowing the protected bike lanes were detailed in the previous report, which considered various design options for the street in response to the November 2024 Notice of Motion. The RSA also details risks, as discussed earlier in this report, and detailed in **Attachment 2**.

Implementation Strategy

Timeline

42. Following Council's endorsement of the preferred option, detailed design work will be progressed, including further State Government approvals of the detailed designs and traffic signal plans.
43. Accurate timeframes for this project will depend on various factors beyond the direct control of Council such as State Government response times and contractor availability.

Officers will prioritise and deliver the works as quickly as possible. As a guide, officers anticipate that the works can be delivered in late Q3 or Q4 FY26. Officers will provide updates to Council on progress.

Communication

44. A notice of works will be issued to nearby residents as per the requirements of the Community Engagement Plan in due course.

Report attachments

1. 7.1.1 Council Resolution
2. 7.1.2 Road Safety Audit - Elizabeth Street, Richmond
3. 7.1.3 Elizabeth Street Narrowed Protected Bike Lanes Concept Design FINAL July 2025
4. 7.1.4 Hoddle Street Extension
5. CONFIDENTIAL -7.1.5 DTP Comments
6. CONFIDENTIAL -7.1.6 Letter of Advice to Yarra CC - Road works authorisation - July 2025

Two attachments contain confidential information for the purposes of section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 for the following reason:

- (g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—relates to trade secrets; or if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

Council Resolution

On 8 April 2025 Council resolved the following:

Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - 8 April 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Jolly

Seconded: Councillor Ho

Council believes that we should keep protected bike lanes on both sides of Elizabeth St, North Richmond and also meet the needs of local residents for some parking on the north side of the street.

Our roads, like all our open spaces, need to be better shared, especially with a rapid population increase expected.

That is why this Council will increase capital works expenditure this year to prepare our area for the future.

Council notes that this boost includes a doubling in bike infrastructure investment from \$560,000 last year to \$1,160,000 in the upcoming budget to be released later this month.

This will see action on bike lanes in Langridge St, Gipps St, Coppin St, Linear Park, Wellington St, on the corner of Johnston/Victoria Sts, plus new bike parking facilities and bike repair stations.

1. Between Lennox and Hoddle St, the new widths will be as follows:

- o Bike lane 1.5 meters
- o Buffer 0.5 meters
- o Parking 2.1 meters
- o Traffic lane 2.85 meters

2. Between Lennox and Church St, the new widths will be as follows:

- o Bike lane 1.7 meters
- o Buffer 0.6 meters
- o Parking 2.1 meters
- o Traffic lane 3 meters

This will be implemented as soon as possible.

Note that on all of Elizabeth St, the bike lanes will be wider than at Albert St, East Melbourne, where for years it has been 1.43m on the north side travelling east.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison and Councillor Ho

Against: Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Crossland and Councillor Wade

CARRIED

On 22 April 2025 this resolution was amended to:

Extraordinary Council Meeting Minutes - 22 April 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Jolly

Seconded: Councillor Ho

That Council:

1. Notes the resolution of Council on 8 April 2025 (Item 7.1 Elizabeth Street Bike Lane Trial Update) and further resolves:
 - (a) To immediately commence the preparation of final designs for the construction of permanent protected bike lanes on both sides of Elizabeth Street North Richmond for Council approval as soon as possible to show:
 - (i) Between Lennox and Hoddle St, the new widths will be as follows:
 - o Bike lane 1.5 meters
 - o Buffer 0.5 meters
 - o Parking 2.1 meters
 - o Traffic lane 2.85 meters
 - (ii) Between Lennox and Church St, the new widths will be as follows:
 - o Bike lane 1.7 meters
 - o Buffer 0.6 meters
 - o Parking 2.1 meters
 - o Traffic lane 3 meters
 - (iii) The reinstatement of as many car parking spaces as possible on both sides of Elizabeth Street and parking management to be comparable to pre-trial conditions; and
 - (iv) The use of similar infrastructure to existing trial infrastructure i.e. bollards rather than concrete kerbing to reduce costs and speed up delivery;
 - (b) Notes that tree planting in the corridor and any intersection treatment changes at Shelley Street are not included in the project scope;
 - (c) To retain the existing Elizabeth Street bike lane trial infrastructure in situ until permanent treatment designs are resolved as noted in Point (a) above;
 - (d) Following Council approval of the final permanent designs, seeks urgent approval by the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) to replace the temporary Elizabeth Street bike lane infrastructure currently in place with protected bike lanes as described in point 1 (a) installed on a permanent basis;
 - (e) Following receipt of DTP consent, commence construction works for the construction of the permanent protected bike lanes on both sides of Elizabeth Street North Richmond as described in Point 1 (a) as soon as possible;
 - (f) Notes the \$200,000 2025/26 budget allocation for Elizabeth Street and receives a further report from Officers outlining the construction costs including road sheeting when the final designs are resolved (noting the intended use of similar infrastructure to existing i.e. bollards rather than concrete kerbing to reduce costs); and
 - (g) Maintains Elizabeth Street using patch ups in the interim.

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillor Jolly, Councillor Aston, Councillor Davies, Councillor Gomez, Councillor Harrison and Councillor Ho

Against: Councillor McKenzie, Councillor Crossland and Councillor Wade

CARRIED



Preliminary design Road Safety Audit

Elizabeth Street, Richmond

Project Number 241114

Final Report 2/07/2025

Client Yarra City Council



Document control record

Document prepared by:

Trafficworks Pty Ltd

ABN 59 125 488 977

1st Floor 132 Upper Heidelberg Rd Ivanhoe Vic 3079

PO Box 417 Ivanhoe Vic 3079

Ph (03) 9490 5900

www.trafficworks.com.au

Disclaimer

The information contained in this document is intended to be received, used and relied upon by the named addressee or client only for the purpose for which it has been prepared. Trafficworks Pty Ltd does not warrant the accuracy or relevance of the information, including by implication, contained in this document if it is used or relied upon by any person other than the named addressee or client. Copying, reproduction including by electronic means, unauthorised use or disclosure of this document is prohibited except with the express written authorisation of Trafficworks Pty Ltd.

Document control

Report title	Elizabeth Street, Richmond
Project number	241114
Client	Yarra City Council
Client contact	Peter

Revision	Date issued	Revision details / status	Prepared by	Authorised by
Final	30/06/2025	Final	Aaron Wu	Bernard Chan
Final 2	2/07/2025	Revised final	Aaron Wu	Bernard Chan

241114 Elizabeth Street, Richmond – Preliminary design Road Safety Audit
Final 2/07/2025



Table of Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Road safety audit (RSA) overview	2
2.1	Risk ratings	3
2.2	Safe System approach	4
2.3	Categories for infrastructure recommendations	5
2.4	Supporting information used in the audit	5
3	Site Description	6
3.1	Existing conditions	6
3.2	Proposed conditions	6
4	Findings and recommendations	7
4.1	Safe Intersection Sight Distance	7
4.2	Safe Intersection Sight Distance	8
4.3	Findings and recommendations table	9
5	Conclusion	19

Appendix 1 – Severity guidance sheet

Appendix 2 – Likelihood / severity risk matrix

Appendix 3 – High and medium risk rated intersections and driveways



1 Introduction

Yarra City Council engaged Trafficworks to undertake a Preliminary design road safety audit (RSA) of the proposed changes along **Elizabeth Street, Richmond**.

We conducted this RSA in line with the procedures set out in the Austroads Guide to Road Safety Part 6: Road Safety Audits (2022). For more information, see section 2, Road Safety Audit (RSA) overview.

Both the site and the supporting documentation were reviewed to identify issues that impact road user safety – for more information, see section:

- Supporting information used in the audit - section 2.4
- Site Description - section 3.

Our findings and recommendations are presented in section 4.

Note that the auditor cannot guarantee every issue that impacts road user safety has been identified, i.e., while the adoption of the audit recommendations will improve the site's level of safety, it will not eliminate all road user safety risks.



2 Road safety audit (RSA) overview

The audit was conducted by:

Aaron Wu [BEng (Civil)(Hons)]

Senior Road Safety Auditor

and

Bernard Chan [BEng (Civil) (Hons), MIEAust, CPEng, RPEng (Civil)]

Senior Road Safety Auditor

The audit included an inspection of the site during the:

— Afternoon of 26/06/2025

— Evening of 26/06/2025

The conditions during the daytime inspection were fine and sunny and at night, the conditions were clear and calm.



2.1 Risk ratings

The findings of this audit have been assigned a risk rating based on the likelihood of a crash occurring, together with the potential severity of that crash. For more information about:

- crash severity – see Appendix 1
- the likelihood/severity risk matrix, see Appendix 2.

The risk ratings adopted for this audit are as follows:

- Extreme – must be corrected regardless of cost
- High – should be corrected or the risk significantly reduced, even if the treatment cost is high
- Medium – should be corrected or the risk significantly reduced, if the treatment cost is moderate, but not high
- Low – should be corrected or the risk reduced if the treatment cost is low
- Negligible – no action required.

Trafficworks also denotes a risk rating of 'Note only' for:

- drafting errors, omissions and issues that are outside the scope of works
- items within the scope of works that do not represent a road safety risk.



2.2 Safe System approach

The Department of Transport and Planning and Austroads have formally adopted the Safe System approach. The basic principles of the Safe System approach are:

- Humans are fallible, and will inevitably make mistakes when driving, riding, or walking.
- Despite this, road trauma should not be accepted as inevitable. No one should be killed or seriously injured on our roads.
- To prevent serious trauma, the road system must be forgiving, so that the forces of collisions do not exceed the limits that the human body can tolerate.

Therefore, as far as is practically possible, infrastructure should be designed, and travel speeds managed, so that crash impact speeds are below the thresholds outlined in Appendixes 1 and 2.

Each road safety issue has been assessed based on:

- its kinetic energy transfer
- the likelihood of a serious injury or fatality occurring assessed against the thresholds outlined in Appendixes 1 and 2.

Table 1 shows the definitions adopted for this audit.

Table 1: Definition of Safe System energy transfer

Classification	Definition
Above tolerance	The impact angles or the impact speeds are above the Safe System crash outcome threshold, and the chances of surviving a crash are low.
Below tolerance	The impact angles or the impact speeds are below the Safe System crash outcome threshold.
Not applicable	The crash is likely to result in only property damage or trivial injury.



2.3 Categories for infrastructure recommendations

Infrastructure recommendations are classified into categories as outlined within the *AP-R509-16 Austroads Safe System Assessment Framework and VicRoads' Safe System Assessment Guidelines (April 2019)*. The categories are:

- Primary treatments: Solutions that have potential to eliminate or come close to eliminating the occurrence of fatal and serious injury (FSI) crashes.
- Supporting treatments: Solutions that can reduce the risk of FSI crashes, but not to the extent of a primary treatment. When applied to an existing road environment, these treatments may improve the ability for a primary treatment to be implemented in the future.
- Other treatments: Design treatments and management considerations that improve the overall level of safety, but do not eliminate the potential of FSI crashes. When applied to an existing road environment, these treatments do not change the ability for a primary treatment to be installed in the future.

2.4 Supporting information used in the audit

The following plans were used when conducting the audit:

- 'Elizabeth Street, Richmond North – narrowed protected bike lanes,' prepared by Yarra City Council, sheets 1 to 15, revision 0, dated June 2025

TRAFFICWORKS™

3 Site Description

3.1 Existing conditions

Elizabeth Street is classified as a 'local' road in the City of Yarra Road Register. It provides connection between Church Street to the east and Hoddle Street to the west. The street is a two-way two-lane undivided road with protected bike lanes on both sides. Car parking bays are provided on the south side and are situated between the bike lane and traffic lane.

A posted speed limit of 40 km/h applies.

Figure 1 shows the intersection and the surrounding road network.

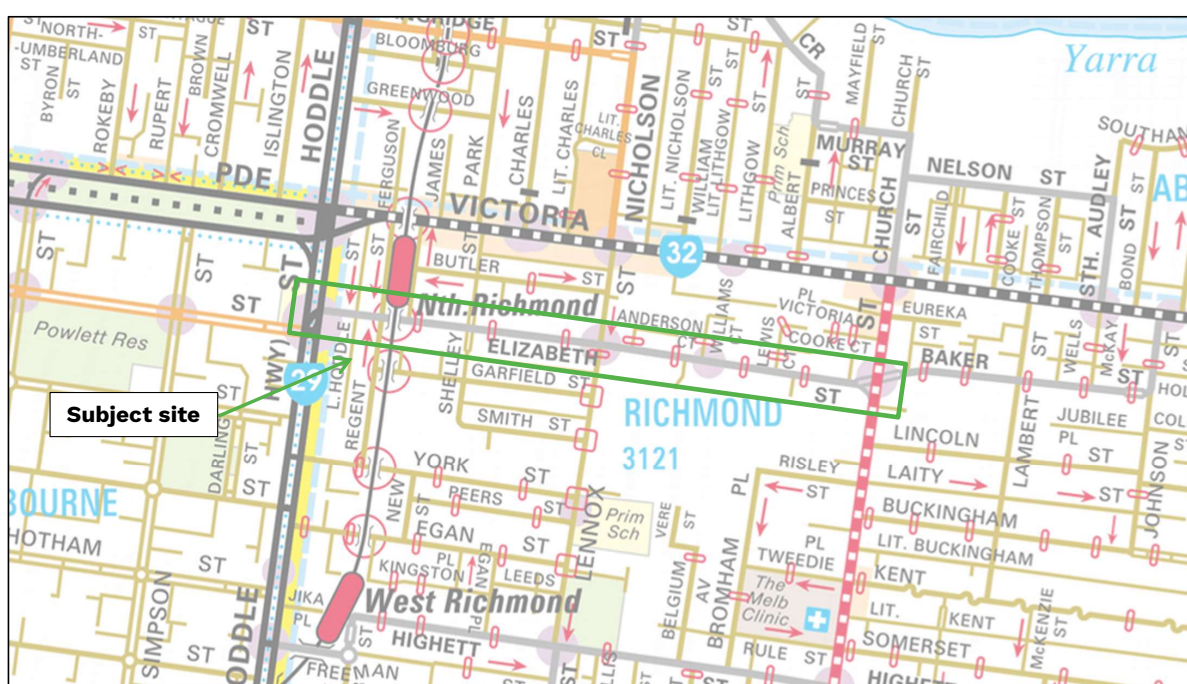


Figure 1: Location plan (reproduced with permission from Melway Publishing Pty Ltd)

3.2 Proposed conditions

The key proposed works include the following:

- narrowing of traffic and bike lanes
- provision for car parking on the north side of the road
- additional car parking spaces on the south side of the road.



4 Findings and recommendations'

There are findings in this audit which relate to sight lines at intersections and driveways. The assessment of sight lines has been undertaken in reference to relevant standards, as detailed in the sections below.

4.1 Safe Intersection Sight Distance

Section 3.2.2 in Austroads Guide to Road Design Part 4A (AGRD4A) details the Safe Intersection Sight Distance (SISD) requirements. It describes SISD as:

- '...the minimum sight distance which should be provided on the major road at any intersection...
- It provides sufficient distance for a driver of a vehicle on the major road to observe a vehicle on a minor road approach moving into a collision situation (e.g. in the worst case, stalling across the traffic lanes), and to decelerate to a stop before reaching the collision point...
- provides sufficient distance for a vehicle to cross the non-terminating movement on two-lane two-way roads...

An illustration of SISD is shown in Figure 2.

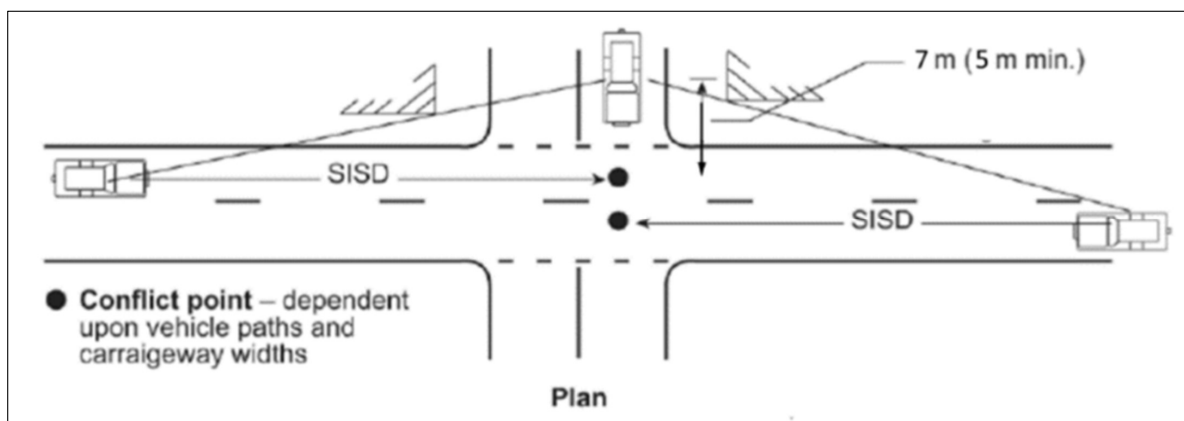


Figure 2: Illustration of SISD (Figure 3.2 in AGRD4A)

The SISD requirements for various design speeds are summarised in Table 2, when adopting the following parameters:

- h_1 (driver eye height) = 1.1 m
- h_2 (object height) = 1.25 m
- d (coefficient of deceleration) = 0.36
- a (longitudinal grade in %) = 0.0 (assumed road grades)
- observation time = 3 seconds



— R_t (reaction time) = 2.5 seconds.

Table 2: SISD requirements for various design speeds

Design speed (km/h)	SISD requirement (m)
20	32
30	52
40	73
50	97

To calculate the SISD requirement at intersections with other parameters, refer to AGRD4A.

4.2 Entering Sight Distance

Section 3.2.4 in AS/NZS 2890.1 Parking Facilities – Part 1: Off-street car parking details the entering sight distance (ESD) criteria for a driver exiting an access driveway to traffic on the frontage road. It defines ESD as:

‘Unsignalised access driveways shall be located so that the intersection sight distance along the frontage road available to drivers leaving the car park or domestic driveway is at least that shown in Figure 3.2.’

The ESD requirements are shown below.

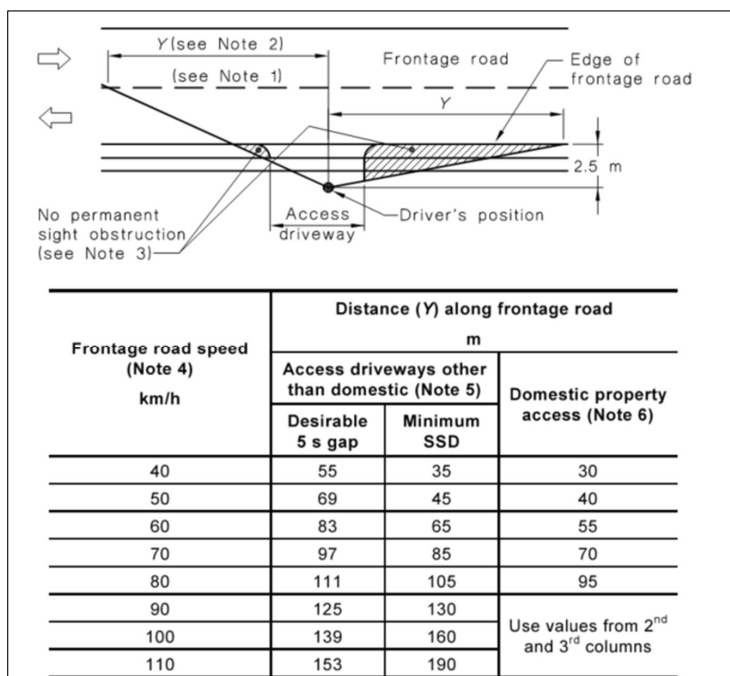


Figure 3: ESD requirements (Figure 3.2 in AS/NZ 2890.1)



4.3 Findings and recommendations table

Table 3 outlines the findings and recommendations of this audit, noting the columns to the right of the table will be completed by the client after receiving and reviewing this report.

RSAs are a formal process and the client is required to respond to the audit's findings and recommendations in writing. A client is under no obligation to accept all of the audit findings and recommendations and should consider these in conjunction with all other project considerations. If recommendations are not accepted by the client, then reasons should be included within the written response.

It is not the role of the auditor to approve the client's response to the audit.



Table 3: Audit findings and recommendations

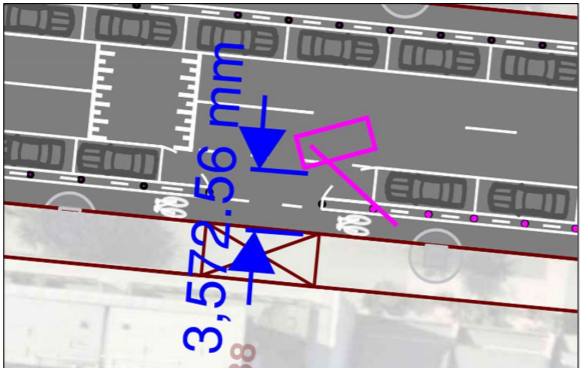
No	Audit findings	Audit recommendations (P) = Primary (S) = Supporting (O) = Other	Risk rating / Safe system energy	Client response	
				Accept: Yes/No	Reasons/ Comments
1. General issues					
1.1.	<p>Additional car parking spaces are proposed on both sides of Elizabeth Street, in between the bike and traffic lane. Some parking spaces on the south side will be shifted closer to intersections and driveways.</p> <p>The proposal will reduce sightlines from side roads and driveways to oncoming Elizabeth Street traffic. The proposal will also restrict sight lines between Elizabeth Street motorist turning into side roads to oncoming cyclists in the bike lanes.</p> <p>The proposed provision of parking will create a high risk of an intersection and/or cyclist crashes at the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Regent Street north and south legsShelley Street north legLewis Court (provides connection to underground car park)driveways to 36, 63, 87, 106, and 110 Elizabeth Street. <p>These locations have been rated as a high risk based on the significant sightlines deficiency, high traffic volume, and operating speeds on Elizabeth Street.</p> <p>Lewis Court provides access to an underground car park and driveways to 106 and 110 Elizabeth Street provide access to multi-storey car parks.</p> <p>For the intersections and driveways risk rated as ‘high’ and ‘medium’ in findings 1.1 and 1.2, refer to Appendix 3.</p> <p>Examples of issues described above are shown in the images on the next page.</p>	<p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">reduce vehicle operating speeds on Elizabeth Street near the conflict points (e.g. 30 km/h speed limit reduction or additional traffic calming) (S)reduce the amount of additional car parking to achieve the sight distance requirements outlined in Sections 4.1 and 4.2 (S)	<p>Likelihood: Possible</p> <p>Severity: Serious</p> <p>Risk rating: HIGH</p> <p>Safe system energy: Above tolerance</p>		



No	Audit findings	Audit recommendations (P) = Primary (S) = Supporting (O) = Other	Risk rating / Safe system energy	Client response	
				Accept: Yes/No	Reasons/ Comments



Parked cars restrict sight lines to oncoming Elizabeth Street and Lewis Court traffic



Parked cars restrict sight lines between a vehicle turning left into a private driveway and oncoming cyclists




Existing tree and proposed parking will form a wall of visual obstructions for motorists turning out of Shelley Street north leg




No	Audit findings	Audit recommendations (P) = Primary (S) = Supporting (O) = Other	Risk rating / Safe system energy	Client response	
				Accept: Yes/No	Reasons/ Comments
1.2.	<p>As per the finding 1.1, the proposal will increase risk of an intersection and cyclist crashes.</p> <p>Based on the estimated sightlines deficiencies, traffic volume, and operating speeds, the following locations risk rated as medium:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">— Little Hoddle Street south leg— Jonas Street— Anderson Court— Williams Court— Driveways to 53, 65, 67, and 77 Elizabeth Street <p>For the intersections and driveways risk rated as ‘high’ and ‘medium’ in findings 1.1 and 1.2, refer to Appendix 3.</p>	<p>Refer to the recommendations to finding 1.1.</p>	<p>Likelihood: Rare</p> <p>Severity: Serious</p> <p>Risk rating: MEDIUM</p> <p>Safe system energy: Above tolerance</p>		
1.3.	<p>Due to the sight line deficiencies identified in finding 1.1, vehicles exiting side road and driveways to Elizabeth Street are more likely to encroach onto the bike lanes for better vision of oncoming traffic.</p> <p>There is a risk of motorists crashing into cyclists in the bike lane, as they attempt to view oncoming Elizabeth Street traffic.</p>	<p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">— reduce the amount of additional car parking to achieve the sight distance requirements outlined in Sections 4.1 and 4.2 (S)	<p>Likelihood: Rare</p> <p>Severity: Serious</p> <p>Risk rating: MEDIUM</p> <p>Safe system energy: Above tolerance</p>		



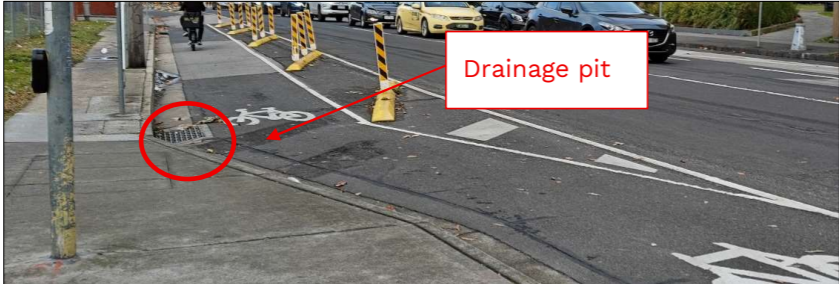





No	Audit findings	Audit recommendations (P) = Primary (S) = Supporting (O) = Other	Risk rating / Safe system energy	Client response	
				Accept: Yes/No	Reasons/ Comments
1.4.	<p>On sheet 2, comment 4 states ‘retain all existing flat top speed humps.’ It is assumed that the depiction of flat top speed humps being modified to only extend across the traffic lanes is a drafting error.</p> <p>Cyclists were observed to ride over the flat sections of the top of the speed humps. The proposed narrowing of bike lanes will force cyclists to ride along the side ramps of the road humps, which fall towards the kerbs. This may cause cyclists to fall off their bikes.</p> 	Reconstruct the road humps to only extend across the traffic lane and parking bays. (P)	Likelihood: Rare Severity: Moderate Risk rating: LOW Safe system energy: Below tolerance		



No	Audit findings	Audit recommendations (P) = Primary (S) = Supporting (O) = Other	Risk rating / Safe system energy	Client response	
				Accept: Yes/No	Reasons/ Comments
1.5.	<p>A 1.8 m wide contra-flow bike lane is proposed on the east side of Jonas Street. The existing pavement on the east side of Jonas Street is uneven. Depressions in the pavement have resulted in water pooling. The effective width of the bike lane, excluding the kerb channel and the uneven pavement surface, will be approximately 1.2 m</p> <p>There is a risk of cyclists destabilising, falling off their bikes, and are hit by a vehicle, or cyclists riding in the west side of the bike lane to avoid the uneven surface and are clipped by oncoming vehicles.</p> 	<p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">— resurface the pavement (S)— include a buffer between the bike and traffic lane or widen the bike lane (S)	<p>Likelihood: Rare</p> <p>Severity: Moderate</p> <p>Risk rating: LOW</p> <p>Safe system energy: Above tolerance</p>		
1.6.	<p>The bike lanes are proposed to be narrowed. It is assumed from the concept design the proposed 1.5 m / 1.7 m wide bike lanes include the kerb channel.</p> <p>During the inspection, water was pooling due to rain from the previous night, with leaves and debris collected in the channel.</p> <p>There are drainage grates adjacent to the channel. Cyclists were observed shying away from the grates. The proposed narrowed bike lane and bollards will force cyclists to ride over the uneven surfaces</p> <p>There is an increased risk of cyclists destabilising and falling off their bikes.</p> <p>Examples are shown on the pages below.</p>	<p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">— Provide wider bike lanes where the effective width is narrowed (e.g. adjacent to drains) (S)— Remove drainage pits within the bike lane width (P)— conduct regular sweeping to ensure channels are clear of debris— Maintain pavement (S)	<p>Likelihood: Rare</p> <p>Severity: Moderate</p> <p>Risk rating: LOW</p> <p>Safe system energy: Below tolerance</p>		



No	Audit findings	Audit recommendations (P) = Primary (S) = Supporting (O) = Other	Risk rating / Safe system energy	Client response	
				Accept: Yes/No	Reasons/ Comments
					
	<p>Longitudinal drainage pit and uneven surface from saw cutting near 43 Elizabeth Street</p>				
					
	<p>Leaves building up in bike lane on the north side of Elizabeth Street, east of Shelley Street (a car is parked in the bike lane)</p>				
					
	<p>Bike lane will be narrowed at the lateral shift on the north side of Elizabeth Street, east of Lennox Street. There is also a drainage pit</p>				
					
	<p>Water pooling in channels on the north side of Elizabeth Street, east of Lennox Street</p>				
					
	<p>Cracked pavement outside Williams Court</p>				
					
	<p>Drainage grades at Lewis Court</p>				



No	Audit findings	Audit recommendations (P) = Primary (S) = Supporting (O) = Other	Risk rating / Safe system energy	Client response	
				Accept: Yes/No	Reasons/ Comments





Uneven pavement on south side of Elizabeth Street, west of Church Street



Drainage pits on south side of Elizabeht Street, opposite Lewis Court



No	Audit findings	Audit recommendations (P) = Primary (S) = Supporting (O) = Other	Risk rating / Safe system energy	Client response	
				Accept: Yes/No	Reasons/ Comments
1.7.	<p>The traffic lanes are proposed to be narrowed and will be located adjacent to car parking bays on both sides of the road.</p> <p>There is increased risk of motorists crashing into parked vehicles. There is also increased risk of crashes involving vehicles manoeuvring into and out of parking spaces due to the narrow parking bay and traffic lane.</p> 	<p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">— reduce vehicle operating speeds on Elizabeth Street near the conflict points (e.g. 30 km/h speed limit reduction or additional traffic calming) (S)— don't install the additional car parking on the north side of Elizabeth Street (P).	<p>Likelihood: Likely</p> <p>Severity: Minor</p> <p>Risk rating: MEDIUM</p> <p>Safe system energy: Below tolerance</p>		
1.8.	<p>Car parking is proposed on the north side of the road between the kerbside bike lane and central traffic lane. The car parking will be positioned near residential driveways. Additional car parking is also proposed on the south side.</p> <p>Residents reversing out of driveways may struggle to see oncoming vehicles due to parked vehicles, resulting in a risk of residents exiting driveways being struck by oncoming traffic.</p> <p>Additionally, it appears that car parking will impact the swept paths of vehicles accessing driveways. This may result in crashes between residents accessing driveways and parked cars, or vehicles overturning into the opposing lane, resulting in a head on crash.</p> 	<p>Do not propose car parking bays near driveways. (P)</p>	<p>Likelihood: Unlikely</p> <p>Severity: Moderate</p> <p>Risk rating: MEDIUM</p> <p>Safe system energy: Below tolerance</p>		



Client response completed by:

Name: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____



5 Conclusion

This Road Safety Audit has been conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in the *Austroads Guide to Road Safety Part 6: Road Safety Audits (2022)*.

The site was inspected and supporting documentation examined.

The findings and recommendations presented in the previous section of this document are provided for consideration by the client and any other interested parties.

Auditors

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernard Chan".

Wednesday, 2 July 2025

Bernard Chan [BEng (Civil) (Hons), MIEAust, CPEng, RPEng (Civil)]

Senior Road Safety Auditor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Aaron Wu".

Wednesday, 2 July 2025

Aaron Wu [BEng (Civil)(Hons)]

Senior Road Safety Auditor



Appendix 1 – Severity guidance sheet

Research has found the chances of surviving a crash decrease markedly above certain speeds, depending on the type of crash. It should be noted that the road user, as well as the angle of impact of a collision are also factors that impact the severity of a crash.

Figure 4 provides a severity guidance sheet.

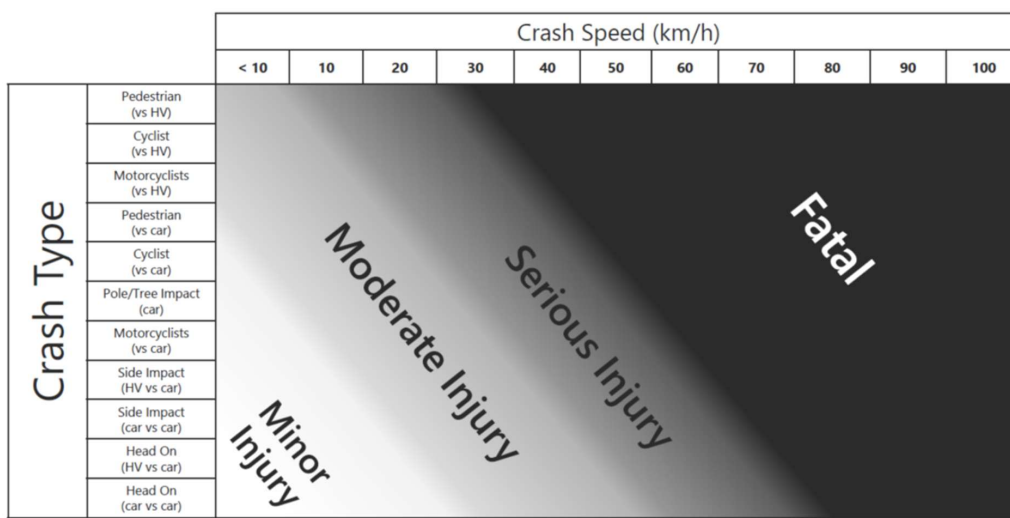


Figure 4: Severity guidance sheet



Appendix 2 – Likelihood / severity risk matrix

Figure 5 presents the likelihood / severity risk matrix.

			Severity*				
			Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Serious	Fatal
			Property damage	Minor first aid	Major first aid and/or presents to hospital (not admitted)	Admitted to hospital	Death within 30 days of crash
Likelihood (Includes exposure)	Almost Certain	One per quarter	Medium	High	High	Extreme (FSI)	Extreme (FSI)
	Likely	Quarter to 1 year	Medium	Medium	High	Extreme (FSI)	Extreme (FSI)
	Possible	1 to 3 years	Low	Medium	High	High (FSI)	Extreme (FSI)
	Unlikely	3 to 7 years	Negligible	Low	Medium	High (FSI)	Extreme (FSI)
	Rare	7 years +	Negligible	Negligible	Low	Medium (FSI)	High (FSI)

*see Severity Guidance Sheet

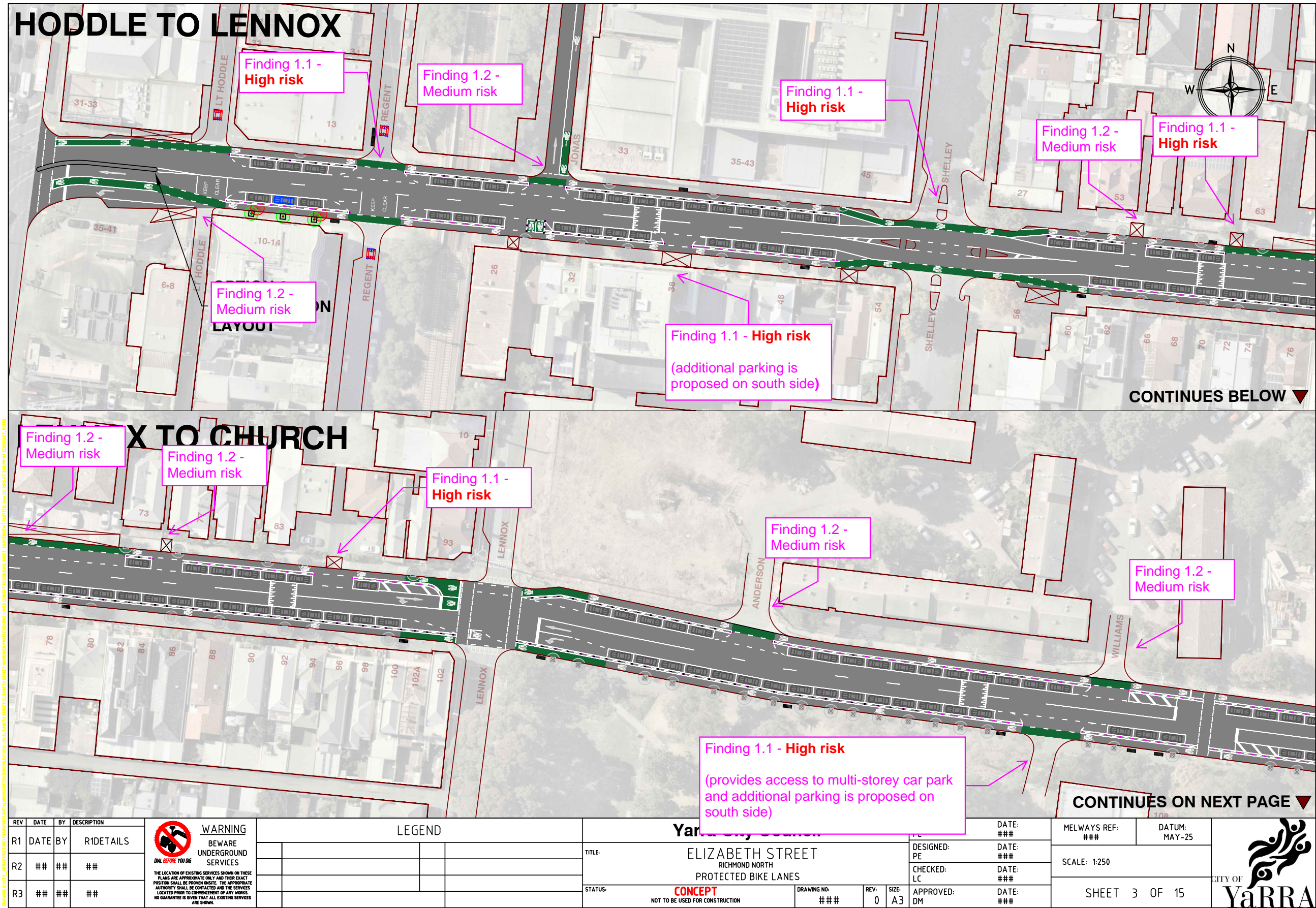
Safe System crash outcome threshold

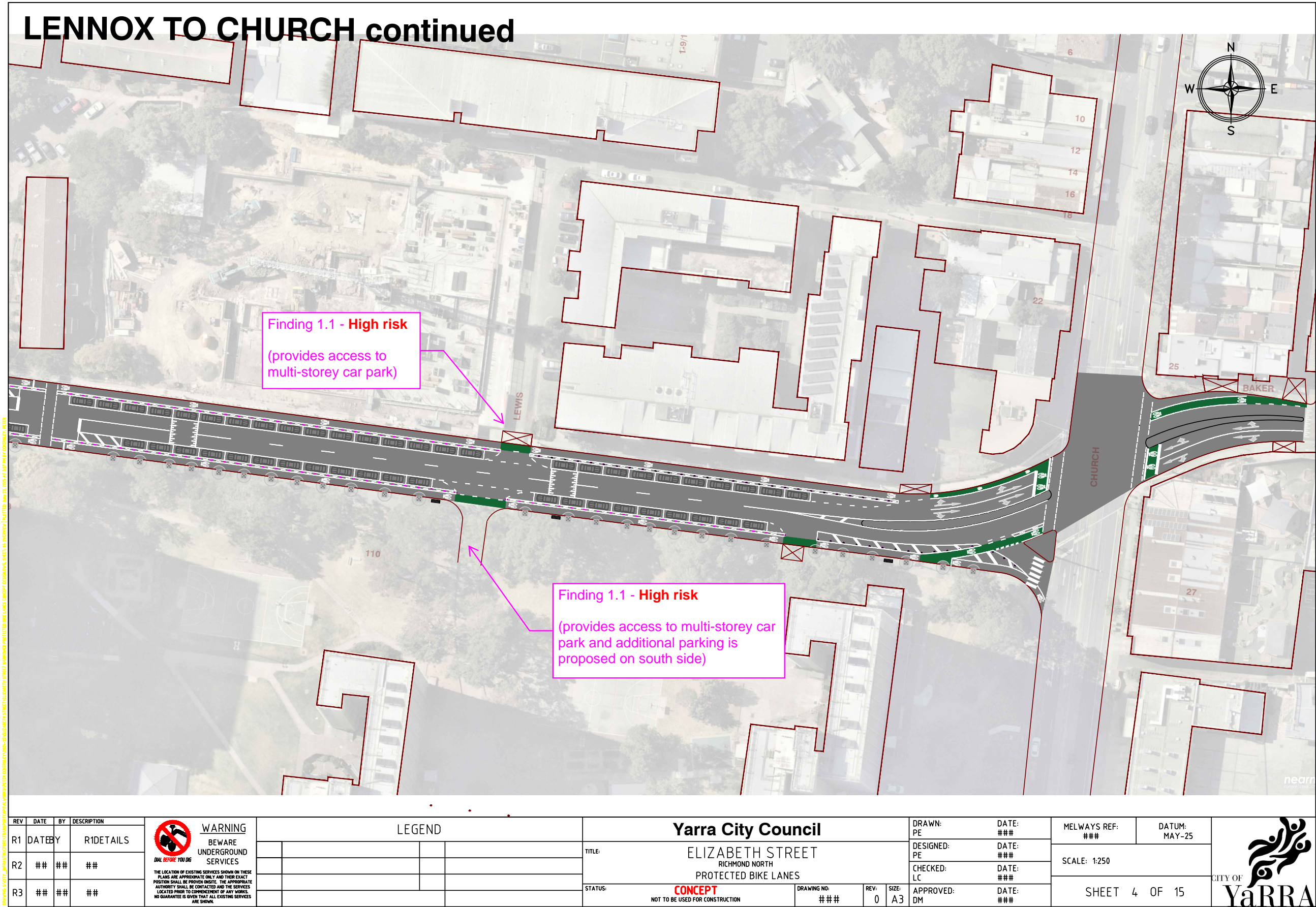
Figure 5: Likelihood / severity risk matrix (Source: Austroads Guide to Road Safety Part 6 – Road Safety Audit (2022))



Appendix 3 – High and medium risk rated intersections and driveways

241114 Elizabeth Street, Richmond – Preliminary design Road Safety Audit
Final 2/07/2025





Yarra City Council

ELIZABETH STREET

RICHMOND NORTH

NARROWED PROTECTED BIKE LANES

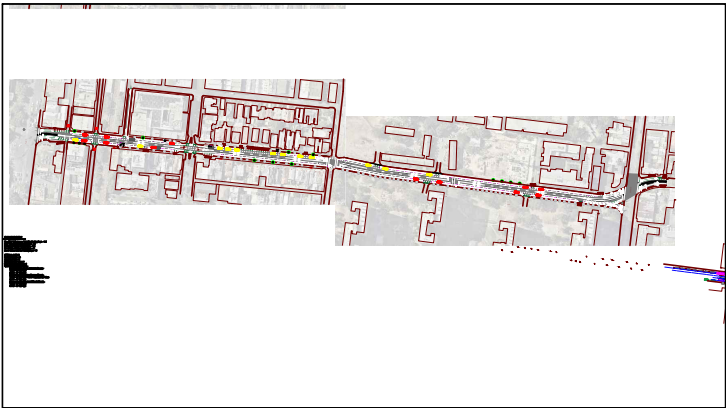
SHEET INDEX

NO.	DESCRIPTION	REV
01	FRONT PAGE	
02	CROSS SECTIONS	
03	OVERVIEW 1	
04	OVERVIEW 2	
05	HODDLE OPTION 1	
06	HODDLE OPTION 2	
07	JONAS	
08	SHELLEY	
09	MID-BLOCK WEST	
10	LENNOX	
11	ANDERSON	
12	WILLIAMS	
13	MID-BLOCK EAST	
14	LEWIS	
15	CHURCH	
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		

GENERAL NOTES

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METRES, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.
2. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SETOUT THE WORKS FROM USING PEGS, SURVEY BENCHMARKS AND OTHER NOMINATED DESIGN REFERENCE LINES. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL MAINTAIN AND PROTECT THE PEGS AND SURVEY MARKS FOR THE DURATION OF THE CONTRACT. THE BENCHMARKS ON SERVICE POLES ARE SUBJECT TO DAMAGE DUE TO SERVICE RELOCATION WORK. ALL BENCHMARKS ARE TO BE CONFIRMED FOR LEVEL PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION. ALL DIMENSIONS RELEVANT TO SETTING OUT SHALL BE CONFIRMED AND VERIFIED BY THE CONTRACTOR BEFORE CONSTRUCTION IS COMMENCED. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL REPORT ANY DISCREPANCIES TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE. DO NOT SCALE OFF DRAWINGS.
3. UNLESS OTHERWISE SHOWN, ALL EXISTING TREES ARE TO BE RETAINED AND SHALL BE BARRICADED 1 METRE BEYOND THEIR CANOPY LINES PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORKS. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL WORKS BE CARRIED OUT, MATERIALS STORED OR VEHICLES PARKED WITHIN THE CANOPY LINE OF EXISTING TREES. TREES NOMINATED FOR REMOVAL SHALL BE CLEARED AND GRUBBED TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE. NO ROOTS SHALL BE CUT WHICH MAY DESTABILISE ANY TREE THAT IS TO REMAIN. CLEARING AND GRUBBING OF TREES TO BE REMOVED SHALL BE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RELEVANT SPECIFICATIONS AND TREES LOCATED WITHIN DESIGNATED SAFE INTERSECTION SIGHT LINES TO BE TRIMMED TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE. FILL AROUND EXISTING TREES NOT TO EXCEED 200 MILLIMETRES.
4. ALL ROAD RESERVES, AREAS TO BE EXCAVATED AND WHERE FILL IS PLACED GREATER THAN 200 MILLIMETRES DEPTH SHALL BE STRIPPED OF TOPSOIL AND VEGETATION PRIOR TO EARTHWORKS COMMENCING.
5. PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF FILLING, THE SITE SHALL BE STRIPPED AS NOTED. FILLING IS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN STRICT ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFICATIONS AND AS3798. ALL ENGINEERED FILL SHALL ACHIEVE A MINIMUM COMPACTION OF 98% STANDARD DRY DENSITY. APPROVED CLAY FILL TO BE USED WITHIN ROAD RESERVE.
6. ALL TOPSOIL STRIPPED FROM THE SITE SHALL BE STOCKPILED AT APPROPRIATE LOCATIONS FOR RE-USE. THE BEST OF THE STOCKPILED TOPSOIL SHALL BE USED WITHIN THE ROAD RESERVES. ADDITIONAL TOPSOIL SHALL BE IMPORTED TO THE SITE AT THE CONTRACTOR'S COST.
7. THE SUBGRADES OF ALL PAVEMENTS SHALL BE APPROVED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE PRIOR TO THE PLACEMENT OF ANY SUBSEQUENT PAVEMENT COURSE. PROOF ROLLING AND COMPACTION TESTING SHALL BE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPECIFICATIONS.
8. EARTHWORKS AND ROAD PAVEMENTS SHALL BE TESTED TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE SPECIFICATION AND TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL ENGAGE THEIR OWN NATA REGISTERED GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER TO CARRY OUT THESE TESTS TO SATISFY COUNCIL'S REQUIREMENTS.
9. THE LOCATION OF EXISTING SERVICES HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM AVAILABLE AUTHORITY RECORDS. **NO GUARANTEE IS GIVEN THAT ALL EXISTING SERVICES ARE SHOWN ON THE PLANS.** THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVE ALL EXISTING SERVICES PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF WORKS. ANY DISCREPANCIES SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY REPORTED TO THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE. ALL EXISTING WATER AND GAS PROPERTY SERVICE PIPES WITHIN THE ROAD RESERVE SHALL BE INSPECTED AND CHECKED FOR LEVEL AND CONDITION. ALL FAULTY AND GALVANISED STEEL PIPES SHALL BE REPLACED WITH NEW COPPER SERVICES OR PE TO THE SUPPLY AUTHORITY REQUIREMENTS. LOWER AS REQUIRED TO SUIT PROPOSED LEVELS. REPLACEMENTS OF PROPERTY WATER SERVICES MUST ONLY BE UNDERTAKEN BY A REGISTERED PLUMBER. SEPARATE COVERING CONDUIT IS NOT REQUIRED. ALL VALVES ON SERVICES UNDER PAVEMENTS SHALL BE PROVIDED WITH HEAVY DUTY CAST IRON VALVE SURROUNDS OR BOXES AND SHALL BE ADJUSTED TO SUIT PROPOSED LEVELS.
10. THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LOWERING OF MINOR DISTRIBUTION TELEPHONE CABLES AND ADJUSTMENT OF PITS AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED ROAD WORKS. ALL WORKS ON TELSTRA FACILITIES SHALL BE CARRIED OUT UNDER THE APPROVED DUTY OF CARE 'WORKS METHOD STATEMENT' TO THE SATISFACTION OF TELSTRA. SERVICE TRENCHES LOCATED UNDER PROPOSED PAVEMENTS INCLUDING VEHICLE CROSSINGS AND FOOTPATHS SHALL BE BACKFILLED WITH COMPACTED CLASS 2 FINE CRUSHED ROCK. TRENCHES WHICH ENCROACH WITHIN 150 MILLIMETRES OF THE BACK OF KERB SHALL ALSO BE BACKFILLED WITH APPROVED CLASS 2 FINE CRUSHED ROCK MATERIAL TO THE SPECIFIED COMPACTION OF THE ROAD PAVEMENT.
11. ALL 1500 PIPES AND SMALLER SHALL BE PVC (SH) OR REINFORCED CONCRETE (RUBBER RING JOINTED), COMPLYING TO AS4058 AND AS1260. ALL 2250 PIPES AND LARGER SHALL BE REINFORCED CONCRETE (RUBBER RING JOINTED) CLASS 2 UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE. ALL BACKFILLING TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPECIFICATIONS. PIPE TRENCHES UNDER PAVEMENTS, PROPOSED KERB AND CHANNEL, FOOTPATH, VEHICULAR CROSSINGS OR 150 MILLIMETRES WITHIN KERB AND CHANNEL SHALL BE BACKFILLED WITH CLASS 2 FINE CRUSHED ROCK AS SPECIFIED. ALL OTHER PIPE TRENCHES SHALL BE BACKFILLED WITH SELECTED BACKFILL MATERIAL AS SPECIFIED. ALL EXISTING PROPERTY DRAINS SHALL BE CONNECTED TO UNDERGROUND DRAINAGE SYSTEM AS REQUIRED.

SEP = SIDE ENTRY PIT, JP = JUNCTION PIT.
12. ALL WORKS SHALL BE CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFICATIONS AND TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE AND THE SERVICE AUTHORITIES. THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE WILL CARRY OUT REGULAR SITE INSPECTIONS. ADDITIONAL INSPECTIONS CAN BE REQUESTED AT 24 HOURS NOTICE. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE SUPERINTENDENT OR SUPERINTENDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE 7 DAYS PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF WORKS.
13. EXISTING STREET AND PARKING SIGNS ARE TO BE RE-ERECTED AS DIRECTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE, COMPLETE WITH INGROUND SLEEVES.
14. ALL WORKS WITHIN PRIVATE PROPERTY ARE TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE PROPERTY OWNER. TIMING OF THE WORKS AND ACCESS DURING CONSTRUCTION SHALL BE AGREED UPON PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT. COMPLETION SHALL NOT BE DEEMED UNTIL CLEARANCE HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM THE PROPERTY OWNER. REPLACEMENT OF DRIVEWAYS FOR REGRADING SHALL BE IN FULL PANELS TO THE NEAREST FORMED JOINT. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL CARRY OUT EXPLORATORY EXCAVATION OF THE FOOTINGS OF THE FRONT FENCES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE. APPROPRIATE PROTECTION MEASURES SHALL BE AGREED UPON WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF WORKS.
15. ALL JOINTS BETWEEN NEW AND EXISTING PAVEMENTS ARE TO BE SAWNCUT BACK TO SOUND MATERIAL WITHIN THE EXISTING PAVEMENT.
16. THE CONTRACTOR IS TO SUBMIT AN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (E.M.P.) IDENTIFYING RISKS ASSOCIATED MANAGEMENT WITH THE WORKS AND CONTROL MEASURES, FOR APPROVAL, PRIOR TO COMMENCING WORKS ON SITE. THE E.M.P. MUST COMPLY WITH ALL STATUTES, BY-LAWS AND STANDARDS (E.P.A) AND SECTION 6.3 OF URBAN STORMWATER - BEST PRACTICE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES.
17. THE CONTRACTOR IS TO SUPPLY AND INSTALL TACTILE GROUND SURFACE INDICATORS AS SHOWN ON THESE PLANS IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS1428.1. TILES TO BE LIGHT GREY COLOUR, WITH A PROVEN 30% LUMINANCE CONTRAST AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS1428.1.
18. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL FAMILIARIZE HIMSELF WITH THE ELECTRICITY SAFETY (NETWORK ASSET) REGULATIONS 1999 TO ENSURE SAFE WORK METHODS UNDER ELECTRICITY NETWORK. THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR NOTIFYING CITIPOWER AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO WORK COMMENCING AND OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY APPROVALS TO UNDERTAKE WORKS IN THE VICINITY OF POWERLINES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL CITIPOWER REQUIREMENTS. THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE TO PROTECT EXISTING POWER POLES DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD.
19. ANY STRUCTURES, PAVEMENTS OR SURFACE DAMAGED, DIRTIED OR MADE UNSERVICEABLE DUE TO CONSTRUCTION WORK SHALL BE REINSTATED TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.
20. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IS TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFICATIONS AND ALL RELEVANT STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES. THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLANS SHALL ALLOW FOR VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC AT ALL TIMES THROUGHOUT THE WORK ZONE FOR THE DURATION OF THE WORKS INCLUDING A SPECIFIC AFTERCARE PLAN.



LOCALITY PLAN
NTS

REV	DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION	<div><div></div><div>WARNING BEWARE UNDERGROUND SERVICES</div><div>THE LOCATION OF EXISTING SERVICES SHOWN ON THESE PLANS ARE APPROXIMATE ONLY AND THEIR EXACT POSITION SHALL BE PROVIDED ON-SITE. THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY SHALL BE CONTACTED AND THE SERVICES LOCATED PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF ANY WORKS. NO GUARANTEE IS GIVEN THAT ALL EXISTING SERVICES ARE SHOWN.</div></div>	LEGEND						<div>Yarra City Council</div> <div>ELIZABETH STREET</div> <div>RICHMOND NORTH</div> <div>NARROWED PROTECTED BIKE LANES</div> <div>STATUS: CONCEPT NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION</div> <div>DRAWING NO: ###</div> <div>REV: 0</div> <div>SIZE: A3</div>	<div>DRAWN: PE</div> <div>DATE: ###</div> <div>DESIGNED: PE</div> <div>DATE: ###</div> <div>CHECKED: LC</div> <div>DATE: ###</div> <div>APPROVED: DM</div> <div>DATE: ###</div>		<div>MELWAYS REF: ###</div> <div>DATUM: JUL-25</div> <div>SCALE: ###</div> <div>SHEET 1 OF 15</div>		<div>CITY OF</div> <div>Yarra</div>
R1	DATE	BY	RIDETAELS													
R2	##	##	##													
R3	##	##	##													

ABOUT THIS PROJECT

- 1. Remove all pilot trial flexible bollards and rubber kerb separators
 - 2. Remove all pilot trial white linemarking and bike symbols
 - 3. Retain existing pilot trial green surface treatment where possible
 - 4. Install new flexible bollards in painted buffers 3 metres apart between parking bays and bike lanes
 - 5. Reinstate pre-pilot trial car parking restrictions
- Between Hoddle and Lennox:
- South - 2P 10am-7pm / No Stopping 9-10am Tuesday
 - North - 2P 10am-7pm / Permit Only at all times / No Stopping 9-10am Wednesday
- Between Lennox and Hoddle:
- South - Unrestricted / No Stopping 9-10am Tuesday
 - North - 2P 10am-7pm / No Stopping 9-10am Wednesday

CAR PARKING SUPPLY

Pre-Pilot Trial Approx. Total Car Parking Bays - 148
Pilot Trial Total Car Parking Bays - 76
Maximum Total Car Parking Bays - 148
No. of High-risk Car Parking Bays - 12
No. of Medium-risk Car Parking Bays - 12

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

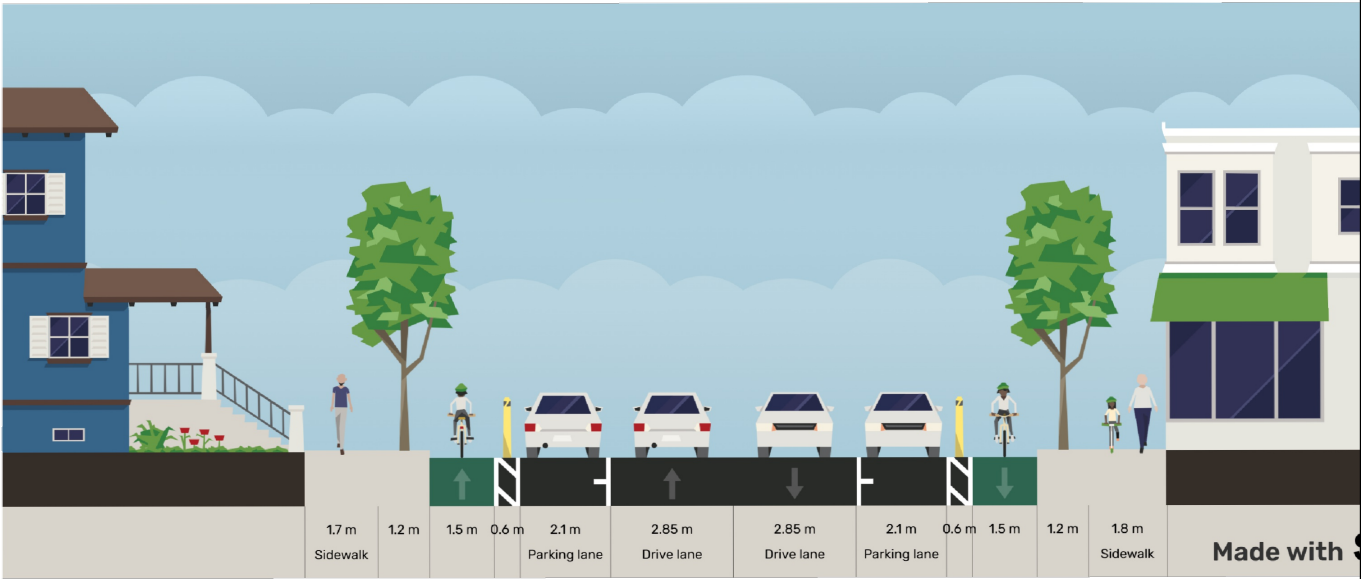
Footpath Trees x 14
Speed Cushions x 3
Contraflow Bike Lane x 1
Bike-Friendly Grated Lid x 1
Update Parking Restrictions -
Between Hoddle Street and Jonas Street:
South - 2P 7am-8pm
North - 2P 7am-8pm
Between Jonas Street and Lennox Street:
South - 2P 7am-6pm/ Permit Only all other times
North - 2P 7am-8pm
Between Lennox Street and Church Street:
South - 2P 7am-8pm
North - 2P 7am-8pm

LEGEND

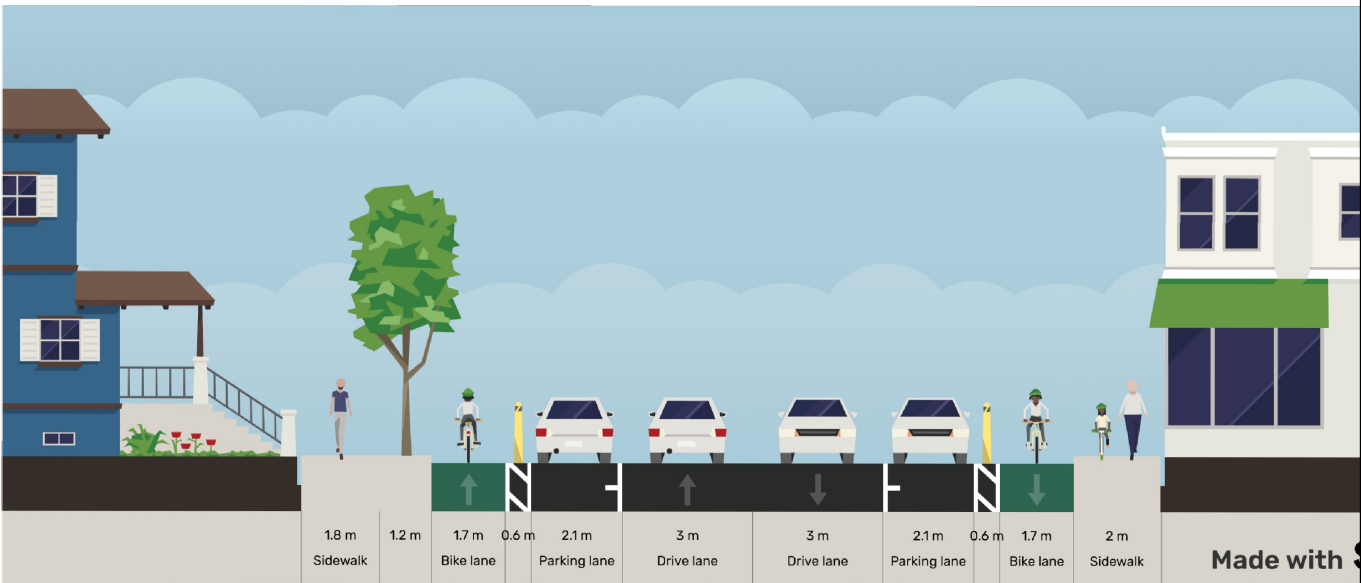
- EXISTING TREE
- NEW TREE
- REDUNDANT TREE
- CAR PARKING BAY
- HIGH-RISK CAR PARKING BAY
- MEDIUM-RISK CAR PARKING BAY
- BIKE SYMBOL
- GREEN SURFACE TREATMENT
- FLEXIBLE BOLLARD
- SPEED CUSHION

ELIZABETH STREET CROSS SECTIONS

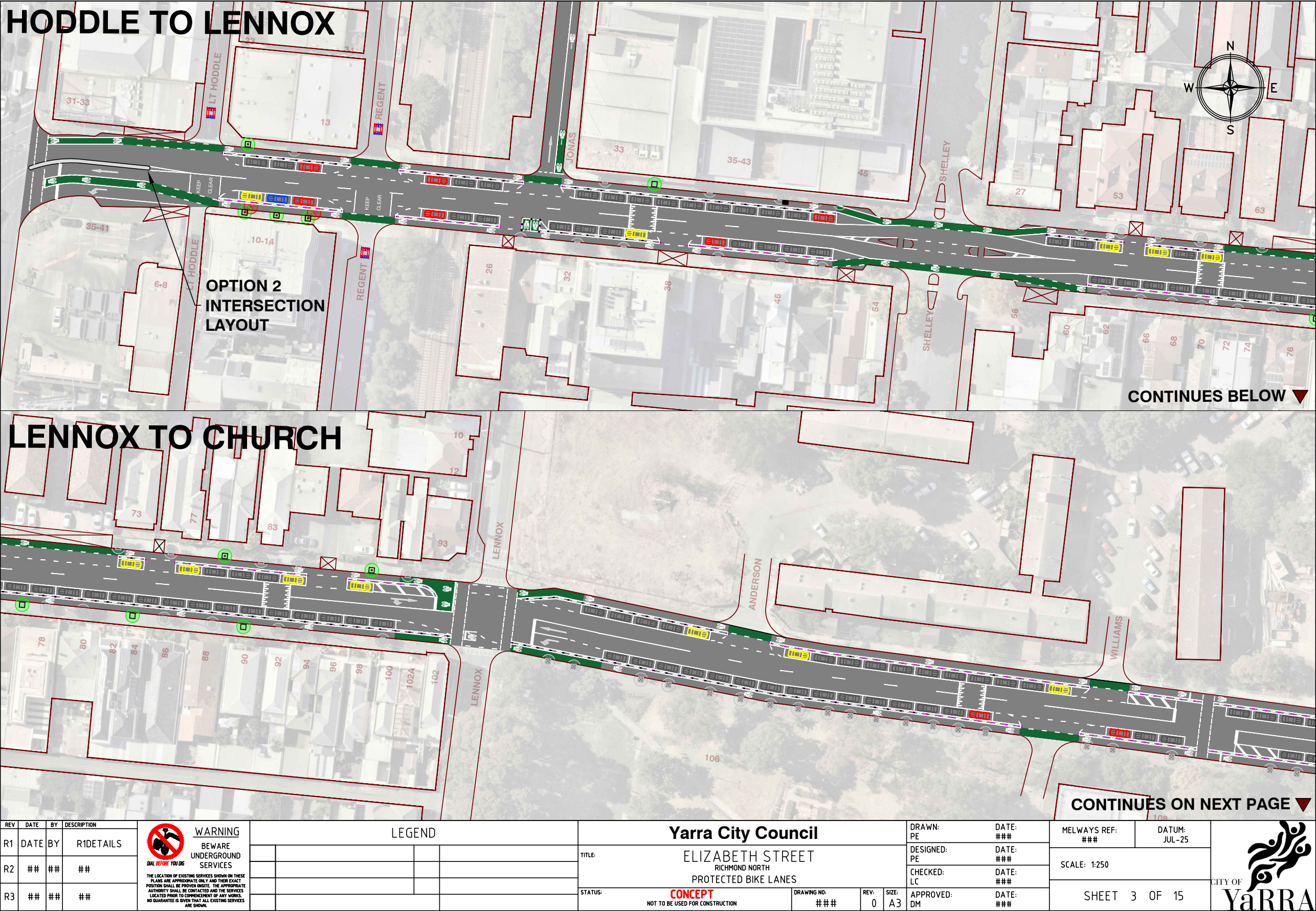
BETWEEN HODDLE STREET AND LENNOX STREET

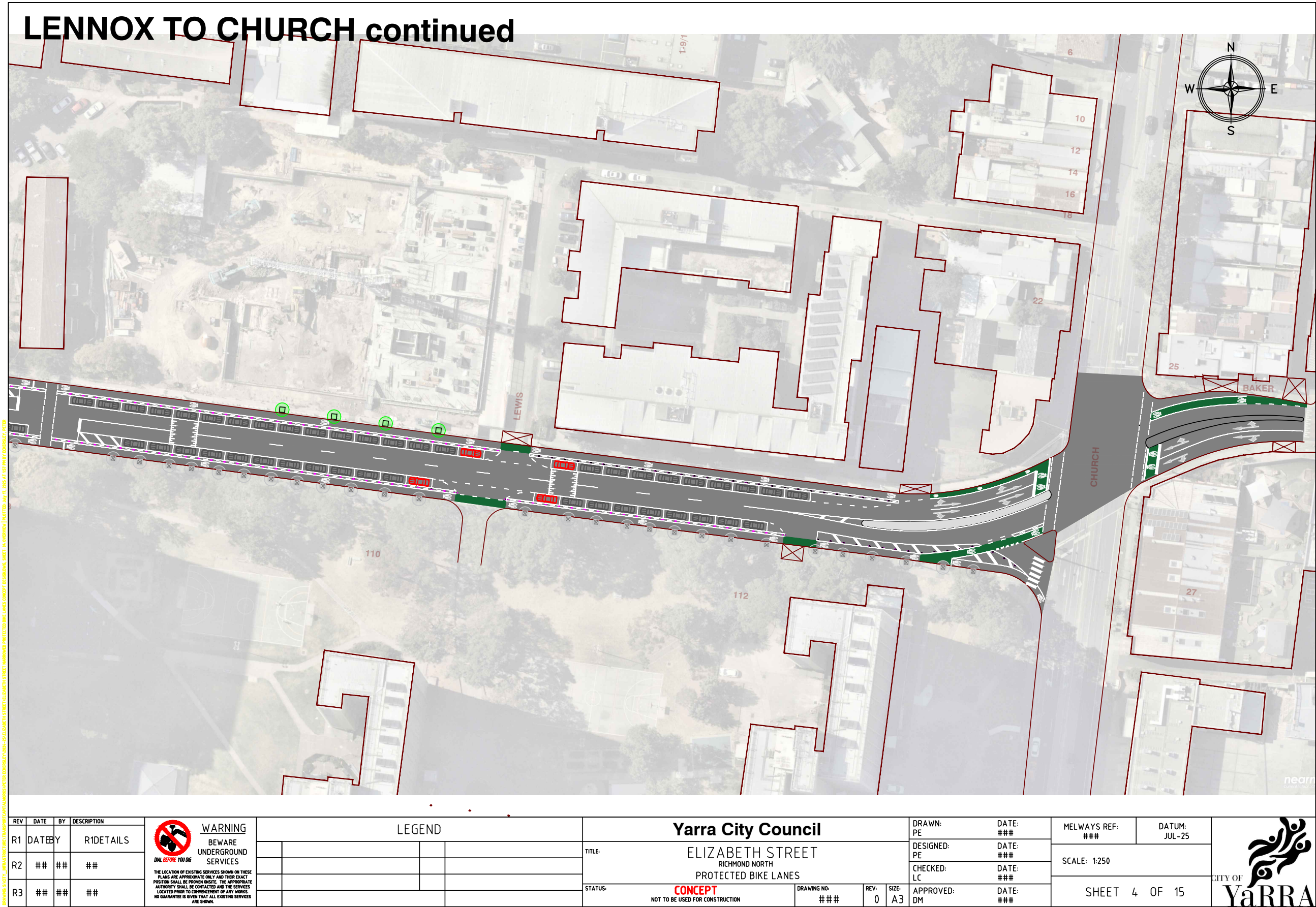


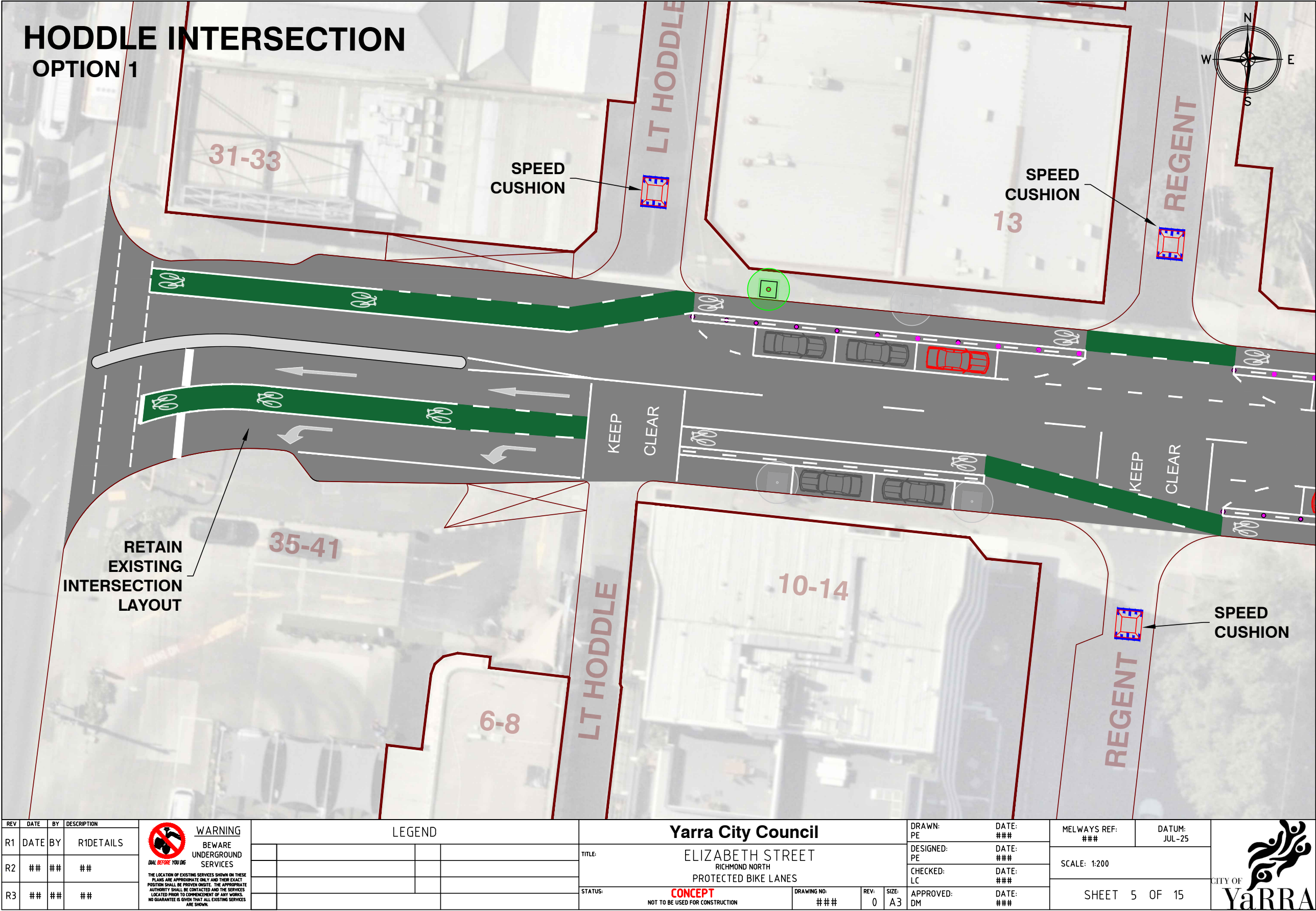
BETWEEN LENNOX STREET AND CHURCH STREET

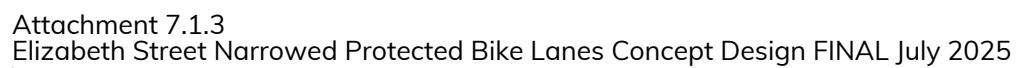


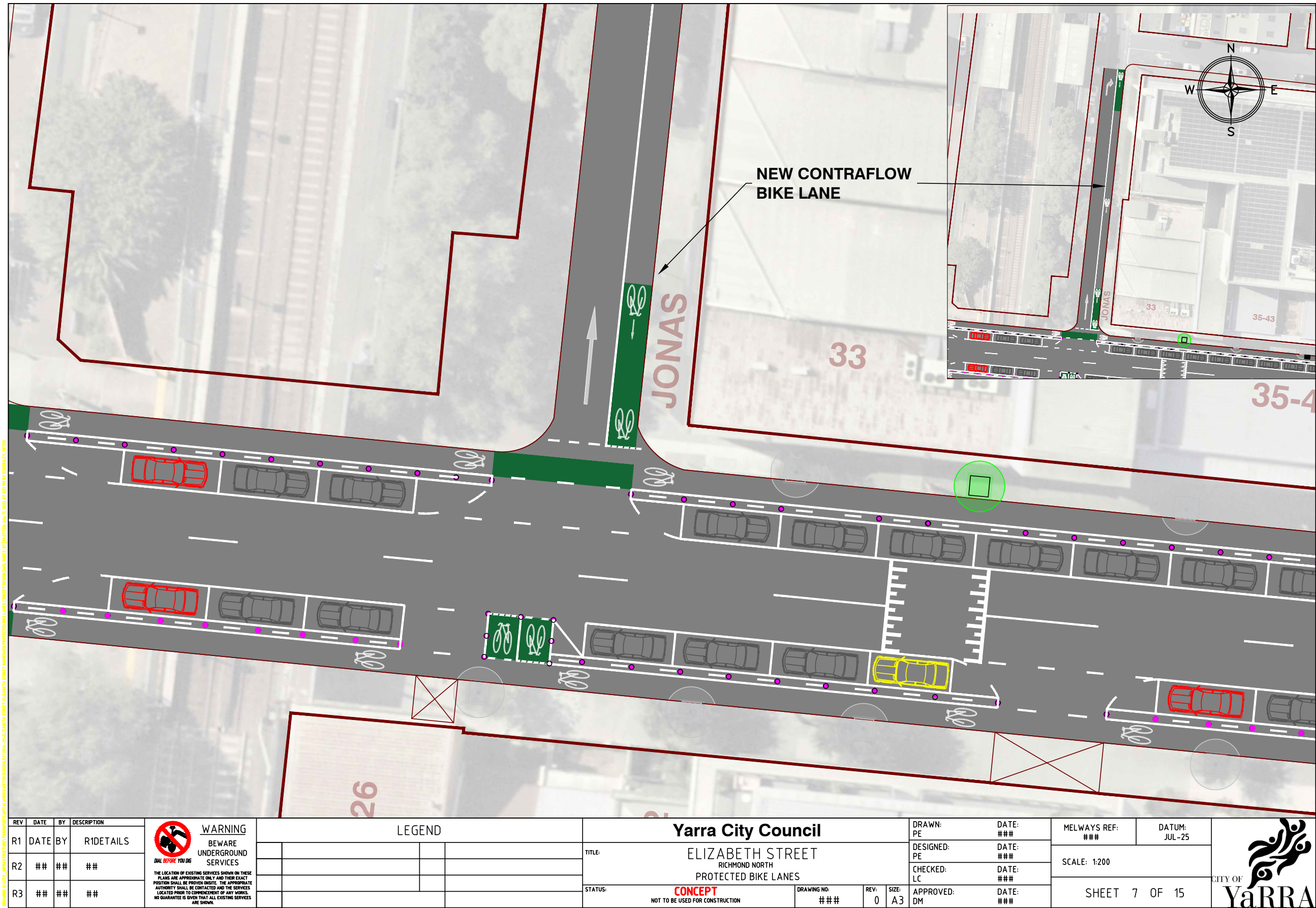
REV	DATE	BY	DESCRIPTION	<div><p>WARNING BEWARE UNDERGROUND SERVICES</p><p><small>DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG</small></p><p><small>THE LOCATION OF EXISTING SERVICES SHOWN ON THESE PLANS ARE APPROXIMATE ONLY AND THEIR EXACT POSITION SHALL BE PROVIDED ON-SITE. THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY SHALL BE CONTACTED AND THE SERVICES LOCATED PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF ANY WORKS. NO GUARANTEE IS GIVEN THAT ALL EXISTING SERVICES ARE SHOWN.</small></p></div>	LEGEND				<div>Yarra City Council</div> <div>TITLE: ELIZABETH STREET RICHMOND NORTH PROTECTED BIKE LANES</div> <div>STATUS: CONCEPT NOT TO BE USED FOR CONSTRUCTION</div>				DRAWN: PE	DATE: ###	MELWAYS REF: ###	DATUM: JUL -25	<div><p>CITY OF YaRRA</p></div>
R1	DATE	BY	R1DETAILS										DESIGNED: PE	DATE: ###	SCALE: ###		
R2	##	##	##										CHECKED: LC	DATE: ###			
R3	##	##	##										APPROVED: DM	DATE: ###	SHEET 2 OF 15		

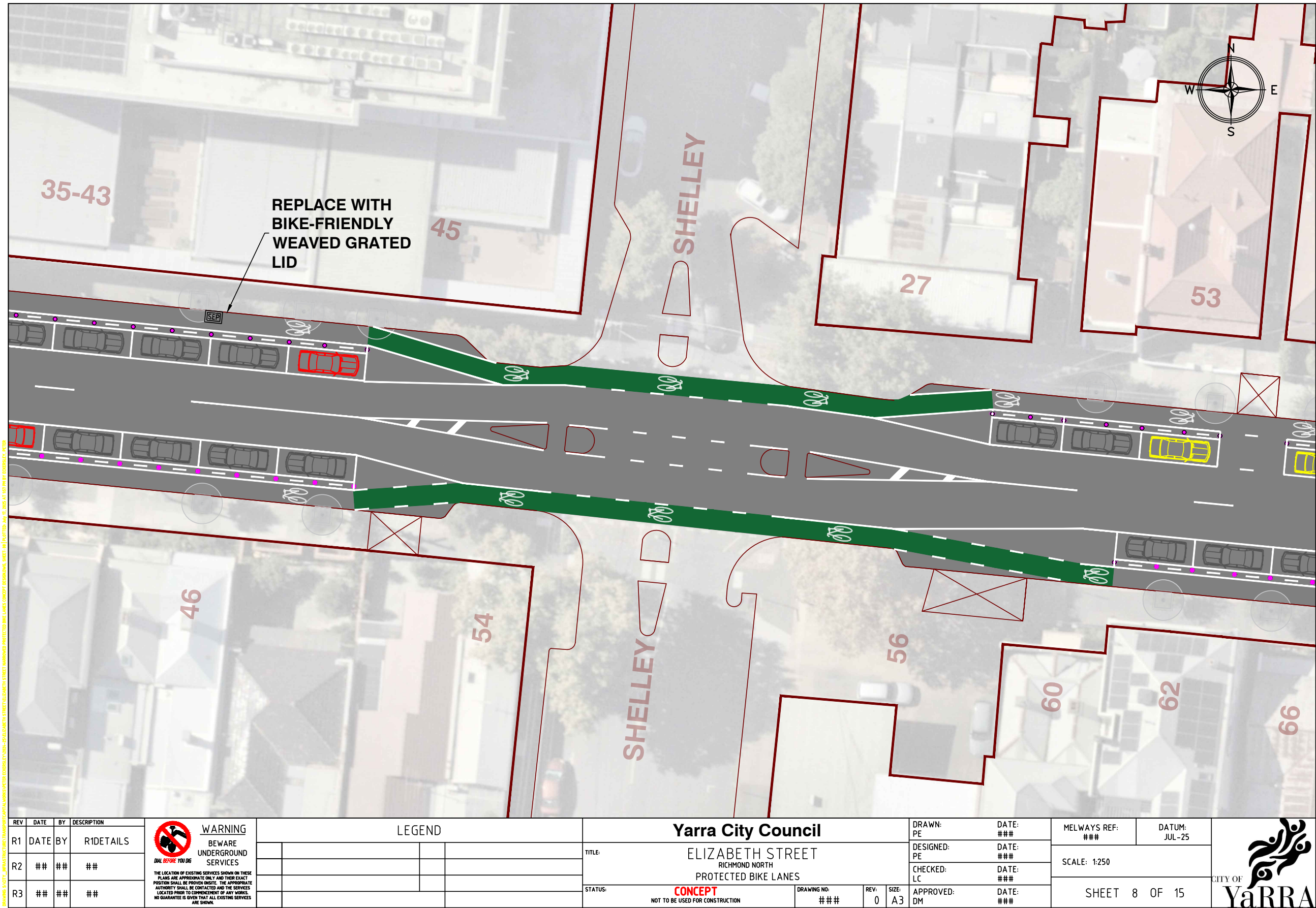


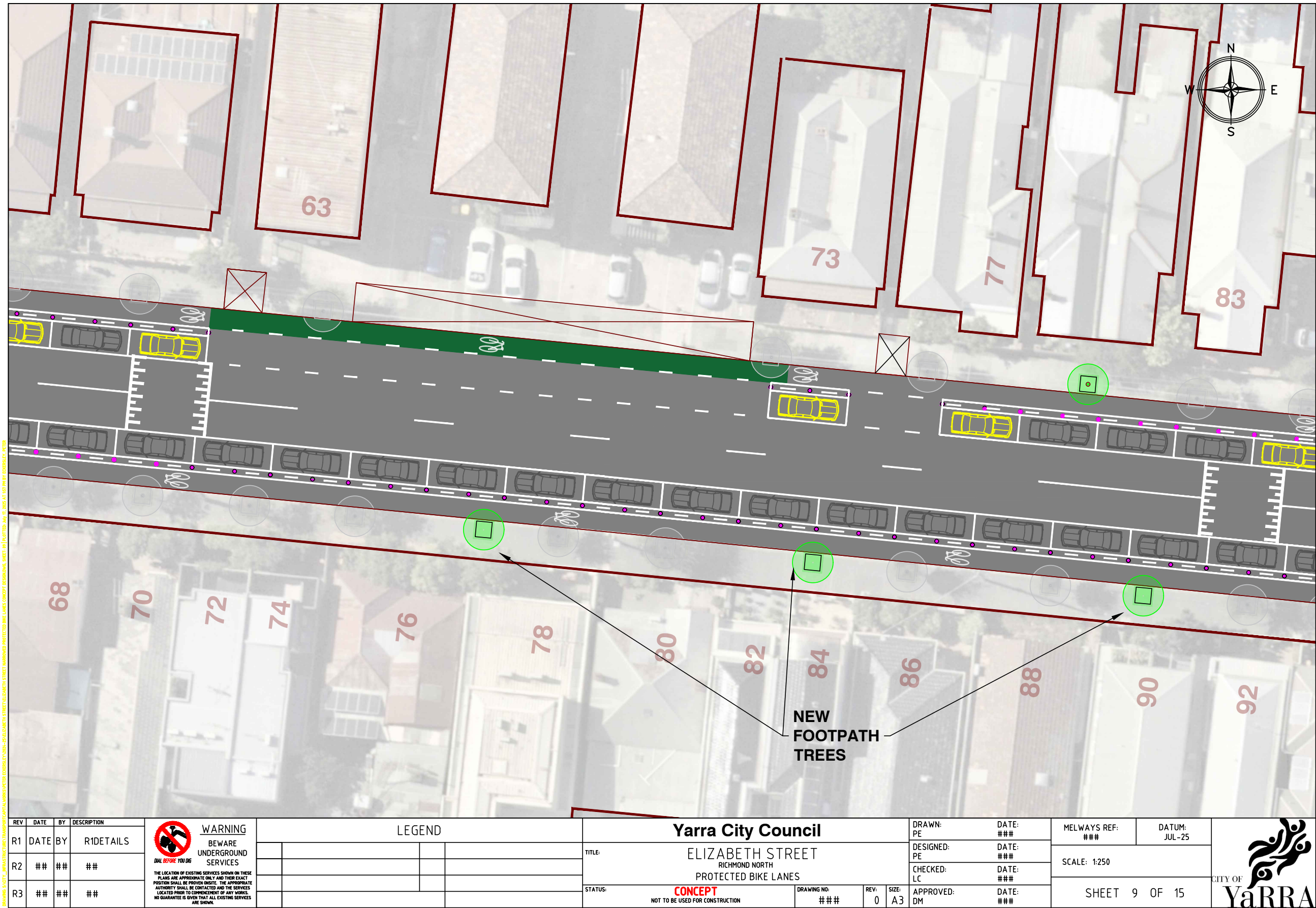




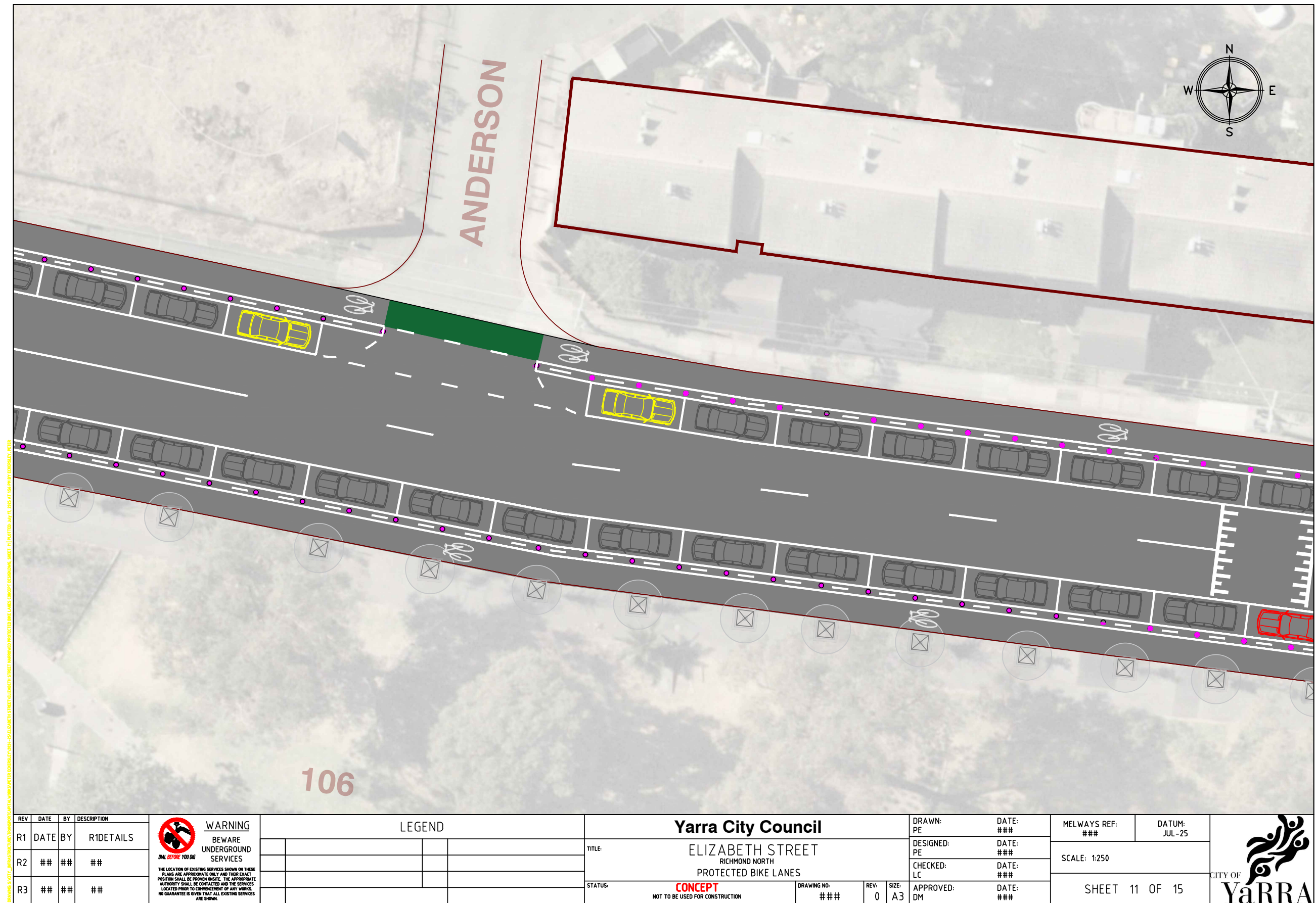




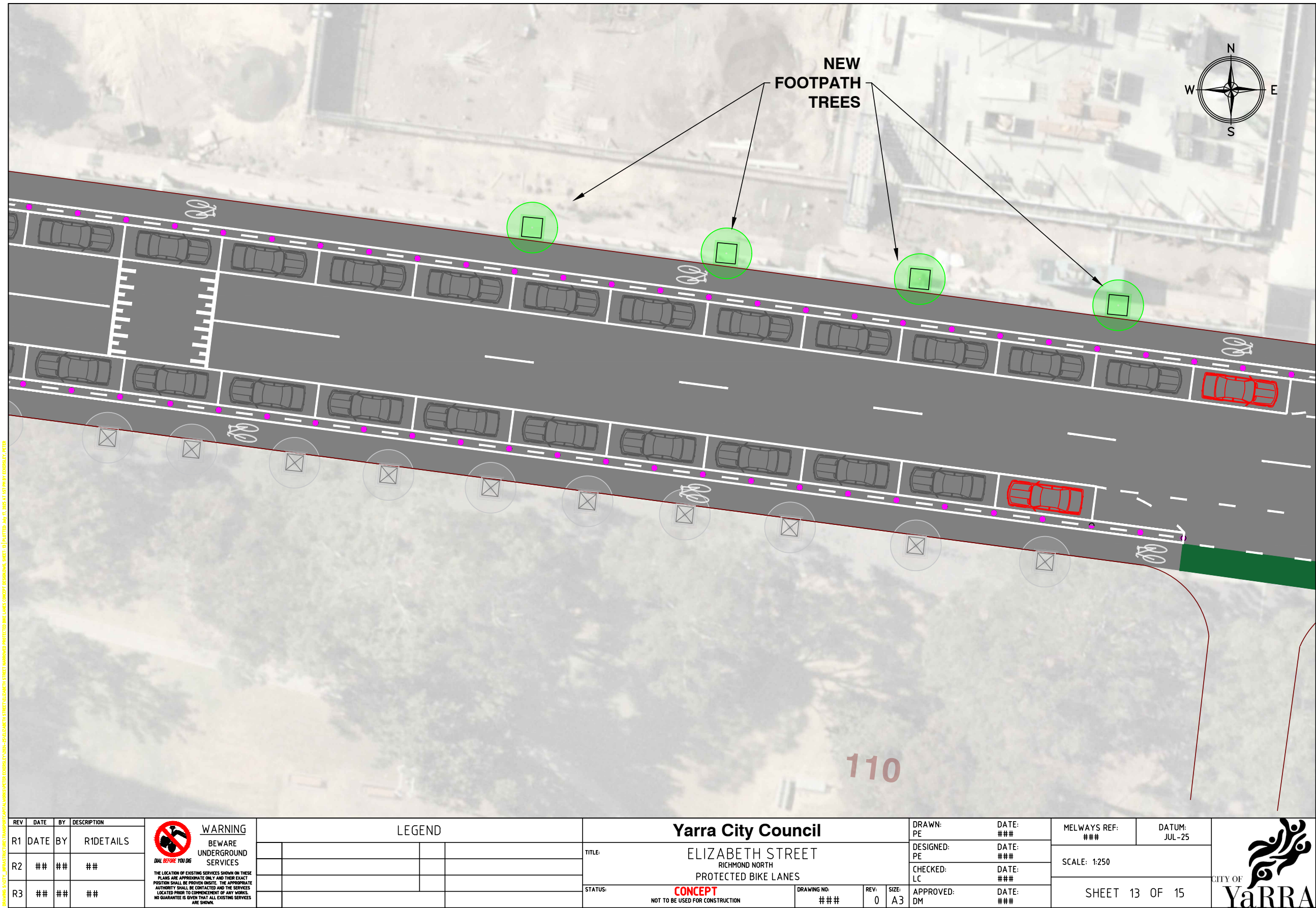




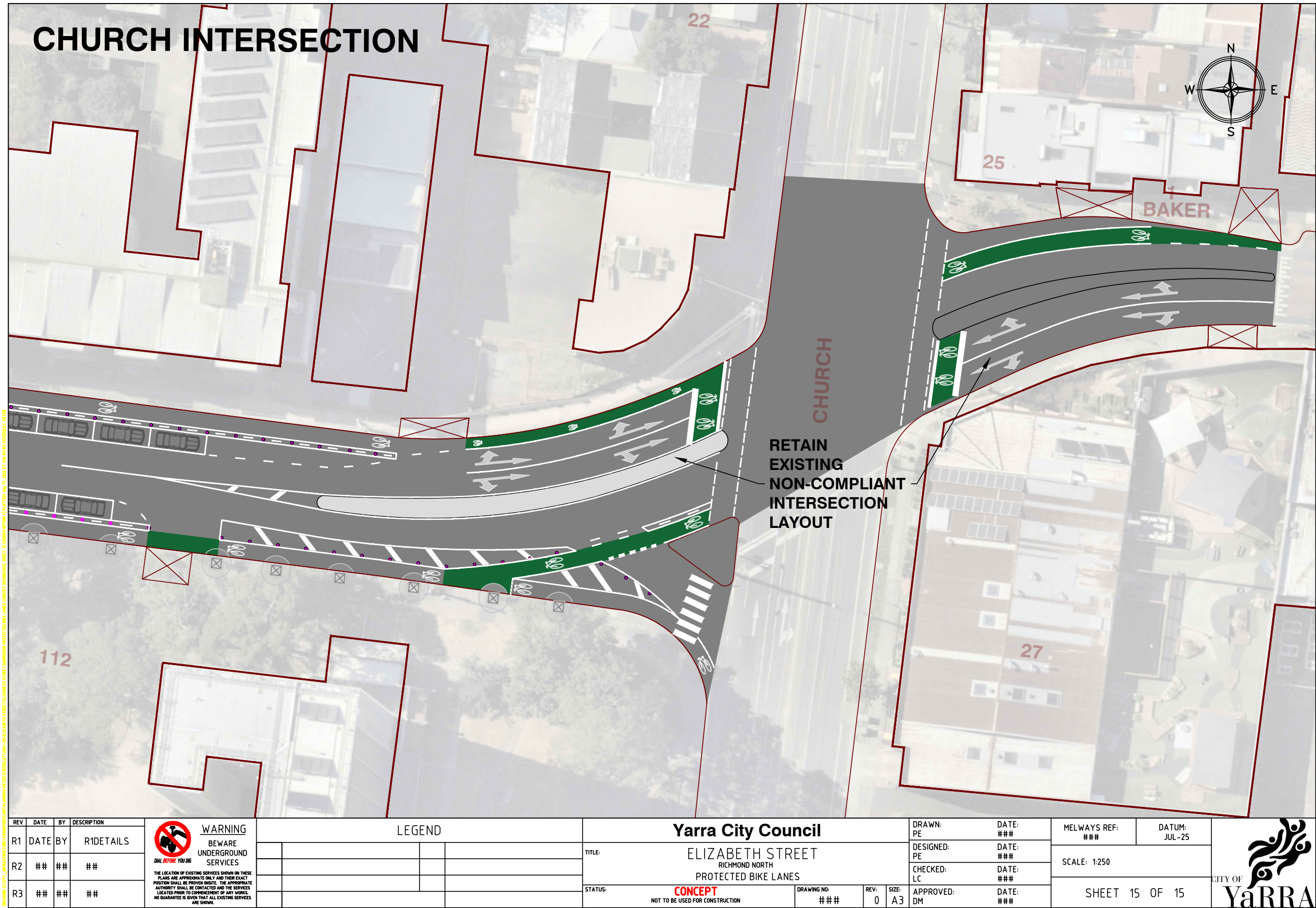






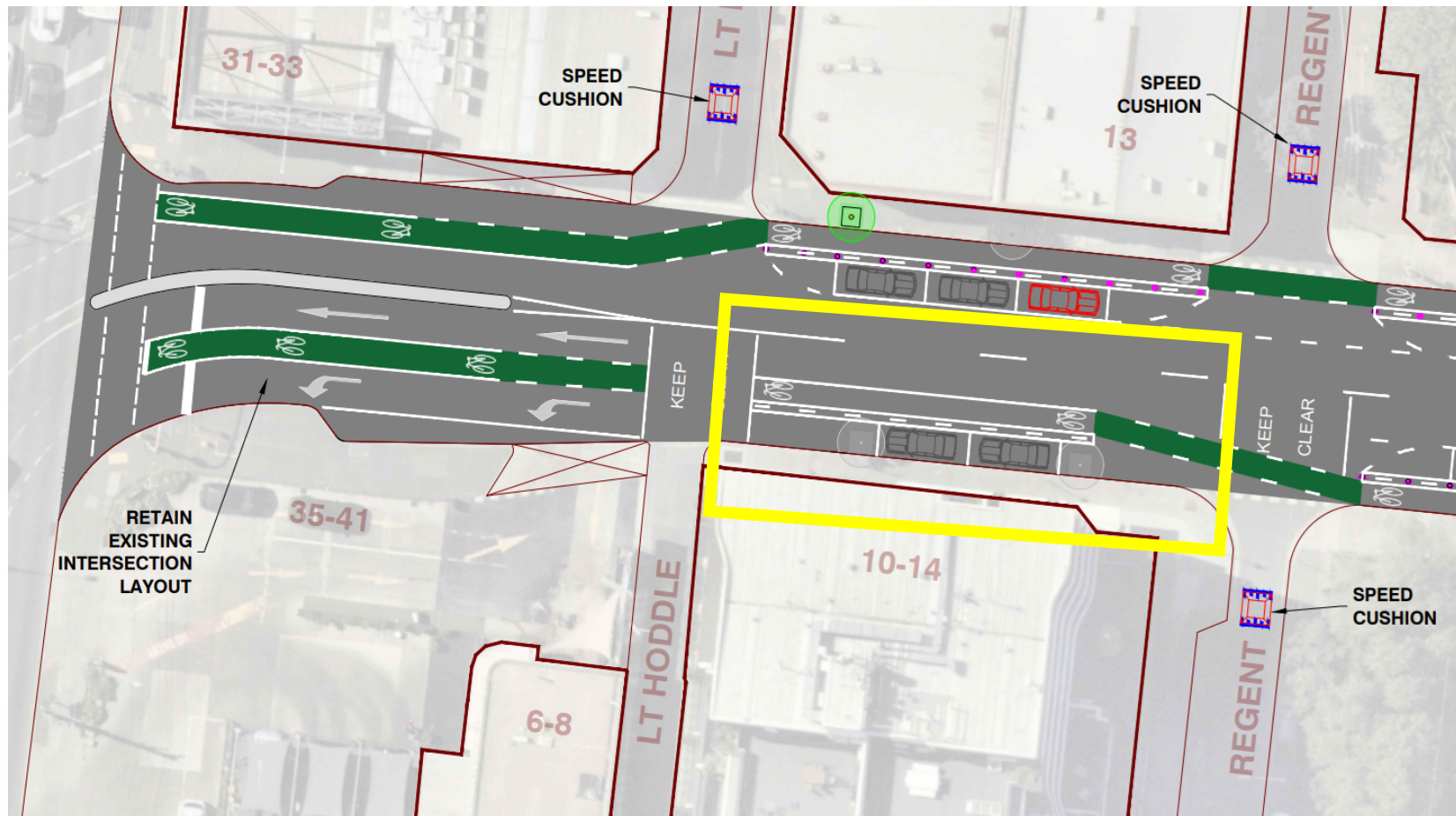




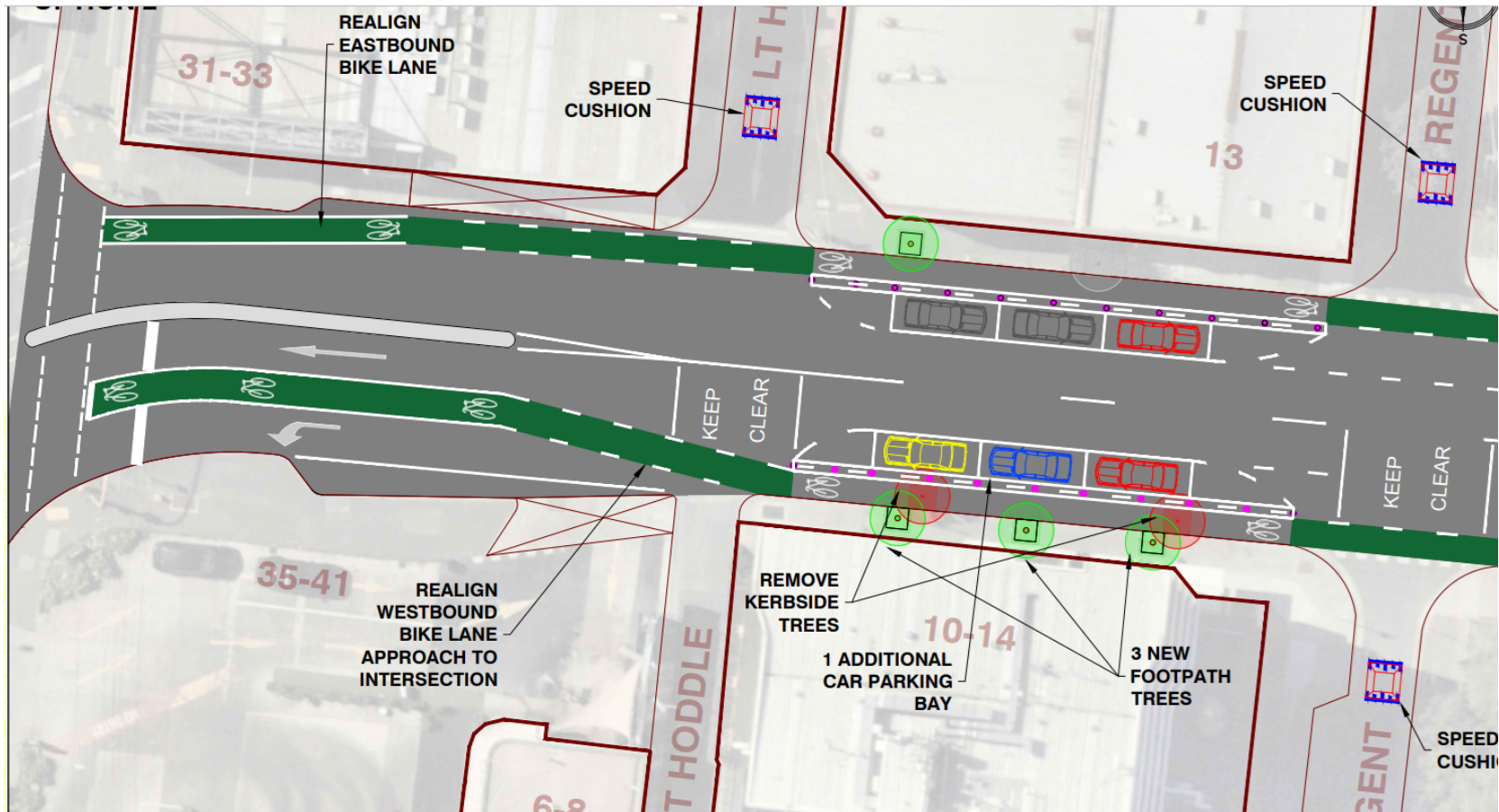


Optional Extension of the Hoddle Street protected bike lane

Base Option



Protected Bike Lanes Extension Option



7.2. Council Advisory Committees - Appointments

Author Patrick O'Gorman – Senior Governance Coordinator

Authoriser General Manager Governance, Communications and Customer Service

Executive Summary

This report is presented for Council to:

- (a) approve the appointment of members to Council's new advisory committees, and
- (b) appoint Councillors to the individual advisory committees.

This is the final stage of Council's comprehensive review of the advisory committees' structure, which aims to utilise its committees as a valuable feedback mechanism for the achievement of Council Plan objectives.

An extensive expression of interest process has concluded attracting 237 applications for membership on the various advisory committees confirming the high level of community interest to participate in important priority areas identified by Council in its Council Plan.

Officers have completed a thorough review of all applications and present their recommendations in the confidential section of this report, recognising that much of the information is personal information being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about a person who has applied or their personal affairs.

The Council Committees Policy (the Policy) outlines that the term of appointment of members be for 2 years. The recommendation is to appoint members until 30 June 2027 to allow Council to renew appointments and provide an opportunity for others to be involved.

The other consideration for Council is to appoint Councillors on the individual committees. The Policy requires the appointment of 2 Councillors for each Committee and does not recognise the appointment of other Councillors as alternates. However, the Policy recognises that Councillors may be interested in various committees and allows them to attend other committee meetings. To further support Councillors who have interest in other committees all agendas, minutes and papers of each committee will be provided to all Councillors through the Councillor portal.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. adjourns consideration of community member appointments to advisory committees to the confidential section of the meeting because the information contains personal information.
2. approves the appointment of Councillors to the following advisory committees until either the Ordinary meeting of Council in November or December 2026 (whichever meeting is scheduled to consider appointments to committees):

Active Ageing	Cr_____
	Cr_____
Arts	Cr_____
	Cr_____
Business	Cr_____
	Cr_____
Disability	Cr_____
	Cr_____
Environment	Cr_____
	Cr_____
Families and Children's	Cr_____
	Cr_____
Financial Sustainability	Cr_____
	Cr_____
Heritage and Planning	Cr_____
	Cr_____
Multicultural	Cr_____
	Cr_____
Public and Community Housing	Cr_____
	Cr_____
Rainbow	Cr_____
	Cr_____
Transport	Cr_____
	Cr_____
Yana Ngargna	Cr_____
	Cr_____

History and background

1. The purpose of advisory committees is to provide a strategic feedback mechanism to Council to help achieve the objectives of the Council Plan.
2. A comprehensive review of the Council Committees Policy (the Policy) and advisory committee structure was undertaken for Council to adopt a revised committee structure to align with the new Council Plan priorities.
3. In accordance with the Policy, the membership to Council's advisory committees ended on 30 June 2025 to align with the sunset of Council's previous advisory committee structure.
4. At its meeting on Tuesday 13 May 2025, Council resolved:
That Council:
 1. Adopts the Council Committees Policy in Attachment One;
 2. Establish the Advisory Committee structure and adopts the Terms of Reference for each Committee in Attachment Two for the following advisory committees:
 - (a) Active Ageing;
 - (b) Arts;
 - (c) Business;
 - (d) Disability;
 - (e) Environment;
 - (f) Families and Children's (new);
 - (g) Financial Sustainability (new);
 - (h) Heritage and Planning (new);
 - (i) Public and Community Housing (new);
 - (j) Multicultural;
 - (k) Rainbow;
 - (l) Transport; and
 - (m) Yana Ngargna.
 3. Proceed to an Expression of Interest campaign for membership for all advisory committees.
 4. Request an officer report to a council briefing on options to commence a youth council or some form of youth advisory body.
5. This report responds to part 3 of this recommendation.

Discussion

Applications

6. Council received the following number of applications for each committee at the completion of the expression of interest process. Details of the applicants for each Committee can be found in Confidential Attachment One.
-

Advisory Committee	Number of applications	Membership capacity
Active Ageing	14	10
Arts	22	10
Business	18	10
Disability	11	10
Environment	23	10
Families and Children's	22	10
Financial Sustainability	8	4
Heritage and Planning	23	10
Public and Community Housing	21	10
Multicultural	31	10
Rainbow	15	10
Transport	18	10
Yana Ngargna	11	8

Assessment of applications and appointment of members

7. In accordance with the Policy, assessment panels were convened by officers for each advisory committee to assess the applications against the selection criteria in each Terms of Reference. The assessment and recommendation of members is included in the confidential section of the agenda, which outlines why/how the recommended applicants best meet the selection criteria of each individual Committee.
8. In addition to the selection criteria in the Terms of Reference, officers applied the following principles:
 - (a) Aim to achieve a diversity of voices on the committees based on qualifications/lived experience;
 - (b) Preference be given to single advisory committee membership, so no one person may sit on multiple committees, thus limiting the participation of other applicants; and
 - (c) In some cases, preference for previous members to be re-appointed for the purposes of knowledge retention on a committee from the previous term.
9. In accordance with the Policy, Council by resolution makes the final determination on the selection and appointment of community members to any Council Committee.
10. To consider and debate the merits of a particular nominee, Council should resolve to close the meeting to the public for debate to commence. This is because the details of each applicant's submission contain personal information which is confidential under section 3 (f) of the Local Government Act 2020.

Diversity of membership

11. The assessment of applications considered opportunities for diversity with the recommended applicants for each Committee covering a wide range of demographics to ensure a diverse range of voices from different backgrounds and life experiences are represented. This includes but not limited to:
 - (a) People from different cultural backgrounds, including Vietnamese, Malaysian, Sudanese and Chinese communities;
 - (b) Various age groups from youth participants and young professionals to people over 65+;
 - (c) Residents from Council's Public Housing;
 - (d) Members from the LGTBQIA+ community;
 - (e) People with a disability and those who have family members with a disability;
 - (f) People who are neurodivergent;
 - (g) Young parents, including single mothers and fathers; and
 - (h) People with tertiary qualifications and valuable career history in the private and public sector, including experience with charitable organisations and working with disadvantages groups.
12. The EOI process achieved an excellent response from the community with 237 applicants expressing their interest to join one of the committees. Council was very deliberate in its EOI process to promote diversity of membership in all the Committees.
13. Further information on the EOI process can be found in the community and stakeholder engagement section of this report.

Appointment of Councillors to Advisory Committees

14. Under the Policy, all Committees shall include two Councillors, with each Councillor appointed annually. Councillor appointments are made at an Ordinary Council meeting as soon as practicable after the Ceremonial Council meeting.
15. Given the next Ceremonial Council meeting is scheduled for November, it is not practical for Councillors to only be appointed for three months, with only one Committee meeting occurring during this time. Given this, Councillors will be appointed to the next practicable Council meeting after the 2026 Ceremonial meeting.

Options

16. The following options are available to Council:

Option 1 – That Council appoints the members to the advisory committee as recommended
Recommended

17. All applications have been assessed against the selection criteria in the Terms of Reference and the recommended appointees can be found in confidential attachment one. In addition to this, the membership structures also provide a diverse range of voices based on unique qualifications and life experience. This is done in accordance with the Policy and in an attempt for each Committee to provide a diverse range of voices.

Option 2 – That Council appoints the members to the advisory committees with changes**Alternate recommendation**

18. Council is the final authority for the appointment of members to the Committees, and it is important that applicants be appointed in accordance with selection criteria as outlined in the Terms of Reference.

Option 3 – That Council defers the appointment of members to the Committees**Not recommended**

19. This would delay the commencement of the new Committees should the decision to confirm the members be deferred. For example, should it be resolved to defer this report to the September meeting, the first meetings may not be able to proceed until October. Any further deferrals will delay the first meetings of the committees which may dent the enthusiasm of people who have applied to be members of the committees.

Community and stakeholder engagement

Expression of Interest campaign

20. The Expression of Interest (EOI) recruitment campaign commenced on 28 May and closed on 22 June.
21. The EOI campaign was promoted through Council's corporate channels (website, social media, e-newsletters, TV screens in town halls) and targeted communication campaigns were utilised to attract membership across Council's diverse communities. Targeted communications for groups at risk of underrepresentation included (but not limited to):
- (a) Translations;
 - (b) Bicultural liaison officers;
 - (c) Public housing estates newsletter "The Link";
 - (d) CALD newspapers and other outlets (including Neos Kosmos, Viet Times, Al Wasat magazine, Chinese Asian Multimedia and Il Globo);
 - (e) Neighbourhood houses;
 - (f) Community radio advertising on 3ZZZ;
 - (g) Promotion in the "Engage Yarra" newsletter with a reach to all public housing residents; and
 - (h) Promotion in Yarra Business news.
22. Community groups/organisations that were contacted to promote the EOI included (but not limited to):
- (a) Drummond Street Services;
 - (b) The Wellington;
 - (c) Collingwood Yards;
 - (d) Brotherhood of St. Lawrence;
 - (e) Tandem;
 - (f) Department of Families, Fairness and Housing; and
-

- (g) Collingwood and Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood Houses.

Strategic Analysis

Alignment to Council Plan

Strategic Objective four - Running the City

Strategy 14: Make it easier to contact and engage with Council.

23. Advisory committees are established to assist Council in fulfilling its objectives in accordance with the Council Plan. Advisory committees cannot make decisions or form policy on behalf of the Council, cannot direct Council officers in the discharge of their responsibilities and have no power to approve expenditure.

Climate emergency

24. The Environment Advisory Committee provides input into and feedback on the effective delivery of the Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 and Climate Emergency Action Plan 2024-2027 as outlined in the Terms of Reference.

Community and social implications

25. The advisory committees provide a valuable consultation and feedback mechanism to deliver on the strategic objectives of the Council Plan.

Economic development implications

26. The Business Advisory Committee provides input into the Economic Development Strategy in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

Human rights and gender equality implications

27. Not applicable to this report.

Finance and Resource Impacts and Interdependencies

28. To allow diversity in participation and considering the multiple responsibilities, cultural obligations, community responsibilities, intellectual property, advice and guidance of First Peoples on the Yana Ngargna Advisory Committee, Council will provide Yana Ngargna Advisory Group members a sitting fee of \$100 for each meeting attended, that is directly related to their role as a Yana Ngargna member. Council will provide a sitting fee of \$150 for the Co-Chair of the Committee for each meeting attended

Legal and Legislative obligations

Conflict of interest disclosure

29. Section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of interest in a matter to which the advice relates.
30. The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Risks Analysis

31. Not applicable to this report.

Implementation Strategy

Timeline

32. Following the appointment of members to Council's advisory committees, the first meetings will commence in September 2025.

Communication

33. All advisory committee applicants will be notified on the outcome of their application.

Report attachments

Nil

7.3. Draft Yarra Rainbow Policy

Author Cristina Del Frate – Senior Coordinator Community Development

Authoriser Acting Chief Executive Officer

Executive Summary

This report presents the Draft Rainbow Yarra Policy (the Policy) for endorsement for public exhibition.

Following the expiry of the LGBTIQA+ Strategy (2021–2024), officers have undertaken work to develop a long-term policy that reaffirms and deepens Council's commitment to supporting Yarra's LGBTIQA+ communities. The Policy establishes Council's role in fostering equity, inclusion, and belonging for LGBTIQA+ people in Yarra. Unlike the former four-year strategy, it provides a long-term framework that will be periodically reviewed and aligned with each Council Plan, without requiring full redevelopment every four years.

The Policy directly supports the adopted Council Plan 2025–2029, particularly under the strategic objective "Living in the City", and aligns with the Draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025–2029 which is currently on exhibition.

Community feedback received during the exhibition period will inform the Final Draft Policy, which is scheduled to return to Council for adoption on 11 November 2025.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Endorses the public exhibition of the draft Rainbow Yarra Policy, noting that the exhibition period will run from 18 August to 15 September 2025.

History and background

1. This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.
2. Council's inaugural LGBTIQA+ Strategy 2021–2024 recently expired, prompting the development of a new policy framework. In August 2024, Council officers commenced a review process to inform the next iteration, presented as the Draft Rainbow Yarra Policy.
3. This work aligns with broader legislative and policy frameworks, including the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and the Equal Opportunity Act 2010.
4. The review and development process has included:
 - (a) A desktop review of local government strategies and national best practice approaches to inform a Background Paper;

- (b) A facilitated review of the 2021–2024 Strategy and action plan in partnership with Council’s Rainbow Advisory Committee;
 - (c) Initial community consultation at Midsumma Carnival (January 2025) and Victoria’s Pride (February 2025); and
 - (d) Broader engagement with LGBTIQ+ identifying staff, relevant Council service teams, and external stakeholders, including community organisations, service providers and advocates.
5. A detailed overview of the consultation process, including themes and findings, is provided in Attachment 1.

Discussion

6. The Draft Rainbow Policy (the Policy) is provided for consideration at Attachment 2. It outlines Council’s commitments to LGBTIQ+ communities through four Priority Areas, reflecting a whole-of-Council approach. These commitments encompass both current initiatives and proposed future actions across a range of Council services and functions.
7. Community and stakeholder feedback highlighted several priority issues for the Policy to address:
- (a) Lateral violence – These behaviours often stem from trauma and systemic oppression, yet are rarely acknowledged at a policy level;
 - (b) Alcohol-free spaces and activities – There is growing interest in social spaces that are not centred around alcohol. Traditional venues such as pubs and clubs no longer meet the needs of many community members, particularly post-pandemic, prompting calls for more inclusive, substance-free alternatives;
 - (c) Vilification and safety concerns – An increase in anti-LGBTIQ+ vilification, including online abuse and physical harm has raised significant safety concerns;
 - (d) Intergenerational disconnection – Both older and younger community members have expressed a desire for more opportunities to connect, share experiences, and build mutual understanding across generations;
 - (e) Mental health and wellbeing – Declining mental health across the community was a strong theme in consultation feedback. Contributing factors include COVID-related isolation and increased reliance on digital communication, reinforcing the need for tailored mental health support;
 - (f) Volunteerism – The LGBTIQ+ community reports higher rates of volunteering than the broader population (31% vs 23% per Yarra’s 2025 Social Indicators Survey). Participants called for greater recognition and more opportunities to connect through volunteering; and
 - (g) Intersectionality and inclusion – There is a need for improved awareness of the compounded discrimination experienced by people with overlapping identities, such as LGBTIQ+ individuals who live with disability or from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. These intersections present specific barriers to participation and access to services.

Strategic Alignment to Council Plan and Draft Health and Wellbeing Plan

8. Insights gathered through community engagement have been integrated with existing Council programs to form the foundation of the Policy. This is structured around four Priority Areas, each supported by strategic commitments to guide action and accountability across Council. These include:
 - (a) Priority 1: Heritage and Celebration:
 - (i) Celebrate days of significance and pride events;
 - (ii) Recognise queer people, spaces, landmarks and history; and
 - (iii) Support Rainbow businesses and cultural precincts;
 - (b) Priority 2: Inclusion and Participation:
 - (i) Provide opportunities for community participation;
 - (ii) Uphold visible representation and inclusion in Council spaces and services;
 - (iii) Foster an inclusive organisational culture; and
 - (iv) Support housing security;
 - (c) Priority 3: Safer Spaces:
 - (i) Make events, activities and sports welcoming and accessible;
 - (ii) Raise awareness and promote relevant services; and
 - (iii) Adopt a zero-tolerance approach to discrimination, harassment and violence; and
 - (d) Priority 4: Health and Wellbeing:
 - (i) Encourage healthy and active lifestyles; and
 - (ii) Promote mental health and wellbeing.
9. The Rainbow Yarra Policy is purposefully aligned with the Council Plan 2025–2029 and the Draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025–2029 (MPHWP). This alignment ensures the Policy contributes meaningfully to Council's broader strategic objectives, particularly those focused on inclusion, safety, wellbeing, and community participation.
10. Each of the four Priority Areas and associated Commitments maps to specific strategies and initiatives in both plans. A detailed summary of the alignments is provided in Attachment 3 to this report.
11. By embedding this alignment, Council reinforces its commitment to equity and social justice and affirms the centrality of LGBTIQA+ inclusion in creating a thriving, connected and liveable Yarra.

Initiatives to be delivered in FY2026

12. The following initiatives for FY26 operational work program either build on established foundations or introduce new programs that contribute to delivering on of the Council Plan 2025–2029 and the Draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025–2029. These include:

- (a) Yarra Rainbow Visibility Project – Stage Two: Builds on work undertaken over the past 12–18 months, including inclusive branding, a poster and video campaign, and a dedicated website. This next stage aims to further promote visibility, safety and inclusion of the Rainbow community in Yarra. This initiative aligns with the Council Plan’s focus on “delivering programs that foster connection and support people of all ages and backgrounds” (Strategy 2.1) and “partnering with cultural groups to deliver annual events that contribute to our vibrant community” (Strategy 7.1). It also reflects the Draft Health and Wellbeing Plan’s strategy to “promote social cohesion” by “celebrating and promoting diversity in the community” and ensuring “Council spaces and programs are safe and welcoming”.
13. Intergenerational Initiatives: Developed in collaboration with Council’s Youth Services, Senior Support Services, and Access & Ageing Well teams, these initiatives aim to foster social connection and mutual learning between younger and older LGBTIQ+ community members. This work supports the Council Plan’s strategic intent to “foster connections across generations and backgrounds” through place-based and programmatic initiatives (Strategy 2.1). It also reflects the Draft Health and Wellbeing Plan’s objective to “support community connection” by partnering with community organisations to deliver programs and providing “spaces and programs to foster community connection”.
14. Peer Support for Community Leaders: A new facilitated peer group will support LGBTIQ+ community leaders impacted by lateral violence, fostering resilience, healing and professional connection through a community of practice model. This initiative aligns with the Draft Health and Wellbeing Plan’s objectives to “support community connection” and “foster mental wellbeing” through “spaces and programs to foster community connection” and partnerships with organisations. It also reflects Council’s role in “advocating to support at-risk communities” (Strategy 2.2).
- (a) Expansion of Alcohol-Free Events: Builds on community demand for safe, inclusive, and substance-free spaces by increasing recreational activities that support health, wellbeing, and social engagement. This advances the Draft Health and Wellbeing Plan’s objectives to “promote inclusive physical activity” for priority populations and “promote healthier alcohol cultures” through the increased use of alcohol-free spaces and programs;
 - (b) Pathways to Education and Employment: Investigates systemic barriers to meaningful work, with a focus on intersectionality, to improve access for LGBTIQ+ individuals from culturally diverse backgrounds or those living with disability. This reflects the Council Plan’s commitment to “advocate to external stakeholders to support at-risk communities in Yarra” (Strategy 2.2) and to improve “support for diverse and at-risk communities” (Monitoring Success). It also supports the Draft Health and Wellbeing Plan’s strategy to “promote inclusive access” by “strengthening processes to identify barriers to access” and “embedding inclusive practices across services, events and programs”; and
 - (c) Family Violence Service Provider Network: Establishes a dedicated forum for service providers focused on addressing family violence within LGBTIQ+ communities. This initiative aims to support knowledge sharing, build inclusive practices, and improve referral pathways and service coordination. This initiative aligns with Council Plan actions to “partner with community and cultural groups to foster inclusive initiatives” (Strategy 7.1) and to “advocate to external stakeholders to support at-risk communities” (Strategy 2.2). It also supports the Draft Health and
-

Wellbeing Plan's objectives to "prevent family and gendered violence" by "promoting healthy relationships through education and awareness", "creating and supporting local partnerships", and "strengthening organisational networks and relationships in the community".

Options

Option 1 – To adopt the Officer's recommendation (Recommended)

15. Council has undertaken significant community engagement in developing the draft Yarra Rainbow Policy, and it is evident that the earlier LGBTIQA+ Strategy (2021–2024) was valued by the diverse LGBTIQA+ community of Yarra and that there is a strong desire for Council to embed our ongoing commitment to equity, inclusion, and the celebration of diversity through this policy framework.

Option 2 – To not adopt the Officer's recommendation (Not recommended)

16. Council could choose not to endorse the draft Yarra Rainbow Policy for exhibition at this time. However, this option may not reflect the community support expressed during consultation, could disappoint community partners, and may affect perceptions of Council's ongoing commitment to inclusion, diversity, and equity.

Community and stakeholder engagement

17. The first stage of consultation offered a key opportunity for community members to shape the Policy's development. A range of engagement methods were used to gather diverse and meaningful input.
 18. Before commencing broad community engagement and consultation, Council held a facilitated workshop to review the previous LGBTIQA+ Strategy (2021–2024). This session assessed complete actions, identified emerging issues, and highlighted existing gaps. It was a productive discussion that helped shape the thematic framework for the first stage of consultation.
 19. The communication methods outlined for the first stage of consultation included online methods (Your Say Yarra); in-person events at Midsumma and Victoria's Pride; focus groups; targeted outreach with external stakeholders via in-language media, etc; and internal stakeholder consultation.
 20. The methodology for the consultation and engagement strategy was "Impact Consultation". This approach focuses on engaging specifically with those directly affected by a policy, program, or initiative rather than the broader public. By focusing on directly impacted individuals, the process ensures that the most relevant voices significantly influence decision-making and policy development, aligning with the principle of inclusivity and ensuring that those most affected have a say in matters that impact their lives directly.
 21. The second stage of consultation will initiate with the endorsement of the Draft Rainbow Policy, with a Your Say Yarra page devoted to seeking feedback on the draft from the broad community. This opportunity will be available for 4 weeks.
 22. The level of influence at this stage is to seek feedback on whether there is anything missing in the draft that is within Council's remit and based on the Priority areas.
-

23. There will also be targeted in-person engagement to discuss the draft Policy with key stakeholders and community groups.

Strategic Analysis

Alignment to Council Plan

Strategic Objective one - Living in the City

Strategy 2. Provide places and services to support engagement in community life.

Strategic Objective three - Working and Playing in the City

Strategy 7: Enhance our activity centres with events and festivals.

Strategic Objective four - Running the City

Strategy 11: Ensure we deliver services that are fit for purpose and provide value to the community.

24. These objectives have been chosen because they align with the priorities of the Rainbow Policy as explained above and in Attachment 3.

Climate emergency

25. Council's Climate Emergency Plan (CEP) seeks to foster a community that is engaged, healthy, and resilient to climate impacts, particularly for the most at-risk in our community. The plan emphasises enabling residents, businesses, and community groups to shift to renewable energy, targeting zero-net emissions municipality-wide. In these aspects, the two documents are aligned in principle.
26. The actions of the CEP most aligned to the priorities of the Rainbow Policy include:
- (a) CEP 5.2: Expand opportunities to access biodiverse, natural spaces in and around the places we live, work and play. This action is aligned to the Rainbow Policy objective "Investigate ways to connect and gather in different environments, including natural and urban settings".

Community and social implications

27. The Rainbow Policy carries significant community and social implications, as it is explicitly designed to support and enhance the health, wellbeing, and inclusion of LGBTIQ+ communities.
28. The Policy's priority areas of *Heritage and Celebration*; *Inclusion and Participation*; *Safer Spaces*; and *Health and Wellbeing*, are interconnected and collectively seek to strengthen both individual and community life. Together, they aim to increase the visibility of LGBTIQ+ people, foster social connection and safety, and promote equitable access to opportunities for participation and belonging. Through this holistic approach, the Policy addresses systemic barriers while affirming the rights and dignity of LGBTIQ+ communities across multiple facets of daily life

Economic development implications

29. Inclusive economic practices that promote diversity positively impact Yarra's community by fostering diverse participation in its economic life. Council recognises the economic benefits of a diverse society, such as having an innovative and skilled workforce, which enhances Yarra's economic advantage.

30. The Policy addresses economic development opportunities via the following objectives:
- (a) 2.3 Foster an inclusive City: Align procurement practices with our values to support ethical, inclusive and community-driven outcomes; and
 - (b) 1.3 Support Rainbow Businesses and cultural precincts: Explore ways to support Rainbow businesses in Yarra through potential incentives and initiatives; and preserve and enhance existing cultural precincts while exploring opportunities for expansion.

Human rights and gender equality implications

31. The draft Rainbow Policy has human rights and gender equity implications embedded throughout the document, as it is closely aligned with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 and other international, national and state human rights legislation, declarations and conventions.
32. The Policy has had a Gender Impact Assessment completed and is compliant with the obligations and objectives under the Victorian Gender Equality Act 2020.

Finance and Resource Impacts and Interdependencies

33. The implementation of the Rainbow Policy will be undertaken within existing operational budgets. This is carried out through community development, social policy and service delivery functions across many Council teams.

Legal and Legislative obligations

Conflict of interest disclosure

34. Section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of interest in a matter to which the advice relates.
35. The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Risks Analysis

36. There are no risks associated with this report.

Implementation Strategy

Timeline

37. The final Rainbow Policy will be presented to Council for adoption on 11 November 2025.
38. An operational workplan will be developed concurrently and reviewed and updated by officers annually.

Communication

39. Once the Council endorses the draft Rainbow Policy for exhibition, it will be made available for feedback on the Your Say Yarra website, along with accompanying information, for a month.

40. Opportunities to participate in the consultation will be promoted through Council's digital channels (e.g., the website, Yarra Life, Facebook, and Instagram), notices at Council facilities such as libraries and town halls, and via partner agencies that played a key role in developing the Plan.

Report attachments

1. 7.3.1 Attachment 1: Consultation Overview
2. 7.3.2 Attachment 2: DRAFT Rainbow Policy for Public Exhibition
3. 7.3.3 Attachment 3: Alignment with Council Plan and Draft MPHWP

Consultation Overview

This report provides a description of the first stage of engagement and consultation in the development of the Rainbow Yarra Policy, including its outcomes. The consultation was conducted throughout 2024–2025.

Project background:

The Rainbow Yarra Policy has been developed as the successor to Yarra's inaugural LGBTIQ+ Strategy 2021–2024. It builds on the foundations of that original strategy and sets out a renewed, long-term policy direction to support, empower, and elevate Yarra's LGBTIQ+ communities.

The first stage of consultation provided a key opportunity for community members to shape the development of the Policy. A range of engagement methods was used to gather diverse and meaningful input.

The Draft Rainbow Yarra Policy, informed by this stage of engagement, will be presented to Council for endorsement to proceed to public exhibition. Community feedback gathered during the exhibition will shape the final version.

Level of Community Influence

Negotiable

- Community members can influence the prioritisation of strategic objectives based on what matters most to them. They may also identify objectives that were not previously considered by the Council, helping to shape the Council's role in supporting LGBTIQ+ communities.
- Community members can suggest specific actions, grounded in lived experience, that would make Yarra a more welcoming place for LGBTIQ+ people. While not all actions may be implemented, they will inform the design of the new strategic framework and future work program.

Non-negotiable

- Community members cannot influence the Council's overall budget or resourcing allocations for this work, as these are determined within the broader municipal funding framework.
- Community members cannot alter the Council's legislated role within the public sector or the responsibilities held by State or Federal Governments.
- Community members cannot determine the timing of actions, which are subject to budget processes and internal planning cycles.
- Community members cannot change actions or directions that have already been resolved by the Council or are bound by prior commitments.

Engagement objectives

- To reach the Yarra community and inform them that the current LGBTIQ+ Strategy is nearing completion and that we are developing a new strategic framework.
- To seek feedback and get ideas from Yarra's diverse LGBTIQ+ community as well as intersecting identities.
- To identify the ongoing and emerging needs for LGBTIQ+ people living, working and playing in Yarra.
- To consult with the diverse LGBTIQ+ community and get their input in building the next strategic framework by attending annual Pride Festival events – Midsumma Carnival (19/01/2025) and Victoria's Pride (09/02/2025).
- To involve relevant Yarra-based LGBTIQ+ community groups and services to discuss ongoing and emerging issues for the LGBTIQ+ community.

Engagement methods

Facilitated discussion – Rainbow Advisory Committee (RAC)

Before commencing broad community engagement and consultation, Council held a facilitated workshop to review the previous LGBTIQ+ Strategy (2021–2024). This session assessed completed actions, identified emerging issues, and highlighted existing gaps. The discussion was productive, helping to shape the thematic framework for the upcoming consultation.

Four key themes were identified to guide this process:

- Heritage and Celebration - We acknowledge and celebrate our history, supporting our LGBTIQ+ precinct and businesses.
- Inclusion and Participation - We continue our advocacy for LGBTIQ+ people in Yarra. We foster community connection and work towards reducing social isolation.
- Safer Spaces - We promote LGBTIQ+ visibility and accessible LGBTIQ+ spaces.
- Wellbeing - We focus on improving mental health outcomes for LGBTIQ+ people, supporting young people, volunteering opportunities and promoting alcohol-free activities.

These themes provided a clear and consistent structure for the consultation process, allowing participants to reflect on and shape their feedback within defined areas of focus.

Communication methods

- Online (Your Say Yarra) – open for six weeks
 - survey
 - visual prioritisation tools

- ideas board
- translated content options
- social media
- In-person events
 - Yarra stall held at Midsumma Carnival (19 January, 2025) – with a potential reach of approximately 10,000 people.
 - Yarra stall at Victoria's Pride street party (9 February, 2025)
- Focus Groups
 - Six focus groups with Rainbow community groups across age groups, life stages and cultural diversity.
- Targeted outreach
 - Review of previous LGBTIQ+ Strategy 2021-24 with Rainbow Advisory Committee, identifying achievements and gaps.
 - Community touchpoints (libraries, Youth hubs, etc).
 - In-language media, postcards, posters.
 - Collaboration with stakeholder organisations.
- Internal stakeholder consultation
 - Review conducted of Rainbow-focussed programs and initiatives across the organisation, and input provided on the draft framework's priorities and commitments.

Engagement Questions

Online

The following information is taken from the Your Say Yarra page and outlines the questions used:

We need your help to ensure the next LGBTIQ+ strategic framework represents the priorities of our diverse community.

When thinking about your idea, comment or suggestion, consider the following:

- **What are the ongoing or emerging needs for LGBTIQ+ people living, working and playing in Yarra?**
- **What are your ideas, suggestions or comments for actions that we can take in the coming years?**

Select one of these 4 themes: Heritage and celebration; Inclusion and participation; Safer spaces; and Wellbeing.

Participants were invited to provide suggestions aligned with the four key themes, with the option to contribute additional ideas through an open text field for feedback beyond the defined themes. Demographic data was also collected, though participants were not required to provide it in order to contribute feedback.

In person

Focus group discussions explored the following questions to reflect the survey on Your Say Yarra directly:

- What is Council's role in inclusion?
- What is missing?
- What could be improved?

Consultation Results

Engagement: Your Say Yarra Page

The success of the Your Say Yarra page is tracked against the following metrics:

- Views - The number of times the page was seen.
- Visitors – The number of unique visitors that saw the page.
- Contributions – The number of feedback responses that were submitted.
- Contributors - The number of people who filled out a survey online.

Overall, we received 936 views from 628 unique visitors, which led to 111 contributions.

Engagement reach

Social Media:

Post, Channel and Date	Impressions	Engagement	Engagement Rate	Click through
Instagram announcement post (Friday, 17 January 2025)	4,821	72	1.5%	NA
Linkedin announcement post (Friday, 17 January 2025)	1,389	80	5.8%	47
Facebook (Friday 17 January 2025)	1,289	217	16.8%	5
TOTAL	7,499	369		52

Email Newsletters

Email and date	Subscribers	Open rate %	Clicks	Reach
Your Say Yarra – 28 January 2025	2,327	74%	152	1,722
Yarra Life – 14 February 2025	10,822	62%	44	6,709

Yarra Libraries – 10 February 2025	67,006	41%	70	27,513
Yarra Leisure – 24 January 2025	32,542	57%	28	18,549

Yarra Economic Development – 31 January 2025	15,006	47%	52	7,053
TOTAL	112,697		294	61,546

In-person engagement:

In-person session (including date and location)	People we spoke to
Midsumma Carnival on Sunday, 19 January from 11 am to 5 pm.	200
Victoria's Pride Street festival on Sunday, 9 February from 11 am to 5 pm.	300
TOTAL	500

Findings: Focus Groups and Your Say Yarra

Emerging themes

The raw data collected through online and paper surveys, as well as focus groups, was collated and

thematically analysed to provide a comprehensive overview of the community's and key stakeholders' priorities and ideas. This feedback directly informed the development of the Policy's Framework Priorities and Commitments. Furthermore, this feedback has been critical in developing the work program.

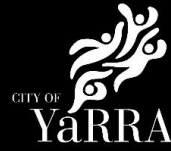
Below is a summarised overview of the key findings:

What's working well:

- Council presence at Pride events
- Rainbow Advisory Committee
- Rainbow Yarra Visibility - Posters and video campaigns
- Town halls flying the spectrum of Pride flags
- Queer history projects

What needs improvement:

- More alcohol-free spaces
- Intergenerational activities for youth and elders
- Mental health support
- Volunteer pathways
- Inclusion of intersectional identities (bi+, trans, CALD, neurodiverse)
- Cultural safety and accessibility for trans and gender diverse people
- Better promotion of existing services
- Lateral violence in the community



Yarra Rainbow Policy



Cover art: Dylan Mooney, 'Worthy Love' (2023)

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. 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 and to their Elders past, present and future.

National Relay Service TTY 133 677 then (03) 9205 5055	Languages	中文 9280 1937	Italiano 9280 1931	Tiếng Việt 9280 1939
	العربية 9280 1930	Ελληνικά 9280 1934	Español 9280 1935	Other 9280 1940

Alignment with Council Policy

The Rainbow Yarra Policy aligns with Yarra City Council's current strategic frameworks, including the Council Plan 2025–2029 and the Draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025–2029, both of which outline Council's commitment to equity, inclusion, and community wellbeing. This Policy supports the realisation of those objectives by promoting safety, participation, and health for LGBTIQ+ communities across Yarra. It is also guided by relevant state and federal strategies and legislation that advance inclusion, equity, and public health for LGBTIQ+ communities.

While grounded in the current strategic environment, the Rainbow Yarra Policy has been designed as a long-term framework. It will remain adaptable over time and may be updated to reflect changes in Council direction, relevant state and federal public policy, or shifts in the broader social, economic, and cultural landscape.

Contents

A note on language.....	1
Introduction.....	2
Overview	2
An intersectional lens.....	2
Promotion of other minority groups	2
Local Data.....	3
Victorian Data.....	6
Policy Context.....	6
Federal	6
State	6
What Yarra does.....	7
Our Commitments.....	8
Priority areas.....	8
Priority 1: Heritage and Celebration	8
Priority 2: Inclusion and Participation	9
Priority 3: Safer Spaces	10
Priority 4: Health and Wellbeing	10
Glossary of Terms	11
Other Key Terms in Context	11
Data References	13

A note on language

The terms rainbow, LGBTQIA+ and queer community are used interchangeably throughout this Strategy to reflect inclusivity and the diverse ways people identify. Each term is embraced by different individuals and carries cultural, political, or symbolic meaning, ensuring the Strategy remains accessible, respectful, and community-aligned.

The Strategy uses 'rainbow' as an inclusive and accessible term that encompasses diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, people of colour, and individuals with disabilities within the LGBTQIA+ community. Linked to the rainbow flag – a symbol of pride – it feels more unifying and positive than formal acronyms, promoting a sense of inclusivity.

Introduction

Overview

Everyone has the right to express themselves freely and safely. Yarra City Council is committed to uniting in diversity and supporting LGBTIQ+ members of our community. With up to 24%¹ of Yarra's population identifying as LGBTIQ+, the Council is dedicated to fostering a thriving, inclusive environment where diversity, uniqueness, and belonging are celebrated.

The LGBTIQ+ community is a vital part of the cultural and social fabric of Yarra, which has long been a vibrant hub for queer life and expression. Council has a proud history of promoting equal rights and inclusion for this community.

In line with Victoria's ongoing efforts and in consultation with the community, the Council has developed a strategy focused on four key priority areas, tailored to the needs of the Yarra community. These priorities are Heritage and Celebration, Inclusion and Participation, Safer Spaces, and Health and Wellbeing. The new Yarra Rainbow Strategy will succeed the current four-year plan, continuing our commitment to human rights, empowerment, and equitable access to services and programs.

An intersectional lens

The Strategy takes a strengths-based approach, celebrating the Rainbow community's self-determination and contributions to Yarra. It also acknowledges the complex challenges from intersecting identities like sexual orientation, gender, ethnicity, faith, language, age, ability, and socio-economic status. Council recognises that these factors can compound marginalisation, often making those facing intersectional discrimination less visible.

Promotion of other minority groups

Understanding the diverse needs of minority groups is key to driving meaningful change. While the Rainbow Strategy centres on Yarra's LGBTIQ+ community, it also acknowledges broader systemic inequities. True equality in Yarra requires addressing these challenges. The LGBTIQ+ community continues to face significant barriers, and this Strategy offers Council the opportunity to respond with inclusive, affirming, and culturally appropriate actions. By prioritising those most affected, we can build a stronger, fairer community for everyone.

¹ The Victorian Population Health Survey (VAHI, 2023) found that 24% of Yara's population identifies as LGBTQIA+ and the Social Indicators Survey (Yarra City Council, 2024) found that 15% of Yara's population identifies as LGBTQIA+.

Our Community

This section shares what we know about the lives and experiences of LGBTIQ+ people in Yarra. While local data helps tell part of the story, Victorian data has also been included to help build a broader understanding of the community's needs and challenges.

Local Data

Council conducted its first-ever Social Indicators Survey in 2024. The representative survey has provided Council with its most granular data on the LGBTIQ+ community to date. It is noted that only data points with a sufficient sample size have been used in this Strategy, to ensure accurate reporting.

↑ and ↓ = significant difference between the Rainbow community when compared to the total population of Yarra

Unless stated otherwise, the following data is from the Social Indicators Survey (Yarra City Council, 2024).

Up to 24%*

of Yarra's community identified as LGBTIQ+

*VAHI (2023) reports 24% and Yarra City Council (2024) reports 15%



80% of the community were born in Australia



30%↑ had a **disability**, which is significantly higher than Yarra's total population (21%)



48% of the Rainbow community **rented privately**, which is *higher* than Yarra's total population (43%*)

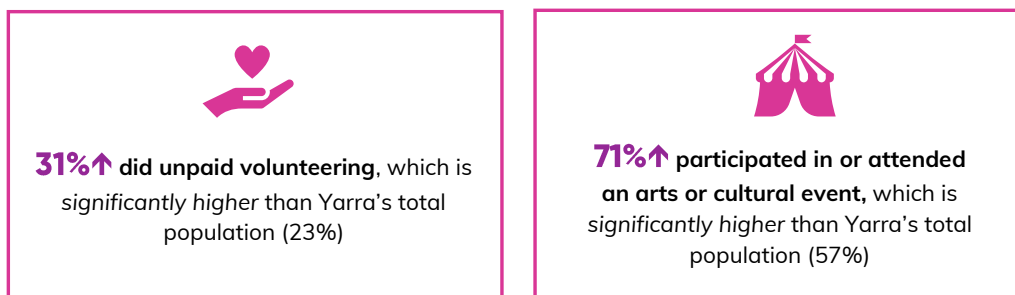
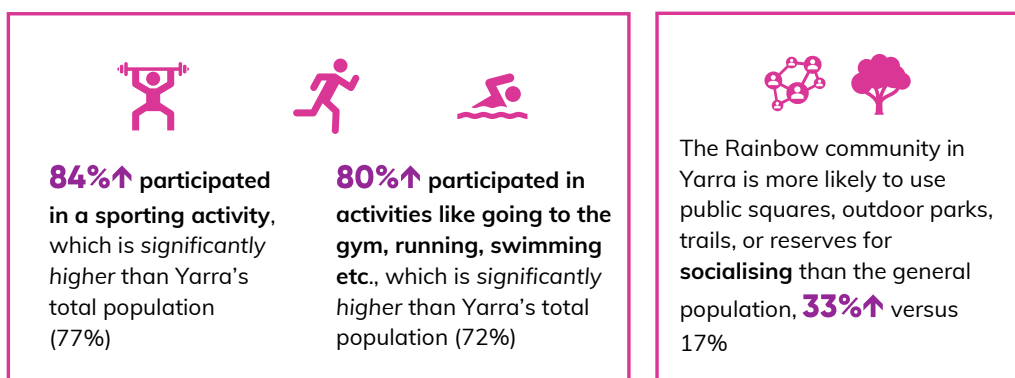
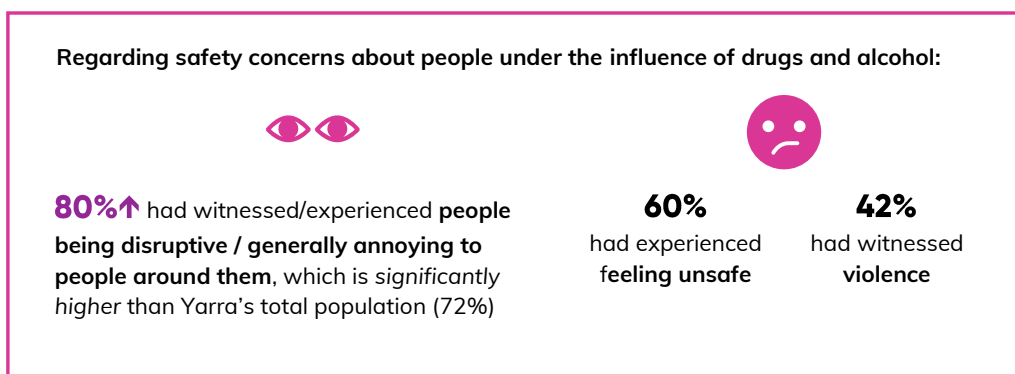
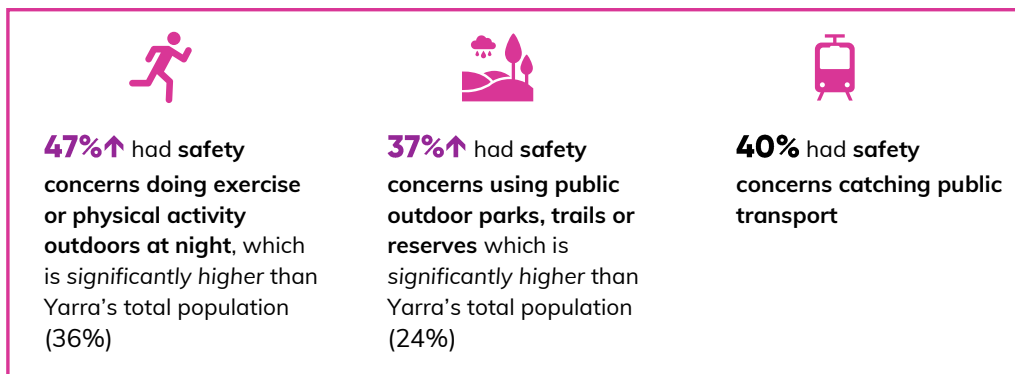
43% of the Rainbow community **owned their own home outright or with a mortgage**, which is similar to Yarra's total population (42%*)

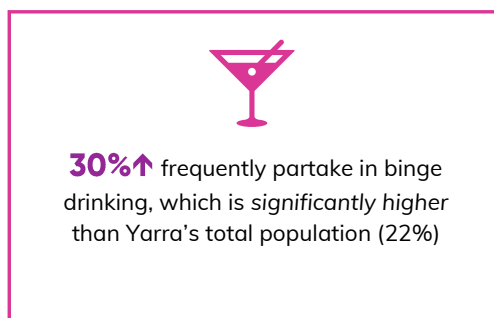
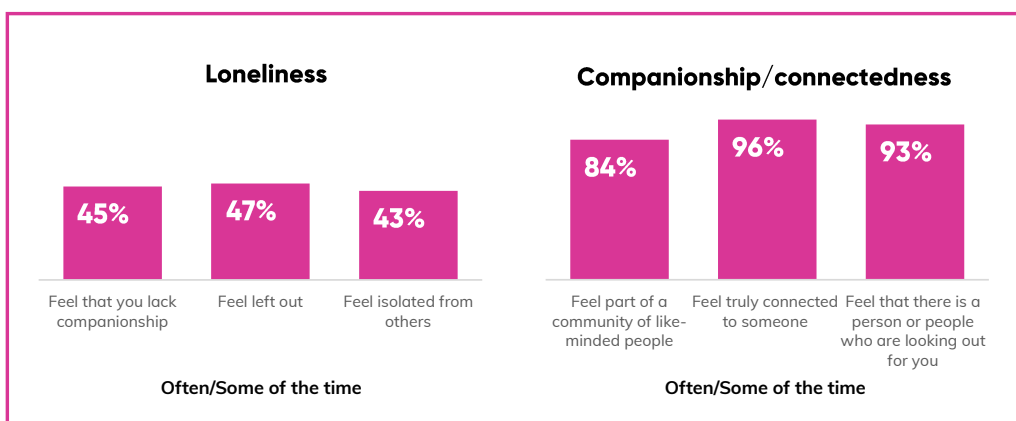
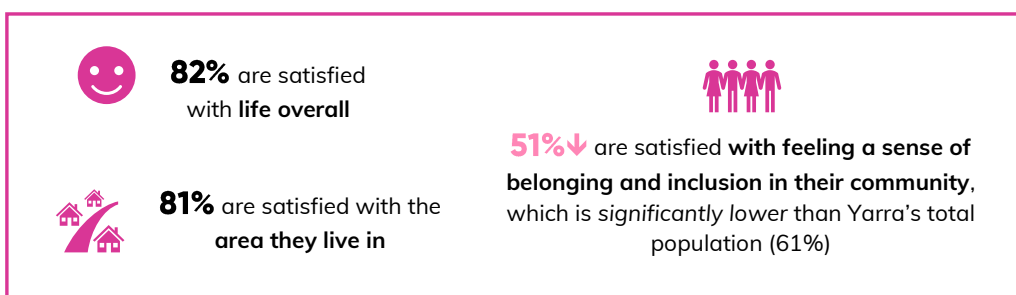
*ABS (2021)



Of the **couples living together** (3,543 or 3% of Yarra's total population), **90%** lived without children and **10%** with children









ABS (2021)





Victorian Data

To address gaps in locally available data on Yarra residents, insights from the Victoria-wide *Private Lives Survey 3* (Hill et al., 2021) has been included to provide a broader understanding of the experiences and needs of the LGBTIQ+ community.

	47% of participants reported having experienced homelessness at some point in their lives.		18% experienced difficulty managing alcohol use or noted that alcohol had negatively impacted their daily life within the past 12 months.
	58% experienced unfair treatment due to sexual orientation, and 78% of trans and gender diverse participants reported this based on gender identity in the past year.		46% reported using one or more drugs for non-medical reasons in the past six months.
	72% reported having been diagnosed with a mental health condition at some stage in their lives.		43% had experienced abuse in an intimate relationship
	Among various health service providers, mainstream medical clinics were least likely to be seen as respectful of sexual orientation (57.5%) and gender identity.		38% had experienced abuse from a family member

Policy Context

Commitments to inclusion across all levels of government shape this Strategy. Federal and state policies provide the framework that guides Council's role in supporting the rights, safety, and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ communities locally.

Federal

The Federal policy landscape relevant to the LGBTIQ+ community includes the National LGBTIQ+ Action Plan, the Australian Human Rights Commission, the Marriage Amendment (Definition and Religious Freedoms) Act 2017, the National Sex Discrimination Act 1984, the LGBTIQ+ Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the National Strategy to Prevent LGBTIQ+ Domestic Violence, and the Gender Identity and Intersex Rights Legislation. These national frameworks guide local governments in aligning policies, promoting inclusion, and ensuring compliance with anti-discrimination standards in community services and programs.

State

The Victorian Government's policies and laws that are relevant for the LGBTIQ+ community include Victorian Pride in our Futures LGBTIQ+ Strategy 2022-32, Anti-Vilification Laws (civil protections 2026), Equal Opportunity Act 2010, and Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act (2006). These state laws and strategies inform how local councils develop inclusive initiatives, uphold human rights, and foster safe, equitable environments for LGBTIQ+ residents.

What Yarra does

Yarra City Council partners with local groups and organisations to support the health, rights, and visibility of the Rainbow community. These connections help us stay informed, share vital information, and collaborate on meaningful projects. We advocate for inclusion, challenge discrimination, and ensure our work reflects the diverse experiences within the LGBTIQ+ community.

We work closely with our partners to support our Rainbow community. Our partners include local LGBTIQ+ allied health services, community groups, lobbyists, sports clubs, schools, venues, businesses, community organisations and festivals.

Council, either independently or in partnership with others, supports events and celebrations, community initiatives, advocacy, visibility and awareness campaigns, as well as youth engagement and training. Recent examples include:

Events and Celebrations

Queerways walking tours	Midsumma Festival	Victoria's Pride	Peel St Park Projection exhibition
IDAHOBIT	Transgender Day of Remembrance vigil	Wear It Purple Day	Iftar dinner during Ramadan
Pride Pool Party	Elders Dance Club	Seniors Festival Lunch	Author Talks
Thread Together Queer Styling Day			

Community Support

Naarm Rainbow Dads Playgroup	Rainbow Families Playgroup	Richmond High School Pride Group
Bent Twig Alliance community group	Community Grants funded programs or events specifically for queer communities	Rainbow Advisory Committee

Advocacy, Visibility and Awareness Campaigns

Rainbow Yarra Visibility campaign	AIDS Awareness Week	Rainbow Advisory Committee
Advocacy against religious discrimination	Advocacy for anti-vilification	Respectful relationships
LGBTIQ+ Heritage study of culturally and historically significant site	Scoping for an LGBTIQ+ memorial for lives lost to suicide	Addressing family and intimate partner violence in the community

Youth Engagement and Training

Safer Futures Training & Workshops	DJ & Production Skills for youth	Redevelopment of the code of conduct/rights and responsibilities for young people
------------------------------------	----------------------------------	---

Our Commitments

Our commitments focus on four priority areas shaped by community input, data, and expert advice. Through this Policy, Yarra Council will foster a city that honours heritage, promotes inclusion, ensures safety, and supports wellbeing.

Priority areas



Priority 1: Heritage and Celebration

We acknowledge and celebrate our history and proudly support Yarra's LGBTIQ+ precinct and businesses.

1.1 Celebrate days of significance and pride events

What will we do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledge and celebrate relevant days of significance in the Rainbow calendar • Partner with State Government for Victoria's Pride festival and Midsumma festival, exploring ways to expand accessibility and intersectionality • Provide opportunities for the community to participate in Pride events, facilitating learning and collaboration
------------------	---

1.2 Recognise queer people, spaces, landmarks and history

What will we do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate how to acknowledge best and protect queer places of cultural and historical significance • Increase LGBTIQ+ visibility through public art, storytelling, representation, and community recognition • Support LGBTIQ+ First Nations people in Yarra by centring their voices, businesses, and creating culturally safe spaces
------------------	--

1.3 Support Rainbow businesses and cultural precincts

What will we do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore ways to support rainbow businesses in Yarra through potential incentives and initiatives. • Preserve and enhance existing cultural precincts while exploring opportunities for expansion
------------------	---

Priority 2: Inclusion and Participation

We advocate for LGBTIQ+ people in Yarra, foster community connection, a sense of belonging and work towards reducing social isolation.

2.1 Provide opportunities for community participation

What will we do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate ways to connect and gather in different environments, including natural and urban settings • Create spaces for Rainbow youth and young adults to explore their identities, build connections, and access mentorship • Support senior Rainbow individuals by creating social programs, wellness activities and support groups tailored to their specific needs • Facilitate capacity building and mentorship opportunities to enable access to education and employment • Build intersectional connections between diverse groups
------------------	--

2.2 Uphold visible representation and inclusion in Council spaces and services

What will we do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that community resources in Council facilities reflect the diversity of the community, including LGBTIQ+ individuals and families • Promote the visibility of LGBTIQ+ families and individuals within public spaces and services • Foster an intersectional approach to integrating diverse identities in Council Advisory Groups and Committees. (business, multicultural, ageing, disability) to ensure representation from all sectors of the community
------------------	---

2.3 Foster an inclusive city

What will we do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advise on inclusive recruitment practices to increase diversity in the workplace, including in leadership roles • Provide staff with the tools to reflect and represent our diverse community in visual communications • Raise awareness and provide information to staff on inclusive language practices • Align procurement practices with our values to support ethical, inclusive and community-driven outcomes • Advocate for trans and gender diverse employees to receive appropriate leave and other individual supports when accessing gender affirming care
------------------	---

2.4 Support housing security

What will we do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through ongoing initiatives (such as Yarra Zero), explore and identify innovative social and affordable housing opportunities for groups at risk of homelessness or housing insecurity, including the LGBTIQ+ community
------------------	---

Priority 3: Safer Spaces

We promote visibility and maintain accessible LGBTIQA+ spaces.

3.1 Make events, activities and sports welcoming and accessible

What will we do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support inclusive access to sporting facilities and promote the growth of diverse sports that celebrate community participation and representation • Prioritise accessibility and inclusion at events to support the full participation of LGBTIQA+ people with disabilities and older community members
------------------	---

3.2 Raise awareness and promote relevant services

What will we do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate to service providers and other relevant stakeholders to improve access to safe, inclusive and affirming health care for trans and gender diverse communities
------------------	---

3.3 Adopt a zero-tolerance approach to discrimination, harassment and violence

What will we do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with local organisations to prevent discrimination and violence, ensuring safety and support for the Rainbow community • Investigate gaps and opportunities in intimate partner and family violence support services for LGBTIQA+ communities • Address anti-LGBTIQA+ discrimination with tailored campaigns aimed at education and shifting attitudes across the wider community • Acknowledge and address the rising prevalence of lateral violence within LGBTIQA+ communities, focusing on prevention and support • Protect the community from discriminatory expression
------------------	--

Priority 4: Health and Wellbeing

We focus on improving the health and wellbeing of LGBTIQA+ individuals by supporting all intersections within the community.

4.1 Encourage healthy and active lifestyles

What will we do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create more opportunities for community to connect in alcohol-free spaces • Promote current LGBTIQA+ Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) services and therapeutic groups
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate creative ways to increase opportunities and engagement in physical activities

4.2 Promote mental health and wellbeing

What will we do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate gaps and opportunities in the mental health sector for the queer community
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with queer, multicultural, and refugee groups to provide meaningful support on sexuality and gender issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support initiatives that encourage connections between different generations within the Rainbow community
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the wellbeing benefits of community participation, such as celebrating volunteerism in the queer community

Glossary of Terms

LGBTIQA+

An umbrella acronym that stands for:

- **Lesbian** – A woman who is emotionally, romantically or sexually attracted to other women.
 - **Gay** – Often refers to a man who is emotionally, romantically or sexually attracted to other men, but can also refer to anyone attracted to the same gender.
 - **Bisexual** – A person attracted to more than one gender. Other terms used can be Pansexual or Multi Gender Attracted.
 - **Transgender** – Someone whose gender identity differs from the sex they were assigned at birth.
 - **Intersex** – A person born with physical sex characteristics that don't fit typical definitions of male or female.
 - **Queer** – A reclaimed word used by many in the community to describe identities beyond heterosexual and cisgender. It's broad, fluid, and intentionally inclusive.
 - **Asexual (or Aromantic or Agender)** – Often included to represent people who don't experience sexual attraction or have non-normative romantic/relationship identities or gender identities.
 - **+** – A symbol to include all other diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, and intersex variations not specifically covered by the preceding letters.
-

Other Key Terms in Context

Rainbow Advisory Committee

The Council's Rainbow Advisory Committee advocates for making the City of Yarra a better place to live and work for people who identify as LGBTIQA+. The committee advises us on how to communicate and engage with LGBTIQA+ people on issues that affect them.

Rainbow

Is an umbrella term used to represent the LGBTIQA+ community, also considering Multicultural intersections and First Nations people. Rainbow Yarra's logo has many colours in it's rainbow to reflect this.

QTIPOC

Queer, Trans, and/or Intersex People of Colour. It's a term used to describe individuals who identify as queer, trans, intersex, or are questioning their gender or sexuality, and also identify as people of colour

QTBIPOC

Queer, Trans, Black, Indigenous People of Colour.

IDAHOBIT

International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersex Discrimination and Transphobia – Celebrated on May 17 each year to raise awareness of the discrimination faced by LGBTIQ+ communities worldwide.

Trans Day of Remembrance (TDOR)

Observed annually on November 20 to honour the memory of transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence.

Midsumma Festival

Melbourne's premier queer arts and cultural festival, running each summer and showcasing diverse LGBTIQ+ communities through events, performances, exhibitions and Pride March.

Victoria's Pride

A Victorian Government-funded street festival celebration held in Yarra for LGBTIQ+ communities and allies, 2022-2026

Rainbow families

Families where one or more caregivers identify as part of the LGBTIQ+ community. This term embraces diverse family structures, including same-gender parents, trans parents, and chosen family networks.

Rainbow youth

Young people who identify as LGBTIQ+ may be navigating identity, community, connection, and support.

Rainbow Yarra visibility campaign

Refers to a Yarra initiative created to increase the presence and representation of LGBTIQ+ communities in public life, which includes a campaign featuring posters, social media content, videos, public art, and storytelling.

Lateral violence

A form of harm that can occur within marginalised communities — including LGBTIQ+ spaces — where internalised oppression, competition, or trauma is expressed as conflict, exclusion, or criticism directed at peers.

Data References

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). (2021). Census of Population and Housing: Housing Type, 2021.

Hill, A. O., Bourne, A., McNair, R., Carman, M. & Lyons, A. (2021). Private Lives 3: The health and wellbeing of LGBTQ people in Victoria: Victoria summary report. ARCSHS Monograph Series No. 130. Melbourne, Australia: Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, La Trobe University.

Victorian Agency for Health Information (VAHI). (2023). Victorian Population Health Survey. Department of Health.

Yarra City Council (2024). Social Indicators Survey. Yarra City Council.

Alignment of the Rainbow Yarra Policy with the Council Plan 2025–2029 and the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2025–2029

Priority 1: Heritage and Celebration

(i) Celebrate days of significance and pride events

Council Plan Alignment:

- **Focus Area:** Working and Playing in the City
- **Strategy 7.1:** Partner with local community and cultural groups to deliver annual events that contribute to our vibrant community
- **Monitoring Success:**
 - Our activity centres are more vibrant
 - More of our community members feel connected to community life.

MPHWP Alignment:

- **Priority Area:** Safe and respectful communities
- **Strategy:** Promote social cohesion
- **Initiative:** Celebrate and promote diversity in the community

(ii) Recognise queer people, spaces, landmarks and history

Council Plan Alignment:

- **Focus Area:** Living in the City
- **Strategy 2.1:** Deliver programs and make better use of existing places to foster connection, and support people of all ages and backgrounds
- **Monitoring Success:**
 - Our activity centres are more vibrant
 - More of our community members feel connected to community life.

MPHWP Alignment:

- **Priority Area:** Safe and respectful communities
- **Strategy:** Promote social cohesion
- **Initiatives:**
 - Celebrate and promote diversity in the community
 - Ensure Council spaces and programs are safe and welcoming

(iii) Support Rainbow businesses and cultural precincts

Council Plan Alignment:

- **Focus Area:** Working and Playing in the City
- **Strategy 7.2:** Partner with local trader groups and associations to deliver events that boost our local community and economy.
- **Strategy 9.2:** Support new creative projects that enhance our community fabric
- **Monitoring Success:**
 - Arts are more accessible and enrich daily life

MPHWP Alignment:

- **Priority Area:** Safe and respectful communities
 - **Strategy:** Promote social cohesion
 - **Initiative:** Celebrate and promote diversity in the community

Priority 2: Inclusion and Participation

(i) Provide opportunities for community participation

Council Plan Alignment:

- **Focus Area:** Living in the City
 - **Strategy 2.1:** Deliver programs and make better use of existing places to foster connection, and support people of all ages and backgrounds
- **Monitoring Success:** More of our community members feel connected to community life

MPHWP Alignment:

- **Priority Area:** Mental and social wellbeing
 - **Strategy:** Support community connection
 - **Initiative:** Partner with community organisations to deliver programs
 - **Initiative:** Provide spaces and programs to foster community connection
 - **Strategy:** Foster mental wellbeing
 - **Initiative:** Provide equitable opportunities for civic participation

(ii) Uphold visible representation and inclusion in Council spaces and services

Council Plan Alignment:

- **Focus Area:** Living in the City
 - **Strategy 2.1:** Deliver programs and make better use of existing places to foster connection, and support people of all ages and backgrounds to live a healthy and fulfilling life.
 - **Strategy 2.2:** Advocate to external stakeholders to support at-risk communities in Yarra
- **Monitoring Success:** Improved support for diverse and at-risk communities

MPHWP Alignment:

- **Priority Area:** Safe and respectful communities
 - **Strategy:** Promote social cohesion
 - **Initiative:** Ensure Council spaces and programs are safe and welcoming
 - **Initiative:** Celebrate and promote diversity in the community
 - **Strategy:** Promote inclusive access
 - **Initiative:** Embed inclusive practices across services, events and programs

(iii) Foster an inclusive organisational culture

Council Plan Alignment:

- **Focus Area:** Living in the City
 - **Strategy 2.1:** Deliver programs and make better use of existing places to foster connection, and support people of all ages and backgrounds to live a healthy and fulfilling life.
 - **Strategy 2.2:** Advocate to external stakeholders to support at-risk communities in Yarra
- **Monitoring Success:** Improved support for diverse and at-risk communities

MPHWP Alignment:

- **Priority Area:** Safe and respectful communities
 - **Strategy:** Promote social cohesion
 - **Initiative:** Strengthen organisational networks and relationships in the community
 - **Strategy:** Promote inclusive access

- **Initiative:** Embed inclusive practices across services, events and programs

(iv) Support housing security

Council Plan Alignment:

- **Focus Area:** Building the City
 - **Strategy 4:** Enable equitable and planned housing growth to keep Yarra liveable

Monitoring Success (Council Plan):

- More people are able to call Yarra home

Priority 3: Safer Spaces

(i) Make events, activities and sports welcoming and accessible

Council Plan Alignment:

- **Focus Area:** Working and Playing in the City
 - **Strategy 7.1:** Partner with local community and cultural groups to deliver annual events that contribute to our vibrant community
 - **Strategy 7.2:** Partner with local trader groups and associations to deliver events that boost our local community and economy
- **Monitoring Success:**
 - Our activity centres are more vibrant
 - Arts are more accessible and enrich daily life

MPHWP Alignment:

- **Priority Area:** Promote active living
 - **Strategy:** Promote inclusive physical activity, sports and recreation
 - **Initiative:** Deliver targeted programs to meet needs of priority populations
 - **Initiative:** Improve inclusion and accessibility in sports clubs
- **Priority Area:** Safe and respectful communities
 - **Strategy:** Promote social cohesion
 - **Initiative:** Ensure Council spaces and programs are safe and welcoming

(ii) Raise awareness and promote relevant services

Council Plan Alignment:

- **Focus Area:** Living in the City
 - **Strategy 2.2:** Advocate to external stakeholders to support at-risk communities in Yarra
- **Monitoring Success:** Improved support for diverse and at-risk communities

MPHWP Alignment:

- **Priority Area:** Safe and respectful communities
 - **Strategy:** Promote social cohesion
 - **Initiative:** Celebrate and promote diversity in the community
 - **Initiative:** Strengthen organisational networks and relationships in the community
- **Priority Area:** Mental and social wellbeing
 - **Strategy:** Foster mental wellbeing
 - **Initiative:** Advocate for more inclusive mental wellbeing services in Yarra

(iii) Adopt a zero-tolerance approach to discrimination, harassment and violence

Council Plan Alignment:

- **Focus Area:** Living in the City
 - **Strategy 1.3:** Implement improvements to enhance safety in our streets and public spaces
- **Monitoring Success:** Our streets are safer, cleaner and greener

MPHWP Alignment:

- **Priority Area:** Safe and respectful communities
 - **Strategy:** Support a community-wide approach to preventing family and gendered violence
 - **Initiative:** Promote healthy relationships through education and awareness
 - **Initiative:** Create and support local partnerships
 - **Strategy:** Promote social cohesion
 - **Initiative:** Ensure Council spaces and programs are safe and welcoming

Priority 4: Health and Wellbeing

(i) Encourage healthy and active lifestyles

Council Plan Alignment:

- **Focus Area:** Living in the City
 - **Strategy 2.1:** Deliver programs and make better use of existing places to foster connection, and support people of all ages and backgrounds to live a healthy and fulfilling life
- **Monitoring Success:**
 - More people have access to services and places that support their health
 - More of our community members feel connected to community life

MPHWP Alignment:

- **Priority Area:** Promote active living
 - **Strategy:** Promote inclusive physical activity, sports and recreation
 - **Initiative:** Deliver targeted programs to meet needs of priority populations
 - **Initiative:** Improve inclusion and accessibility in sports clubs
- **Priority Area:** Reduce impacts of alcohol, drugs, vaping and tobacco
 - **Strategy:** Promote healthier alcohol cultures
 - **Initiative:** Promote utilisation of existing and emerging alcohol-free spaces and programs

(ii) Promote mental health and wellbeing

Council Plan Alignment:

- **Focus Area:** Living in the City
 - **Strategy 2.2:** Advocate to external stakeholders to support at-risk communities in Yarra
- **Monitoring Success:**
 - Improved support for diverse and at-risk communities

MPHWP Alignment:

- **Priority Area:** Mental and social wellbeing
 - **Strategy:** Foster mental wellbeing
 - **Initiative:** Provide equitable opportunities for civic participation

- **Initiative:** Advocate for more inclusive mental wellbeing services in Yarra
- o **Strategy:** Support community connection
 - **Initiative:** Partner with community organisations to deliver programs
 - **Initiative:** Provide spaces and programs to foster community connection
- o **Strategy:** Promote inclusive access
 - **Initiative:** Strengthen processes to identify barriers to access
 - **Initiative:** Embed inclusive practices across services, events and programs

7.4. 2024/25 Quarterly Community Report Quarter Four

Author Emily Woodin – Coordinator Business Planning and Performance

Authoriser General Manager Governance, Communications and Customer Service

Executive Summary

The 2024/25 Quarterly Community Report 4 (Community Report) (**Attachment 1**) provides a comprehensive overview of Council activities and key achievements for the quarter. It outlines progress in delivering the Council Plan through the Annual Plan, updates on the Financial Report, delivery of the Capital Works Program, and implementation of key strategies and initiatives.

This report marks the final update to the community on the delivery of the Council Plan 2021–2025.

The Annual Plan performance at the end of June had 24 complete (63%), 13 Actions in progress 34%, and one Action (3%) did not start. Overall performance was 89% against our performance target of 75%.

Despite sector challenges and a volatile economic market, Council has delivered a surplus net result of \$33.5 million, \$18.3 million greater than budget and \$7.6 million greater than surplus.

Since the adoption of the Financial Sustainability Strategy, \$14 million has been transferred to reserves, ensuring Council is prudently planning for an upcoming expanded capital works program and increased service demand.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the report and adopt the 2024/25 Quarterly Community Report 4.

History and background

Legislative Requirements

1. The Council Plan 2021-25 incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan was adopted by Council on 19 October 2021 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act).
2. Supporting the Council Plan is an Annual Plan that outlines the principal activities to be undertaken over the course of each financial year. The 2024/25 Annual Plan included 38 Year 4 actions that contribute to the delivery of 4-year initiatives in the Council Plan 2021-25.

3. The Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) requires that Council publish a quarterly statement comparing the budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date. To communicate progress against the Council plan and comply with the reporting requirements of the Act, Council publishes a Quarterly Community Report.

Quarterly Community Report

4. Beyond legislative requirements, Council's Quarterly Community Report includes an integrated overview of Council activities and achievements for the quarter, progress delivering the Council Plan through the Annual Plan, financial performance, capital works delivery and implementation of key strategies and plans.

Financial Sustainability

5. As part of our commitment to improving Council's financial health, Council's first Financial Sustainability Strategy was adopted in December 2023.
6. Like all other councils across Victoria, Yarra is facing significant, ongoing financial challenges with rising cost pressures, rate capping and cost shifting, coupled with unprecedented growth and increasing pressure and demand on its services. Constant changes to the economic landscape have compounded these challenges with high levels of inflation and significant increases to the cost of materials, services and labour.
7. Long-term financial sustainability is essential to ensure Council can continue providing the services and programs our community relies on. Towards this, it is crucial that current decisions are forward-thinking and consider the evolving needs of our current and future community.

Discussion

8. Key highlights in the Community Report include the adoption of the Property Strategy, an extensive review of the Community Grants Program, open space improvements, road safety improvements along with standard inclusions such as planning scheme amendments and statutory planning activity.

2024/25 Annual Plan Quarter 4 result

9. The 2024/25 Annual Plan had 38 actions to be delivered. The Annual Plan including the final action progress report is contained in **Attachment 1**. Performance was 89% against our performance target of 75%.
10. The Annual Plan progress at the end of June had 24 complete (63%), 13 Actions in progress 34%, and one Action (3%) did not start.
11. Of the 13 Actions in progress, three (8%) are on track (at least 90% of target achieved), seven are monitor (between 75% and 90% of the target achieved) and three (8%) are off track (less than 75% of the target achieved).

	Complete 100%	On-track ≥90%	Monitor 75-90%	Off-track <75%	Did not start
--	------------------	------------------	-------------------	-------------------	---------------

Climate and environment	3	-	-	-	-
Social equity and health	10	-	2	-	-
Local economy	3	-	2	-	-
Place and nature	3	1	-	3	-
Transport and movement	2	1	3	-	-
Democracy and governance	3	1	-	-	-
Total	24	3	7	3	1

12. The three actions currently off-track are outlined below:

Action	Comment
4.2.2.1 Built Form Provisions for Activity Centres and Employment Precincts	The reasons this action is off-track are beyond the Council's control, as it depends on decisions made by the State Government. This work will continue in FY26.
4.2.2.2 Gipps Street Major Employment Precinct Local Area Plan	The reasons this action is off-track are beyond the Council's control, as it depends on decisions made by the State Government. This work will continue in FY26.
4.2.4.1 Zero carbon development planning scheme amendment	This work will continue in FY26.

13. Completion of the three delayed actions is scheduled for FY26, with no additional budget required.
14. The one action that did not start was Action 4.1.2.3 - Amendment to update Flood Mapping in Yarra. In November 2024, Council resolved to defer the 'Keeping Yarra Flood Resilient' amendment and requested Officers provide information on the condition of the drainage network. Ongoing discussions with Melbourne Water and the State Government continue.

Financial Update

15. Council has reported a net surplus result for 2024-25 of \$33.5 million, a favourable variance of \$7.6 million compared to the March 2025 quarterly forecast update.
16. This positive outcome is mainly due to:
 - (a) \$3.4 million of expenditure on projects (including the ERP project) that were not completed by June 30, but are expected to be delivered over the next quarter;
 - (b) \$2.7 million of higher revenue than forecasted on parking fees and infringement revenue; and
 - (c) \$1.6 million of Commonwealth grants for the next financial year that were received early and will be expended in 2025-26.
17. The net surplus result (reported on Council's Income Statement) does not represent profit to Council as it includes a number of non-cash items and excludes Council's significant Capital Works program. At the end of the financial year, Council transferred \$14 million to nominated cash reserves, in line with its Financial Sustainability Strategy action plan.

Options

18. There are no known options for Council.

Community and stakeholder engagement

19. The Annual Plan is informed by initiatives in the Council Plan 2021-25. Significant community engagement was undertaken during the development of the Council Plan 2021-25. Community submissions to the annual budget process are considered by Council.

Strategic Analysis

Alignment to current Council Plan (2021-2025)

Strategic Objective four - Running the City

Strategy 10: Ensure all decisions are financially sound, transparent, and accountable to the community.

Strategy 11: Ensure we deliver services that are fit for purpose and provide value to the community.

Strategy 12: Engage in broad partnerships with First Peoples of Yarra.

Strategy 13: Manage Council's land and building assets to maximise value to the local community.

Strategy 14: Make it easier to contact and engage with Council.

Climate emergency

20. The Council Plan 2021-25 includes a Strategic Objective 'Climate and Environment' that addresses climate emergency and sustainability implications. The Annual Plan includes three actions that respond to initiatives in this Strategic Objective.

Community and social implications

21. The Council Plan 2021-25 includes a Strategic Objective 'Social equity and health' that addresses community and social implications. The Annual Plan includes twelve actions that respond to Initiatives in this Strategic Objective.

Economic development implications

22. The Council Plan 2021-25 includes a Strategic Objective 'Local economy' that addresses economic development implications. The Annual Plan includes five actions that respond to Initiatives in this Strategic Objective.

Human rights and gender equality implications

23. The Council Plan 2021-25 includes a Strategic Objective 'Social equity and health' that addresses equity, inclusion, wellbeing and human rights considerations. The Annual Plan includes twelve actions that respond to Initiatives in this Strategic Objective.

Finance and Resource Impacts and Interdependencies

24. This report provides an analysis of progress against the Council Plan and budget for Quarter 4 2024/2025 financial year.

Legal and Legislative obligations

Conflict of interest disclosure

25. Section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of interest in a matter to which the advice relates.
26. The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Other legislative obligations

27. Section 97 of the Act requires a quarterly budget report be presented to a Council meeting. This report must include a comparison of the actual and budgeted results to date and an explanation of any material variances.

Risks Analysis

28. There are no identified risk implications.

Implementation Strategy

29. The Community Report will be published on Council's website following its adoption at the Council Meeting on 12 August 2025.

Report attachments

1. 7.4.1 2024-25 Quarterly Community Report - Quarter Four

Quarterly Community Report

Quarter 4
2024/25



Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. 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 and to their Elders past, present and future.

This publication is available in alternative accessible formats on request.

Electronic copy

PDF versions of this report can be downloaded from yarracity.vic.gov.au

National Relay service

TTY 133 677 then (03) 9205 5555
or relayservice.gov.au

Yarra Council language line

العربية 9280 1930

中文 9280 1937

Ελληνικά 9280 1934

Italiano 9280 1931

Español 9280 1935

Tiếng Việt 9280 1939

Other 9280 1940

REF 20,447

Contents

CEO Message	6
Quarter 4 report	9
Strategic objective 1: Climate and environment	9
Environmental/Sustainability Improvements	9
Rewilding Program	9
Strategic objective 2: Social equity and health	13
Homelessness Strategy (including Yarra Zero) and Social and Affordable Housing Strategy	13
Libraries	13
Multicultural Partnerships Policy	14
The Community Grants Program	15
Strategic objective 3: Local economy	17
Activity Centre Utilisation	17
Strategic objective 4: Place and nature	18
Leisure, sport and recreation activities update	18
Improvements to Open Space	18
Planning scheme amendments lodged	19
Property Update	21
Statutory & Strategic Planning Services Review – Implementation	21
Statutory Planning – expired permits	21
Statutory Planning – VCAT Activity	22
Statutory Planning Activity	27
Strategic objective 5: Transport and movement	28
Car Share	28
Road Safety Improvements	29



4 Quarterly Community Report – Quarter Four 2024/25

Strategic objective 6: Democracy and governance	31
Acquittal of Council resolutions	31
Advocacy Action Plan	32
Citizenship ceremonies	34
Community Engagement Policy Action Plan	34
<hr/> Financial Report	<hr/> 36
Comprehensive Income Statement	38
Summary Quarter Four Actuals to Forecast	39
Summary Quarter Four Actuals to Budget	39
Capital Works	42
Cash Position	43
Financial Sustainability Ratios	44
Treasury Corporation of Victoria (TCV) Loan financial covenants	45
Statement of Financial Position	46
Statement of Cash flows	48
Statement of Capital Works	50
Operating Performance	52
Statutory fees	52
Recreation and Leisure Fees	52
Rates Collection	53
Parking Revenue	54
<hr/> Capital Works Projects Report	<hr/> 59
<hr/> Annual Plan performance	<hr/> 66

CEO Message



I am pleased to present the City of Yarra's Quarterly Community Report for Quarter 4 of 2024/25 – the final report for the financial year on our performance and achievements.

Included is up-to-date information on key Council projects, services and financial indicators, along with an overview of performance against our commitments to the community in our four-year Council Plan and capital works program.

It has been a busy quarter and a rewarding one, highlighted by the adoption of the 2025–2029 Council Plan and Year 1 Action Plan; 2025 Community Vision Update and Reflection and Financial plan; along with the 2025/26 Budget, which outlines the key actions and services we'll deliver to support and strengthen our community in the year ahead.

Across the three months of reporting, key highlights include the following:

- The adoption of the Property Strategy 2025–2030 in April: This provides a clear framework to guide all property decisions and ensure our assets are managed fairly, transparently, and for the community's benefit.
- Upgrading Yarra Leisure facilities: Our facilities now feature new strength and cardio equipment, enhanced spin rooms, and refreshed group fitness studios to deliver a more engaging and connected workout experience.



- ▶ **A successful 2025 Fitzroy Writers Festival:** This festival highlighted Yarra's strong community engagement and has been renewed for 2026. Richmond Library also benefited from a Victorian Government grant, enabling key refurbishments including improved programming spaces, a dedicated nursing area, and accessible soundproof study booths.
- ▶ **An extensive review of the Yarra Community Grants Program:** This review led to a streamlined and more transparent model, endorsed by Council on 13 May 2025, to be introduced in the 2026 grants round. The program now features six funding streams aligned with key community priorities, three tiers of grant sizes, and responsive small grants available year-round, all within a \$1.54 million

budget. The 2026 round will open on 8 September and close on 19 October, with support sessions planned to help applicants access funding more fairly and easily.

We're incredibly proud of all we've achieved this quarter.

In addition, we're excited to launch the first year of the new Council Plan, building on a strong foundation, and are looking forward to the progress we anticipate in the new financial year.

Sue Wilkinson
CEO, Yarra City Council



8 Quarterly Community Report – Quarter Four 2024/25

Quarter 4 report

Strategic objective 1: Climate and environment



Environmental/Sustainability Improvements

Rewilding Program

During 2024/25, on ground works associated with the Bringing Nature Back (BNB) to Yarra Program has resulted in healing country through reinstatement of original vegetation, strengthening of wildlife corridors along waterways, provision of winter foraging opportunities for the threatened Grey-headed Flying-fox.

A Total of 80,710 local native tubestock of over 70 different species were planted by community, staff and ecological contractors, expanding areas of open space managed for biodiversity outcomes by 2.1ha.

Achievements include:

- Burnley Golf Course, Stage 2 Revegetation, Burnley – 25,270 plants
- City Works Depot, Northern Perimeter Planting, Clifton Hill – 400 plants
- Fairfield Park, Local Native Seed Orchard, Fairfield – 8,000 plants
- Flockhart Reserve, Local Native Seed Orchard, Abbotsford – 3,210 plants
- Gray Street, Local Native Seed Orchard, Clifton Hill – 4,000 plants



- Halls Reserve, Merri Merri Riparian Zone Revegetation, Clifton Hill – 4,000 plants
- Halls Reserve, World Environment Day Staff Planting, Clifton Hill – 4,000 plants
- Infill planting through BNB sites and other bushland areas – 7,750 plants
- Loys Paddock, Birrarung Riparian Zone, Burnley – 4,600 plants
- Quarries Park, Eastern Slope World Environment Day Planting, Clifton Hill – 6,430 plants
- Quarries Park, Southern Slope Connect Existing Vegetation with Merri Merri, Clifton Hill – 2,000 plants
- Yarra Boulevard National Tree 2024, Burnley – 2,650 plants
- Yarra Boulevard Off Ramp, National Tree 2024 Expansion, Burnley – 6,000 plants
- Yambla Reserve, Dog Off-leash Area Upgrade Revegetation, Clifton Hill – 2,400 plants

BNB aims to assist in mitigating the impacts of climate change and healing country by reducing bushland fragmentation and improving habitat connectivity. BNB creates accessible, healthy, resilient, and diverse ecosystems in urban areas that reinforce Yarra's commitment to custodianship of the Birrarung, its parkland and tributaries as one living and integrated natural entity. Burndap Birrarung burndap umarkoo – What's good for the Birrarung, is good for all!

10 Quarterly Community Report – Quarter Four 2024/25



City of Yarra 11

2

Strategic objective 2: Social equity and health

Homelessness Strategy (including Yarra Zero) and Social and Affordable Housing Strategy

The Yarra Homelessness Strategy guides Yarra Council's actions to address the impacts of homelessness. In the past year, the Strategy continued to focus on advancing Yarra Zero, a key initiative. The Yarra Zero Project operates with crucial service partners such as Launch Housing and cohealth.

It uses a 'By Name List' to understand the needs of each person experiencing homelessness and brings together local partners from housing, health, and legal sectors, which collaborate on a focused service response to support each person to find and sustain stable housing. From July 2023 up to the end of May 2025, the Yarra Zero project had identified 143 individuals sleeping rough in our City, and supported 53 people to move into stable housing.

Yarra's Social and Affordable Housing Strategy outlines how Council seeks to increase the supply of social and affordable housing and address inequities in the local housing market. Council's current use of Section 173 agreements leverages opportunities to negotiate social and affordable housing stock contributions in large-scale private developments, achieving significant outcomes.

The state government's Victorian Housing Statement continues to shape the Council's focus – particularly the state government's announcement of the demolition of the public housing towers. The high-rise at 139 Highett Street, Richmond, is the first in Yarra to be scheduled for demolition, along with the nearby low-rise housing at 111, 119 and 127 Elizabeth Street, 6 and 8 Anderson Court, 1–5, 7 and 9 Williams Court, Richmond.

Council continues to oppose the demolition through its advocacy to the Victorian Government. In the last quarter, a submission was made by Council to the Legal and Social Issues Committee of Victorian Parliament for the Inquiry into the Redevelopment of Melbourne's Public Housing Towers.

An Expression of Interest process is currently underway for a new Public and Community Housing Advisory Committee, which will provide Council with key insights into this and other issues affecting public and community housing residents in Yarra.

Libraries

The Fitzroy Writers Festival was held on Saturday, 12 April 2025, marking its return after a four-year hiatus. The event was attended by approximately 800 people and featured a program of five author panels and discussions.

The festival commenced with an official opening from Mayor Jolly. The program featured five engaging author panels and events, showcasing a diverse mix of voices, from acclaimed fiction and non-fiction writers to political analysts, local business owners, and cultural figures.

Among the speakers was Stella Prize nominee Melanie Cheng, who discussed her recent publication, *The Burrow*. Local restaurant owners participated in a lively session on the Fitzroy food scene, while the final panel, featuring George Megalogenis and Sean Kelly, addressed national voting trends in the lead-up to the federal election.

All sessions were interpreted live in Auslan by interpreters from Auslan Stage Left, ensuring accessibility for deaf and hard-of-hearing attendees. A local bookseller, Fairfield Books, operated on-site and sold 85 titles during the event.

The successful delivery of the 2025 Fitzroy Writers Festival demonstrates strong community interest in literary and cultural programming and has been renewed for 2026. Richmond Library received a minor refurbishment thanks to funding received from the Victorian Government's Living Libraries Infrastructure Program. The grant contributed to improvements to library programming spaces and kitchenette, new shelving and casual seating, the creation of a dedicated nursing space within the children's library, and installation of two soundproof study booths. One booth is fully accessible for community members with mobility scooters with an automatic door and adjustable furniture, and the other provides one to two people with a semi-private space for conversation or study.



City of Yarra 13



Multicultural Partnerships Policy

Council's Multicultural Partnerships Policy outlines our commitment to supporting multicultural and multifaith communities, ensuring inclusive participation in civic life.

Council has supported a range of initiatives reflecting these priorities. Cultural Diversity Week, aligned with the UN International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, featured community-led events supported by Council, including lunches and gatherings hosted by neighbourhood houses and grassroots community groups. Refugee Week is also celebrated, highlighting the 50th anniversary of the Vietnamese diaspora, and Yarra's first Iftar dinner, co-designed with the local Muslim community.

On 21 June 2025, Council hosted a civic event at Collingwood Town Hall with the Vietnamese Women's Association and the community to mark the 50th anniversary of Vietnamese migration to Australia. The event celebrated the rich cultural heritage of the Vietnamese community through traditional dancing, food, and live performances. During Refugee Week, on 23 June, a second

celebration of the 50-year milestone took place at Richmond Town Hall to highlight the significant contributions of the Vietnamese community to the City of Yarra.

Council continues to invest in community engagement and safety, including the "Coffee with a Cop" initiative with multicultural residents and Victoria Police. Partnerships with organisations like the Multicultural Centre for Women's Health supported events such as the PACE Launchpad, promoting leadership among migrants, refugees, and gender-diverse people.

Ongoing programs strengthened community connection and access to services. The Fitzroy Community Market at Atherton Gardens provided food relief and engagement opportunities, while the Yarra Multicultural Services Network brought together service providers throughout the year. A Youth Traineeship program created employment pathways for young people from multicultural backgrounds, and Council promoted greater multicultural participation in advisory committees. The Yarra Multicultural Advisory Group (YMAG) met regularly and played a key role in shaping the Council Plan 2025–2029.

14 Quarterly Community Report – Quarter Four 2024/25



The Bicultural Liaison Officer program continues to grow, enabling more effective community engagement and providing employment to culturally diverse residents.

The Speak Out Against Racism (SOAR) project continues to grow, as project partners met regularly with community members and develop actions to combat racism in the community, which include awareness raising on where to report racism.

These activities reflect Council's commitment to creating a welcoming, inclusive, and equitable community where all can thrive.

The Community Grants Program

An extensive review of the Yarra Community Grants Program (CGP) has been undertaken to ensure the program remains transparent, accountable, and aligned with emerging community needs. Legal and operational recommendations from the review included simpler grant streams, stronger conflict of interest management, periodic audits every four years, limited tenure for community panel

members, and a shift to procurement when purchasing services.

On 13 May 2025, Council endorsed a revised grants program model to be introduced for the 2026 Annual Grants Round. The program has been restructured into six new funding streams aligned with the Draft Council Plan 2025–29 and Yarra 2036 Community Vision:

- 1. Healthy, Inclusive and Connected Communities**
- 2. Vibrant and Resilient Local Economies**
- 3. Creative City and Cultural Participation**
- 4. First Peoples Self-Determination and Partnerships**
- 5. A Climate-Resilient and Adapted City**
- 6. Safe, Clean and Welcoming Neighbourhoods**

Three tiers of grant sizes will be offered annually: small (up to \$4,000), medium (\$4,001–\$20,000), and large (\$20,001–\$40,000). Additionally, responsive small grants will be available year-round until the funding pool is exhausted. The overall grants budget remains at \$1.54 million for 2026.

The 2026 round will open on 8 September 2025 and close on 19 October 2025, with grant outcomes announced by 17 December 2025. Information sessions will be held in August and September to support applicants. These changes reflect feedback from the community and aim to simplify access, improve fairness, and ensure better alignment with Council priorities.



3

Strategic objective 3: Local economy

Activity Centre Utilisation

We are excited to be launching the **1-hour free parking trial** on Swan Street, Bridge Road and Victoria Street from 1 July 2025. This trial aims to boost visitation and increase spending in our 3 retail and service precincts in Richmond, by reducing the parking costs for residents and visitors who want to shop locally.

We've commenced phase 1 of our community consultation for the new Economic Development Strategy 2025-2030 which will succeed our current Economic Development Strategy 2020-2025 when it expires at the end of this year. We have a range of engagements planned, including broad community consultation and targeted consultation with key industries and trader groups. The purpose of our **Economic Development Strategy** is to guide Council's strategic direction and help shape how we support local business now and into the future.

There have been some great community events on the calendar recently, including **Reclink Community Cup** on Sunday 15 June which brought 20,000 people to Victoria Park in Abbotsford and the surrounding Johnston Street precinct.

15 Yarra businesses participated in **Record Store Day** on Saturday 12 April. 10 of these stores were in Fitzroy and Collingwood, hosting live performances, exclusive releases and special in-store events celebrating local music and vinyl culture. Some vinyl collectors were seen camping on Smith Street overnight before shop doors opened at 8am.

A pair of pop superstars were paparazzied shopping in Yarra while they were in Melbourne for their Australian tours – **Dua Lipa** was seen browsing vinyl at Plug Seven Records on Smith Street and **Cyndi Lauper** picked up some new clothes at HoMie on Brunswick Street. Both artists shared photos of themselves shopping at these Yarra businesses to their \$87.6 million and \$1.8 million Instagram followers respectively.

4

Strategic objective 4: Place and nature

Leisure, sport and recreation activities update

New Fitness Equipment for Yarra Leisure

Yarra Leisure's gyms and programming spaces have been upgraded with new equipment and technology to provide a better workout experience.

Collingwood Leisure Centre, Fitzroy Swimming Pool and Richmond Recreation Centre have been fitted with brand new strength and cardio machines with larger, more user-friendly screens and improved connectivity, along with upgraded TVs, sound systems, and a full range of new functional training gear.

Spin rooms now feature state-of-the-art Indoor cycling group bikes, immersive sound and visuals, and regularly updated virtual rides to keep things fresh.

Group exercise studios have been refreshed with the latest equipment, enhanced instructor systems, and a wider variety of virtual classes available on demand.

This investment reflects Council's ongoing commitment to supporting health and wellbeing across our community. By providing high-quality spaces and services, we're helping make it easier for everyone in Yarra to stay active and connected.

Improvements to Open Space

In the final months of the 2024/25 financial year, Council has delivered a range of projects that uplift the presentation and community experiences in our open spaces. Some of the key projects include:

- ▶ A major upgrade of Smith Reserve featuring a new playground, new park furniture, shade and improvements to the dog off leash facilities.
- ▶ Creation of a new temporary pop-up park at the Bendigo Kangan Institute, Cremorne.
- ▶ The installation of new outdoor fitness equipment in Victoria Park.
- ▶ New drinking fountains installed at George Knott athletics field and Annette's Place, as well as upgrades to the existing fountains at Victoria Park, Edinburgh Gardens and Peel Street Park.
- ▶ Upgrades to the synthetic turf surfaces in the cricket nets at Brunswick Street Oval, to ensure ongoing durability.
- ▶ Continuation of our tree planting program, which has seen new trees planted in streets and parks across Yarra.
- ▶ Improvements to the outdoor areas at Gold Street Children's Centre and Yarralea Children's Centre.



- ▶ Repairs to pathways in Quarries Park and Linear Park, to promote safe and accessible pedestrian paths of travel.
- ▶ Irrigation upgrades at Cairns Reserve to help maintain a healthy green lawn.

Planning scheme amendments lodged

The responsible authority for Planning Schemes in Victoria is the Victorian Minister for Planning. All Planning Scheme proposals and amendments must be submitted to the Minister for approval. Ministerial approval is required through all aspects and stages of the process including approval to place the proposed amendment on public exhibition and referral to advisory committees.

In Yarra, the Minister appointed the Yarra Activity Standing Advisory Committee to provide advice to the Minister and Council on referred planning matters and

draft planning scheme provisions. Final adoption/ rejection of all planning scheme amendments rests with the Minister, this process can take months and even years.

The following provides an outline of the status of Yarra's proposed planning scheme amendments.

The amendments include:

- ▶ Amendments being progressed via the standard amendment process
- ▶ Amendments being considered via the Yarra Activity Centres Standing Activity Committee
- ▶ Requests for interim planning controls via a Ministerial amendment (an amendment without exhibition). These amendments are applied for while permanent planning controls are being pursued.

The amendments are at various stages of the process, including:

- ▶ Awaiting authorisation / consent from the Minister for Planning to publicly exhibit the amendment
- ▶ Have been publicly exhibited
- ▶ Are being considered by an independent planning panel or the standing advisory committee or
- ▶ Have been adopted by Council and are with the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) awaiting a decision by the Minister for Planning
- ▶ Are likely to be submitted to DTP for assessment in 2024/25.

City-wide amendments

C309yara – Elevating environmental standards

- ▶ The amendment is under consideration by DTP.

Local area amendments

Amendment C291yara – Bridge Road and Victoria Street Permanent Built Form Provisions

- ▶ Approval of the amendment is under consideration by DTP.

Amendment C271yara – Fitzroy/Collingwood Permanent Planning Provisions

- ▶ Publicly exhibited from 18 November 2024 to 24 February 2025.
- ▶ Officers are considering submissions and will report to Council in Quarter 2 2025/26.

Amendment C317yara – Cremorne Precinct Interim Built Form Provisions

- ▶ The request for a Ministerial amendment is under consideration by DTP.

Amendment C318yara – Cremorne Precinct Permanent Planning Provisions

- ▶ Request for consent to exhibit permanent planning provisions is under consideration by DTP.

Amendment C273yara – Heidelberg Road Permanent Planning Provisions

- ▶ Standing Advisory Committee Report received on 2 January 2025.
- ▶ Amendment was adopted by Council on 8 April 2025 and lodged with DTP for approval.

Amendment C247 – Site specific amendment – 21 Northumberland St and 26 Wellington St, Collingwood

- ▶ Publicly exhibited from 14 November to 16 December 2024.
- ▶ Three submissions were received and the issues were resolved. No hearing was held.
- ▶ Amendment was adopted by Council on 8 April 2025 and lodged with DTP for approval.

20 Quarterly Community Report – Quarter Four 2024/25

Property Update

Yarra City Council endorsed the Property Strategy 2025–2030 in April 2025, setting a clear framework for how Council will manage its property portfolio over the next five years. The strategy is now being applied to all new property dealings and decisions to ensure our assets are managed transparently, equitably, and with maximum benefit to the community.

Work is also underway to embed the strategy across the organisation. This includes assessing current property use, reviewing leases and licences, and identifying opportunities to improve utilisation and community access. Where possible, changes are being implemented at the time of lease/licence renewals to minimise disruption. Council is committed to balancing compliance with the strategy while ensuring continuity of community services.

Council will be briefed in the coming months on the overall state of the property portfolio and the proposed way forward. Reports will also be brought to Council as required and where suitable, for key decisions as outlined in the strategy.

Statutory & Strategic Planning Services Review – Implementation

The service review for Statutory and Strategic Planning has been completed, and implementation is underway.

To the end of Q4 the following recommendations were implemented:

- ▶ Planning information sessions held in June for the community and consultants and applicants
- ▶ Business permits forum held in June
- ▶ Yarra website updates to improve engagement and information for the community, including:
 - How to improve energy efficiency for heritage buildings; and
 - How to lodge guides for different types of planning permit applications

Statutory Planning – expired permits

Council has commenced reporting on the number of extensions granted to existing planning permits, as well as on the number of new dwellings that were approved under those planning permits.

The purpose of sharing this information is to draw attention to the many live planning permits that have not been acted upon to date, which could contribute to housing supply in the City of Yarra.

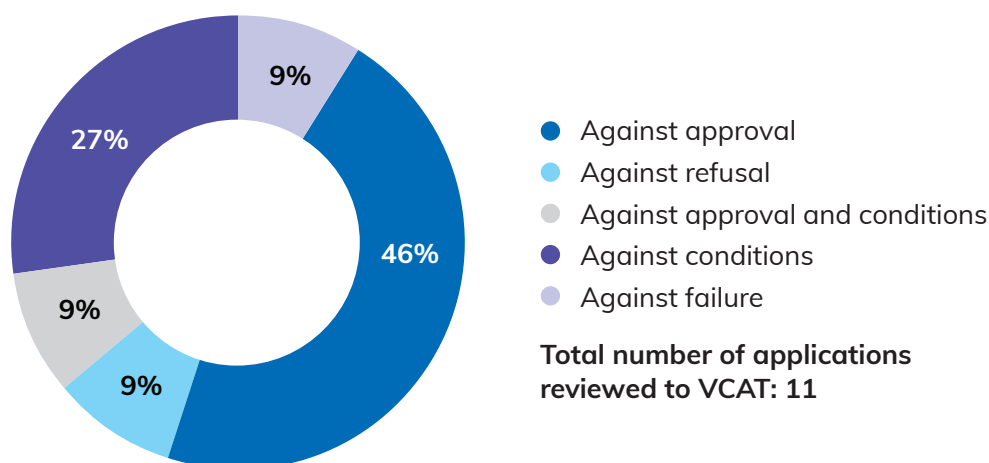
In Q4, Council granted 63 extensions to planning permits (202 new dwellings were approved under the permits extended).

Statutory Planning – VCAT Activity

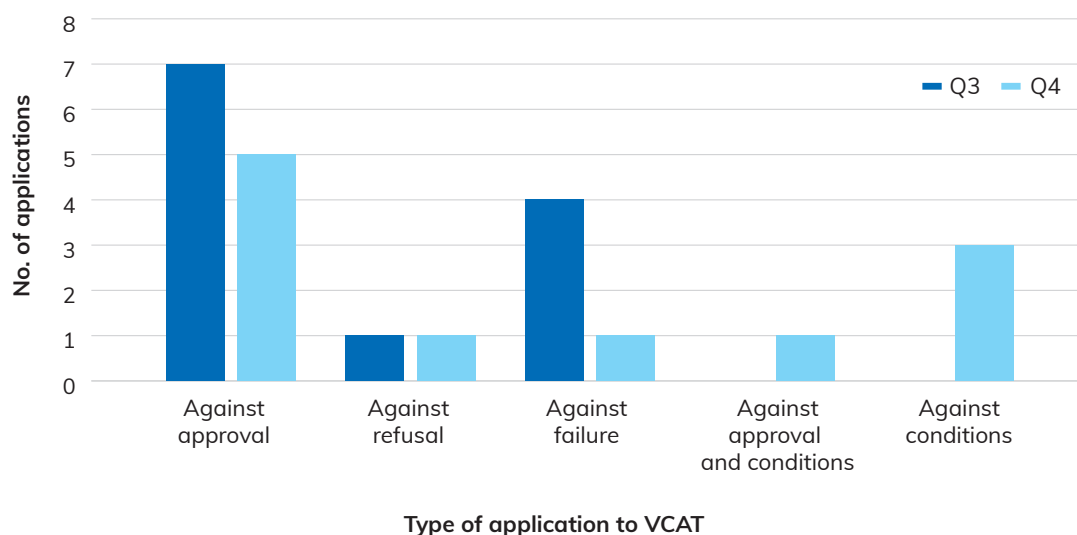
Appeals in Fourth Quarter of 2024-2025

There were 11 applications that were reviewed to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) in the fourth quarter of 2024-2025, 1 less application than the third quarter of 2024-2025.

Type of application to VCAT in Fourth Quarter of 2024-2025



Comparison of applications lodged with VCAT in Quarter 3 of 2024-2025 and Quarter 4 of 2024-2025



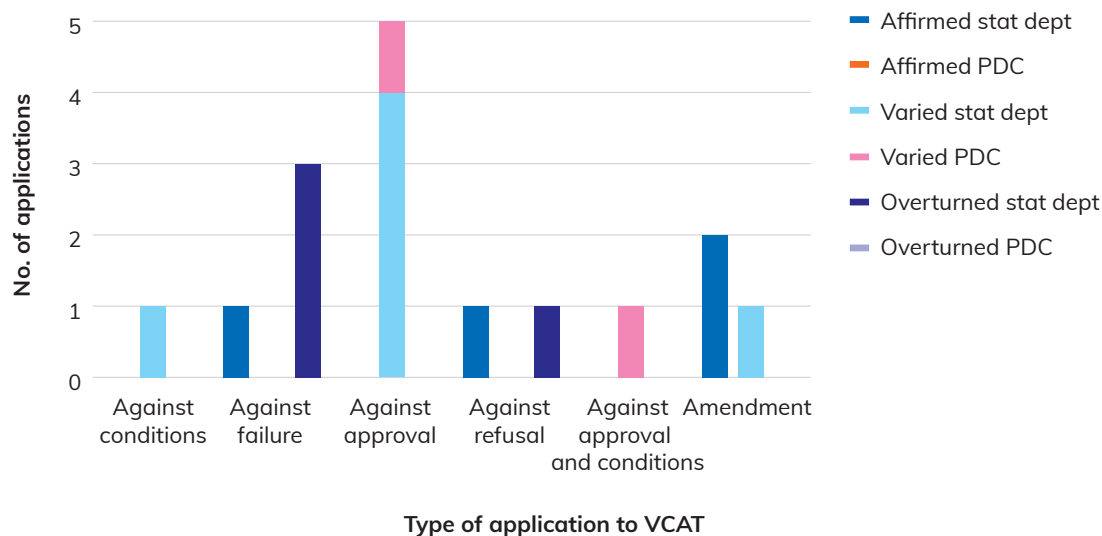
When comparing the type of applications reviewed with VCAT in the fourth quarter of 2024-2025 with the previous quarter, in the fourth quarter of 2024-2025 there were:

- ▶ 2 less applications 'against approval';
- ▶ the same number of applications 'against refusal';
- ▶ 3 less applications 'against failure';
- ▶ 1 more application 'against approval' and 'against conditions'; and
- ▶ 3 more applications 'against conditions'.

The number of applications for review against Council's failure to determine the application within the prescribed time in the fourth quarter equates to 9% of all applications reviewed to VCAT in the quarter (total 1 application). This is 3 less applications than the previous quarter whereby failure to determine applications equated to 33% of all applications reviewed.

The graph below shows the type of applications determined by VCAT in the fourth quarter of 2024-2025 and whether Council's decision was affirmed, varied or overturned. A total of 16 decisions were made by the Tribunal, plus 1 application was remitted back to Council.

VCAT decisions in Quarter 4 of 2024-2025



Total number of VCAT decisions: 16

Of the 16 VCAT Decisions in Quarter 4 of 2024-2025, there were:

- ▶ 4x Statutory Department decisions affirmed;
- ▶ 8x Statutory Department decisions varied and 2x PDC decisions varied; and
- ▶ 4x Statutory Department decisions overturned.

The graph below shows whether the VCAT decisions were via the consent of the parties.

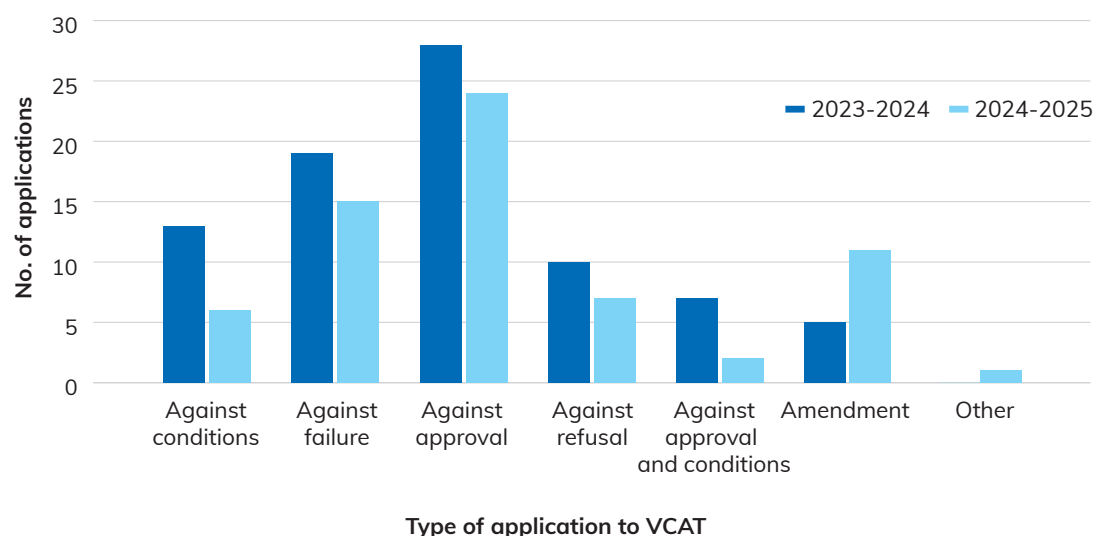
Of the 16 VCAT Decisions in Quarter 4 of 2024-2025, 10 decisions (62.5%) were via the consent of the parties.

Appeals in Financial Year 2024-2025

There were 66 applications that were reviewed to VCAT in the financial year 2024-2025, 16 less applications than the previous financial year of 2023-2024

Total number of applications reviewed to VCAT: 66

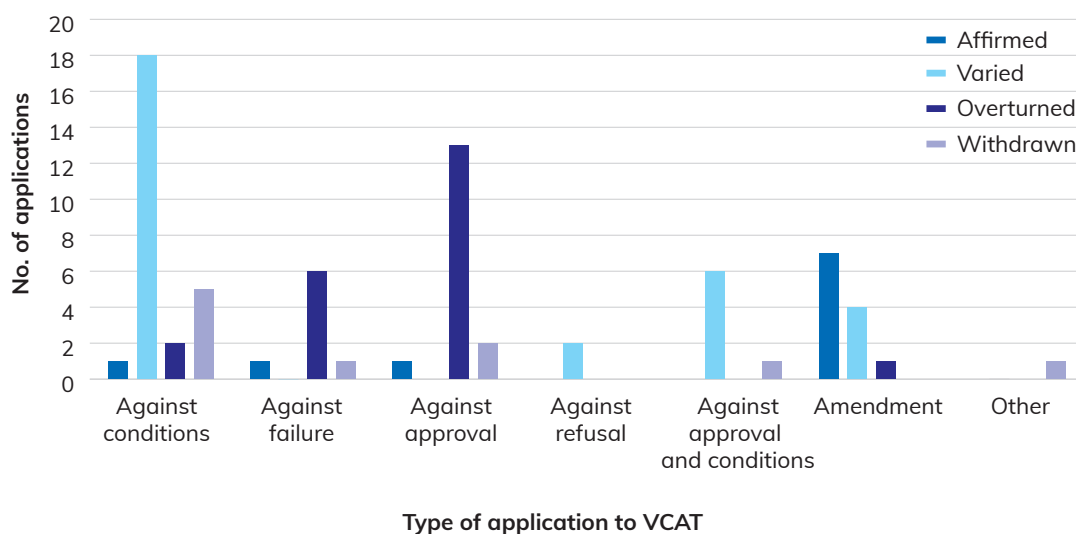
Comparison of applications lodged with VCAT in Financial Years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025



The number of applications for review against Council's failure to determine the application within the prescribed time in the financial year 2024-2025 equates to 21% of all applications lodged (total 14 applications), which is 5 less applications compared to the previous financial year.

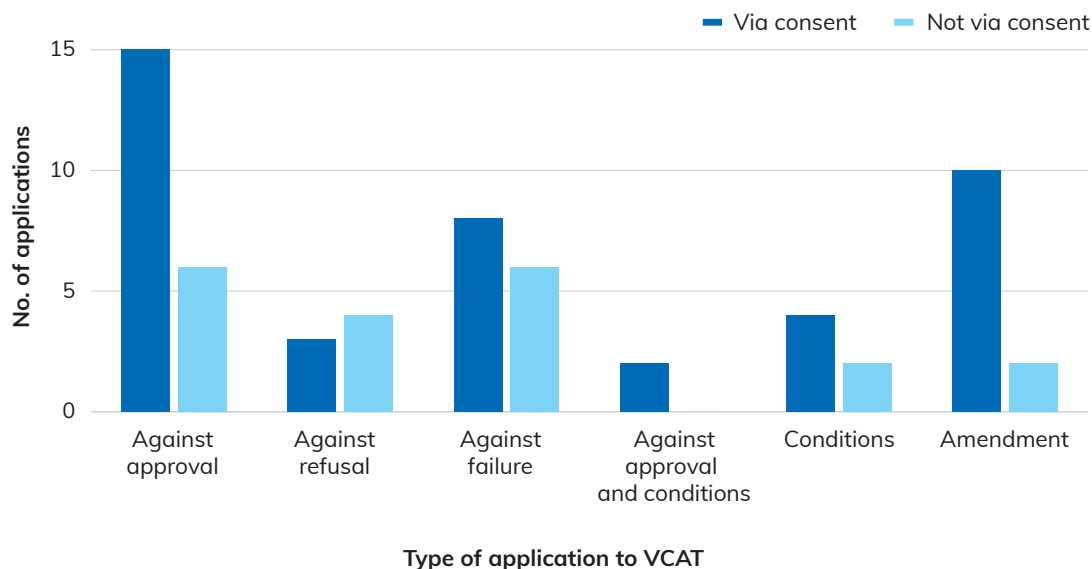
In the financial year 2024-2025, a total of 62 decisions were made by the Tribunal, plus 10 applications were withdrawn as shown in the graph below.

VCAT decisions in Financial Year of 2024-2025



The graph below shows whether the VCAT decisions were via the consent of the parties. Of the 62 decisions in the financial year 2024-2025, 42 decisions (68%) were via the consent of the parties.

VCAT decisions in Financial Year 2024-2025

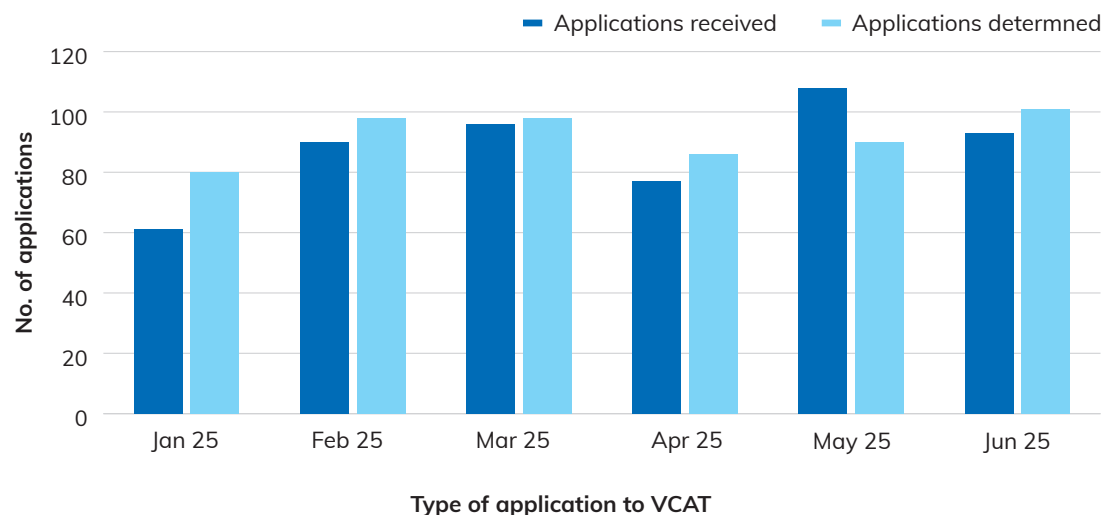


In summary, the financial year 2024-2025 has seen the total number of applications reviewed to VCAT (66) reduce by 16 applications compared to the previous financial year.

Statutory Planning Activity

During Q4, Council received 278 applications and determined 277.

Q3 and Q4 Number of applications received and determined per month



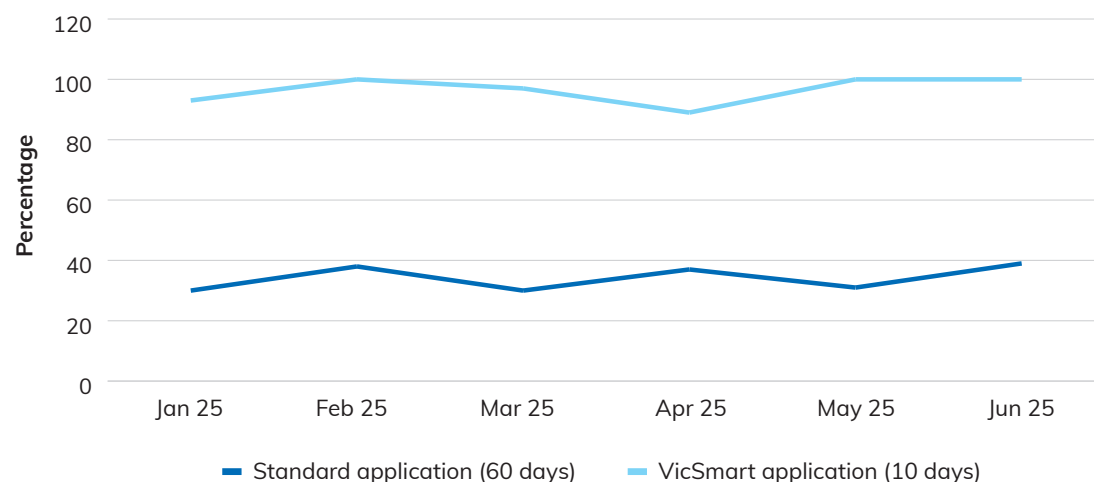
Timeframes

Council has two types of applications:

- Standard applications – 60 day statutory timeframe
- VicSmart applications – 10 business day timeframe

During Q4, Council determined 35% of its Standard applications within the 60-day timeframe and 96% of its VicSmart applications within the 10 business day timeframe.

Q3 and Q4 Determination timeframes as a percentage



5

Strategic objective 5: Transport and movement

Car Share

Yarra currently has a total of 173 car share bays across the City. This does not include car share bays situated on private property.

Council recently opened up new applications for additional car share bays and a total of 35 new car share applications were received by Council across the various suburbs.

Of these 35, 25 applications are currently undergoing assessment. Ten applications based on their location were determined to not be appropriate and new proposed sites have been requested from the car share providers.

Current Status of Applications In Progress

The 25 applications currently progressing are waiting for the installation of signage before the car share bays can become operational.

As part of Council's processes, notification letters are sent to surrounding properties, to date minimal objections to the proposed car share bay locations have been received. It is anticipated that some of the 25 spaces will be approved with some locations currently being reassessed to find more suitable alternatives where possible.

The table below shows the distribution of the 25 space across the municipality.

Number received by suburb		
Abbotsford	4	16%
North Richmond	8	32%
Collingwood	6	24%
Central Richmond	2	8%
Carlton North/Princes Hill	1	4%
Clifton Hill	1	4%
Fitzroy	2	8%
Fitzroy North	1	4%
TOTAL	25	

We anticipate that 25 new car share bays will be operational within Quarter 1 of the 25/26 financial year.

This will bring the total number of car share bays across the municipality to 198.



Road Safety Improvements

In Quarter 4, Council delivered several treatments to help improve road safety and accessibility for people driving, walking and cycling around Yarra. These treatments seek to manage vehicle speeds and provide safer crossing facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. All projects were managed to maintain access and minimise disruption to nearby residents and businesses.

The treatments delivered included:

- ▶ Drummond Street and Park Street, Carlton North – new kerb extensions and construction of a raised pedestrian crossing on Park Street. These treatments were identified as part of the Carlton North Local Area Place Making study and were externally funded by the Victorian Government as part of the Safe System Pedestrian Infrastructure Program.
- ▶ St Georges Road, Fitzroy North – improvements to the signalised pedestrian crossing at the Capital City Trail with the widening and painting of the shared path at this location.
- ▶ Alfred Crescent, Fitzroy North – new priority crossing for pedestrians and cyclists at the Inner Circle Rail Trail crossing with kerb realignments, bike lane markings, and lighting upgrades to enhance visibility.
- ▶ Wellington and Johnston Streets, Collingwood – intersection resurfacing and the addition of concrete bike lane separators and detector loops to improve safety for all road users.
- ▶ Lucerne Crescent and View Street, Alphington – reconfiguration of the intersection to provide clearer priority for road users, with additional intersection resurfacing to address road pavement cracking and uneven surfaces.
- ▶ Como Street, Alphington – installation of new road humps to manage vehicle speeds as per the endorsed 2025 Road Safety Study undertaken in Alphington.



30 Quarterly Community Report – Quarter Four 2024/25



Strategic objective 6: Democracy and governance

Acquittal of Council resolutions

Council Meetings are the decision-making forum constituted under the Local Government Act 2020 where Councillors come together as a Council and are responsible for making decisions on behalf of the community.

Meetings are conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and *City of Yarra Governance Rules*.

Council decisions are made at meetings of the Council. These decisions are made by a resolution of the Council and actions are assigned accordingly.

This table shows a record of the Council resolutions for Quarter 4 of 2024/2025 financial year. Open resolutions are those where there are still actions that are currently in progress to be implemented.

The total number of resolutions refers to the tally of resolutions from Council meetings during the quarter.

Council Resolutions between 1 April – 31 June 2025					
Total number of resolutions allocated	Open resolutions – June	Open resolutions – May	Open resolutions – April	Total number of Open resolutions	% of open resolutions
52	5	5	9	19	36%



Advocacy Action Plan

Advocacy continues to be one of Council's most powerful tools for delivering real outcomes for our community. Through our yearly Victorian Budget submission, applications to State and Federal grants processes and direct advocacy to key decision makers, we have secured:

- ▶ **\$3.7 million** from the Federal Government through Peter Khalil MP **for the revitalisation of Linear Park**, spanning Princes Hill, Carlton North and Fitzroy North, enabling upgrades to the playground, park furniture and native landscaping.
- ▶ **\$314,000** from the Victorian Government Budget 2025/26 to the **Richmond Youth Hub**, a service which provides empowering opportunities for youth leadership, creativity and social connection in the heart of North Richmond.
- ▶ **\$200,000** from the Victorian Government Budget 2025/26 for the delivery of **a new all-weather synthetic futsal court** on the Atherton Reserve in Fitzroy.

- ▶ **\$165,000** from the Victorian Government Budget 2025/26 to **The Learning Bank**, a fixture on Victoria Street, driving local economic revitalisation, inclusion and community learning.
- ▶ **\$397,881** through the Victorian Government's 100 neighborhood batteries program for **installation of 300kWh community batteries** at four Council facilities in Fairfield, Alphington and Fitzroy North.

Regular meetings have been held with key Federal and State MPs and Ministers. These provide an opportunity for local issues to be advanced and resolved, and the community's advocacy priorities to be pursued. Ministerial meetings have been held with the Victorian Ministers for Housing, Environment, Outdoor Recreation, Tourism, Sports and Major Events, Creative Industries, Multicultural Affairs, Mental Health, and Parliamentary Secretaries for Climate Action, Emergency Services, Renters and Women's Health.

32 Quarterly Community Report – Quarter Four 2024/25

Submissions

We're working to ensure our community's interests are represented in key Victorian and Federal Government decisions. One of the main ways we do this is via official Federal and State feedback channels for Parliamentary Inquiries and community consultations. By making these submissions, we can ensure that the specific circumstances facing our community are considered by other levels of government.

In the past six months Yarra has lodged submissions to the:

- ▶ **Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into the redevelopment of Melbourne's public housing towers**, urging the Victorian Government to fully assess the condition and redevelopment potential of each tower before proceeding with works.
- ▶ **Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into the cultural and creative industries in Victoria**, providing a range of advice to revitalise Victoria's creative sector.
- ▶ **Draft 30-Year Infrastructure Victoria Strategy**, highlighting the importance of housing growth being matched by State and Federal Government investment in infrastructure and services.
- ▶ **Parliamentary Inquiry into Victoria Planning Provisions amendments (VC257, VC267 and VC274)**, emphasising proper community consultation for the amendments is essential to ensure trust from the community.
- ▶ **Building Electrification Regulatory Impact Statement**, advising a reduction in the number of proposed exemptions to result in higher emissions reductions, cost savings and health benefits.

Four Council notices of motion were passed at the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council in May 2025. These called for State Government action on community safety, fire and safety regulations, removal of graffiti and upgrading stormwater infrastructure.

Following sustained Council advocacy, the speed limits on two more major roads, Lygon Street and Burnley Street, have been reduced to 40km per hour.

In 2025, Council has also been advocating for State Government action to:

- ▶ Improve stormwater infrastructure to prepare for potential flooding events.
- ▶ Release under-utilised state land to increase community access to open space.
- ▶ Improve its maintenance of arterial roads.
- ▶ Reduce red tape to enable Councils to act faster on better managing traffic and improving safety on local streets.

In March, Council welcomed the Federal Minister for Climate Change and Energy, the Hon. Chris Bowen MP, and the Federal Member for Cooper the Hon. Ged Kearney MP to the Collingwood Leisure Centre to see first-hand how \$2.9 million in Federal Government funding will reduce the Centre's emissions in the order of 400 tonnes a year.

The Member for Cooper also visited Yambla Pavilion at Quarries Park in April, where a federal grant of \$2.25 million will enable the pavilion to be rebuilt into modern facilities that will cater for people of all abilities and the wider community.

Citizenship ceremonies

Yarra is a proud culturally diverse community and Citizenship Ceremonies celebrate this diversity.

In Yarra, 1 in 5 residents speak a language other than English at home with almost 30 per cent of our residents born overseas. It is our strong belief that our multiculturalism is central to what makes our City a vibrant place to live, work, and visit. At Yarra we work hard to make sure that our City is a place where all people feel welcome regardless of their race, culture, religion, or language.

We acknowledge the City of Yarra stands on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri, and a place of special significance for the broader Aboriginal community.

The City of Yarra welcomed 77 new citizens at a ceremony at Collingwood Town Hall in April 2025. No further citizenship ceremonies were held from April to June.

Community Engagement Policy Action Plan

In quarter four, a key highlight has been the successful completion of the 2025-29 Council Plan, Community Vision Reflection and Update, and Financial Plan stage 3 engagements in conjunction with the draft Budget 2025/6 engagement. This included consulting with our diverse community at nine in-person pop-up sessions and targeted drop-in sessions and having conversations with more than 120 people, including our underrepresented communities. The draft Council Plan and draft Community Vision Reflection and Update were available in five languages other than English to ensure the documents were accessible and inclusive.

Hearing of Feedback sessions were also held at the start of June where participants were provided with the opportunity to speak to their responses on the 2025-29 Council Plan, Community Vision Reflection and Update, Financial Plan and draft Budget 2025/26.

We also started the engagement of our draft Domestic Animal Management Plan where pet owners, non-pet owners and animal lovers have been invited to share their feedback on the draft Domestic Animal Management Plan to help us manage dogs and cats in Yarra.



City of Yarra 35

Financial Report

Council's Quarter Four financial performance reflects our ongoing commitment to prudent financial management and the responsible delivery of the 2024-25 Annual Budget, in alignment with the Financial Sustainability Strategy.

Despite sector-wide challenges – including rate capping, rising service costs, and cost-shifting from other levels of government and tougher economic conditions in the construction industry, Council has achieved a favourable net result of \$33.5 million, \$18.3 million above budget.

This result is driven by a mix of unexpected revenue, deferred costs and revenue, and expenditure optimisation. While construction and planning fees remain below budget Council achieved permanent revenue increases through operational improvement and sustaining tight control over project management and human resources.

Key realised contributors include:

- ▶ **\$2.5 million** increase to statutory fees and fines
- ▶ **\$3.4 million** in additional capital grants driven by Council's investment of grant advocacy for road safety and other capital projects
- ▶ **\$2.2 million** increase in other income due to prudent cash collection and sustained higher-than-expected interest earnings
- ▶ **\$0.8 million** favourable to budget employee costs
- ▶ **\$1.2 million** decrease in tipping fees, weed management and other costs

Key timing contributors include:

- ▶ **\$3.2 million** increase in operating grants largely to the advance payment of the 2025-26 recurrent grant from the Victorian Local Government Grants Commission (\$1.6 million) plus \$1.6 million in carried-forward operating grants from 2024-25
- ▶ **\$4.6 million** deferral of ERP project costs

Rates collection has continued to improve over the last 3 years, strengthening our cash position. As of 30 June, Council holds \$122.24 million in cash, including \$25.96 million in borrowings. With investment returns currently exceeding loan interest costs, Council has opted to retain borrowings to maximise value.

Council remains focused on long-term sustainability while delivering essential services and infrastructure for our growing community.

Table 1. Financial Performance

Income Statement Item	2024-25 Budget \$000's	30 June Actuals \$000's	Variance Fav/(Unfav) \$000's	Variance Fav/(Unfav) %
Employee Costs	103.31	102.51	0.81	8
Materials & Services	95.49	87.09	8.40	10
Net result	15.19	33.49	18.31	54.66

The above table demonstrates that actual employee costs are 8% lower, and materials and services are 10% lower than budgeted. As a result, the actual operating surplus for 30 June 2025 is \$18.31m favourable to budget.

Table 2. Cash Performance

Income Statement Item	2022-23 Budget \$000's	2023-24 Budget \$000's	2024-25 Budget \$000's
Unrestricted Cash	4.72	20.11	38.78
Gap to Outstanding Loan Balance	-34.45	-10.39	12.81

Unrestricted cash has also improved significantly with the amount increasing by over four (4) times in the last two financial years. This is after accounting for \$14 million transferred to the newly created Strategic Growth and Risk Mitigation reserves as per Council's Financial Sustainability Strategy.

There is no change to the overall financial sustainability risk rating as budgeted.

Comprehensive Income Statement

Income Statement	Annual Budget \$M	Annual Actuals \$M	Annual Variance To Budget \$M	Annual Forecast March \$M	Annual Variance To Forecast \$M
Revenue from ordinary Activities					
Rates and charges	139.3	140.8	1.5 —	140.0	0.8 —
Statutory fees and fines	38.8	41.3	2.5 —	38.7	2.7 —
User Fees	35.6	33.3	(2.3) —	32.2	1.2 —
Grants – Operating	18.8	22.0	3.2 ▲	20.1	1.9 —
Grants – Capital	2.8	6.2	3.4 ▲	5.6	0.6 ▲
Contributions – Other monetary	6.9	4.5	(2.4) ▼	7.1	(2.6) ▼
Reimbursements	0.4	1.1	0.8 ▲	1.3	(0.2) ▼
Other Income	3.9	6.1	2.2 ▲	5.1	1.0 ▲
Net gain/(loss) on disposal	0.3	1.1	0.8 ▲	0.9	0.2 ▲
Total Revenue	246.7	256.5	9.8 —	251.0	5.5 —
Expenses from ordinary activities					
Employee Costs	103.3	102.5	0.8 —	101.8	(0.7) —
Materials and services	95.5	87.1	8.4 —	90.5	3.4 —
Depreciation & Amortisation	25.5	27.0	(1.5) —	26.8	(0.2) —
Amortisation – right of use assets	1.2	0.9	0.3 ▲	1.1	0.2 ▲
Bad and doubtful debts	4.2	3.8	0.4 —	3.2	(0.6) ▼
Borrowing costs	0.8	0.8	— —	0.8	(0.0) —
Interest Exp – Leases	0.2	0.2	0.1 —	0.2	(0.0) —
Other expenses	0.8	0.7	0.1 —	0.7	0.0 —
Total expenses	231.5	223.0	8.5 —	225.1	2.1 —
Net Result	15.2	33.5	18.3 ▲	25.9	7.6 ▲

*Draft financial results, subject to audit by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) and require certification by Council and VAGO. The final certified result will be subject to any changes, recommended by the Council's auditors.

Summary Quarter Four Actuals to Forecast

Council has delivered a positive actual to forecast net result of \$7.6 million.

This stronger-than-expected outcome is due to a mix of income and cost savings across several areas. These include:

Revenue

- ▶ **\$2.7 million** in statutory fees and fines due to unpredicted increase in infringement notices and parking meter fees
- ▶ **\$1.2 million** in a rebound from construction fees unpredicted for the last quarter
- ▶ **\$1.6 million** of operating grants for 2025-26 that were received in advance from the Victorian Local Government Grants Commission
- ▶ **\$1.0 million** higher interest income from term deposits due to sustained high interest rates.

There was a drop in open space contributions of almost **\$2.6 million** to forecast.

Expenses

- ▶ **\$2.6 million** deferral of investment relating to the ERP project
- ▶ **\$1.0 million** reduced spending on consultants, and engineering and technical services

There was however an increase in the provision for doubtful debts compared to the Q3 forecast due to the increase level of infringement notices in the last quarter of the year.

Summary Quarter Four Actuals to Budget

The full year net result of \$33.5 million, an increase of \$18.3 million to budget, is primarily split between timing factors (\$7.8 million primarily in operating grants and ERP deferral) and improved operational application on project management and human resources, holding costs in materials and services, and treasury management (\$10 million realised).

Despite significant decreases in construction and statutory planning income and open space contributions, Council has delivered a favourable net result that underpins its commitment to the Financial Sustainability Strategy (FSS).

In accordance with the FSS, Council will transfer cash to the risk mitigation and strategic growth cash reserves in anticipation of defined superannuation scheme calls, investment in information technology and an enhanced capital works programs to occur during the period of the new Council Plan 2025-2029. This strategy will ensure Council has planned for the significant increase in population to occur as predicted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Variance analysis is prepared based on a comparison of Year to Date (YTD) actuals and YTD budget and YTD actuals to the Quarter three forecast (forecast).

Full year actual results to full year budget are favourable by \$18.3 million, and full year actual to forecast is \$7.6 million favourable. These results are driven by the following:

Revenue

a) Rates and Charges

Performance is favourable to budget by \$1.488 million, includes higher income from supplementary valuations (\$0.715 million) and interest charged on rates arrears without payment plans (\$1.375 million).

b) Statutory Fees

Performance is better than budget by \$2.518 million. The favourable variances include \$1.174 million from Parking Meter Income, \$0.996 million from Parking Infringement revenue, and \$0.348 million from Parking Permits.

c) User Fees

The unfavourable variance is due to lower-than-expected revenue in Construction (-\$0.939 million) and Statutory Planning fees (-\$0.721 million), reflecting a slowdown in the construction industry. Children's Services are also unfavourable by (-\$0.289 million), as a higher proportion of families are receiving higher Centrelink subsidies. This is driven by family income levels, where lower incomes result in families paying less in fees.

d) Grants – Operating

The favourable variance in operating income is primarily due to unbudgeted grant income of \$1.03 million carried over from 2023-24 and recognised in 2024-25, and an early payment of the 2025-26 financial assistant grants from VLGGC (\$1.607 million).

Additionally, grants in Children's Services are favourable to budget by \$0.825 million, driven by the mix between fees and subsidies being different than initially budgeted.

e) Grants – Capital

The favourable variance to budget is related to two TAC Grants totalling \$2.496 million for road safety projects, and an unbudgeted grant of \$1.179 million for the Yambla Street Pavillion project.

f) Contributions – Other Monetary

The unfavourable variance to budget is primarily driven by the lower than anticipated Open Space Contributions (-\$2.729million). This has been partially offset by higher-than-budgeted DCP Contribution (\$0.152 million) and unbudgeted contributions from e-scooter companies (\$0.150 million).

g) Other Income

The favourable variance to budget is driven by interest income from term deposits (\$1.739 million) due to higher than budgeted deposits and higher than budgeted interest rates. Additionally, income from recycling is favourable by \$0.256 million driven by the Container Deposit Scheme.

h) Net gain on disposal of assets

The net gain on disposal of assets is favourable to budget due to proceeds from the sale land - 432 Smith Street (\$0.670 million), Best Street (\$0.087 million) and the sale of motor vehicles.

40 Quarterly Community Report – Quarter Four 2024/25



Expenditure

i) Employee Costs

Performance is favourable to budget (\$0.805 million). Savings from vacant positions (\$5.262 million) were offset by higher-than-budgeted costs for casual employees (-\$2.758 million) and agency staff (-\$0.828 million) covering vacancies.

ii. unspent operating budget of \$1.109m, as well as reduced tipping fees (\$0.425m) from lower tonnage, savings in insurance premiums (\$0.268m), and reduced weed management costs (\$0.426m) after rescinding a contract and resourcing the service internally.

j) Materials & Services

Performance is favourable to budget by \$8.395 million.

a. Key drivers include:

i. Timing differences in Digital and Technology Services (\$4.618m) mainly due to the ERP project commencing later than expected and

k) Depreciation and amortisation

Unfavourable variance to budget due to an increase in depreciation costs of (-\$1.543m), primarily driven by revaluation adjustments and finalising information system project which was capitalised in June 2024.

Capital Works

As at 30 June 2025, actual expenditure was \$31.43 million, which represents 87% of the adopted budget and 93% of the final forecast projection of \$33.34 million. This is attributed to approved carry-forward of \$2.75 million for 13 projects, cancellation of Charlotte Street Park (\$1.84 million) and savings across the program.

Planned carry-forward is \$2.75 million and an increase from \$750,784 (2024-25), however still a substantial improvement on the prior two financial years of \$15.246m in 2022-23 and \$7.428m in 2023-24.

Financial Results Summary	Annual Budget \$'000	Annual Actuals \$'000	Annual Variance To Budget \$'000	Current Final Projection \$'000	Annual Variance To Projection \$'000
New asset expenditure	7,778	4,987	2,791	5,448	461
Asset renewal expenditure	19,042	18,737	305	19,768	1,031
Asset upgrade expenditure	9,369	7,707	1,662	8,124	417
Total capital works expenditure	36,189	31,430	4,759	33,340	1,910

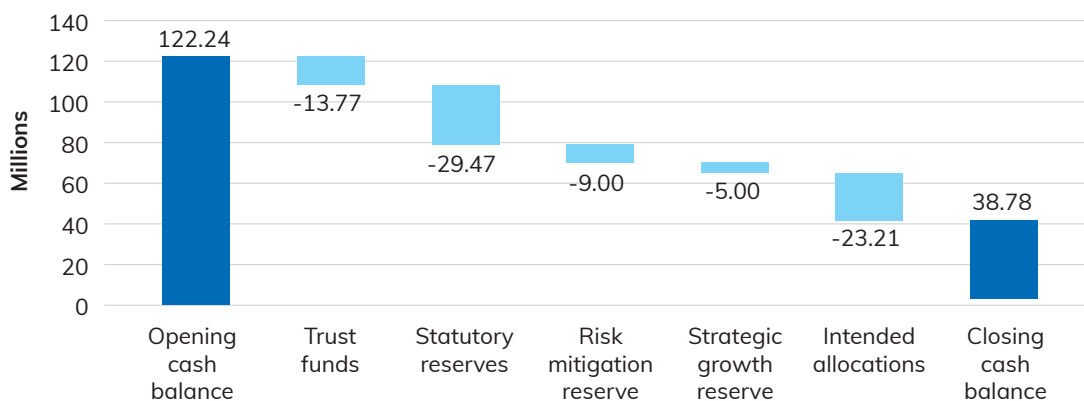
*Draft financial results, subject to audit by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) and require certification by Council and VAGO. The final certified result will be subject to any changes, recommended by Council's auditors.

Cash Position

Council has prudently managed debt arrangements to ensure value for the community. At the end of 2024-25, Council could choose to settle on borrowings. However, the interest rate for borrowings is 2.6%, while investments are currently earning greater than 4.5% return. A position to hold on to the current strategy means additional income earned on term deposits will offset decreases in revenue, which would not be possible if the Council repaid borrowings.

As at 30 June 2025, Council has total cash of \$122.24 million, of which \$25.96 million is funded by borrowings.

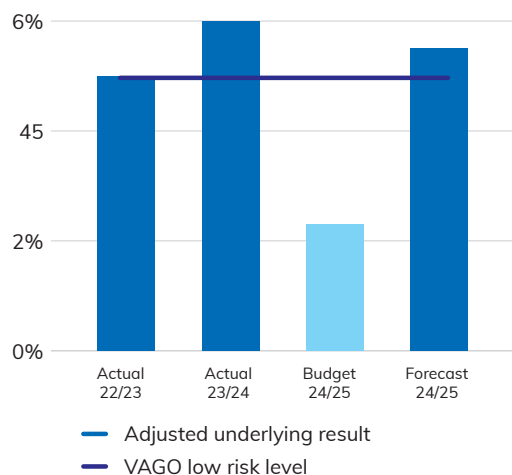
30 June 2025 Unrestricted Cash



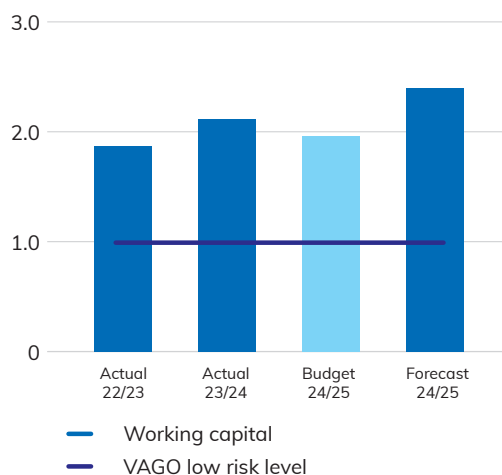
At 30 June 2025, Council has total cash of \$122.24m, of which \$25.97m is funded by borrowings. Unrestricted and unallocated cash position is \$38.78m, moving from \$20.11m as at 30 June 2024.

Financial Sustainability Ratios

Adjusted underlying result



Working Capital



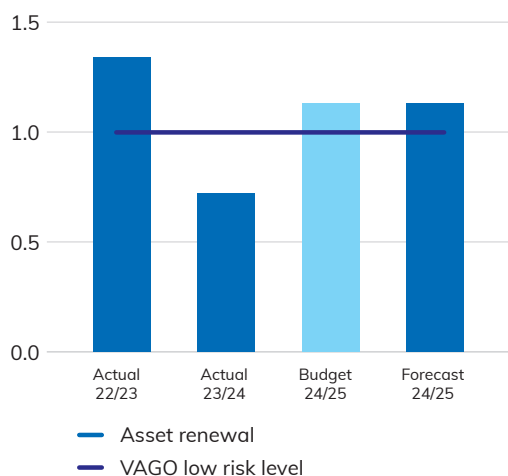
Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / adjusted underlying revenue

This ratio measures an entity's ability to generate its own cash. A positive result indicates a surplus, and the larger the percentage, the stronger the result. The result highlights Council's challenges in generating enough cash to fund future capital works without borrowing.

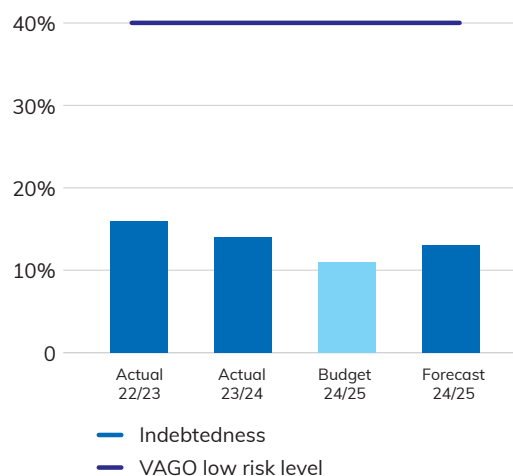
Current assets / current liabilities

Compares current assets to current liabilities, which provides a measure of the ability to pay existing liabilities in the next 12 months. This year's result expected to be in the low-risk range.

Asset renewal



Indebtedness



Renewal & upgrade spend / depreciation

Ratios higher than 1.0 indicate that spending on existing assets is faster than the depreciation rate. This year's result is expected to stay in the low-risk range.

Non-current liabilities / own-source revenue

Measures Council's ability to pay the principal and interest on its borrowings when they are due from the funds it generates. This year's result is expected to stay in the low-risk range.

Treasury Corporation of Victoria (TCV) Loan financial covenants

TCV loan requirements		Target	Current Month
Interest Cover	EBITDA/Interest Expense	> 2.0	71 ▲
Interest Bearing Loans	Interest Bearing Liabilities/ Own Source Revenue	< 60%	11.60% ▲

TCV financing is conditional upon Council maintaining a sustainable financial position when measured by the interest cover and interest bearing loans ratios. YTD results indicate that Council is meeting the minimum requirements. TCV loan requirements are well within target given limited borrowing compared to own source revenue and liability obligations.

Statement of Financial Position

Statement of Financial Position	YTD Actuals \$'000	30/06/24 Actuals \$'000	Movement Inc/(Mar) \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	53,243	32,885	20,358
Trade and other receivables	37,166	32,466	4,699
Other financial assets	69,000	64,000	5,000
Inventories	77	217	(139)
Non-current assets classified as held for sale	–	–	–
Other assets	1,955	3,818	(1,863)
Total current assets	161,441	133,386	28,055
Non-current assets			
Investments in joint arrangements	5	5	–
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	2,028,454	1,970,172	58,282
Right-of-use assets	3,864	2,371	1,493
Total non-current assets	2,032,323	1,972,547	59,776
Total assets	2,193,764	2,105,934	87,830
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	15,289	12,418	2,871
Trust funds and deposits	17,598	15,354	2,244
Unearned income/revenue	10,981	13,276	(2,294)
Provisions	17,148	16,834	314
Interest-bearing liabilities	4,669	4,532	137
Lease liabilities	1,182	943	239
Total current liabilities	66,867	63,358	3,509

Statement of Financial Position	YTD Actuals \$'000	30/06/24 Actuals \$'000	Movement Inc/(Mar) \$'000
Non-current liabilities			
Other Liabilities	411	399	12
Provisions	1,330	1,222	108
Interest-bearing liabilities	21,299	25,968	(4,669)
Lease liabilities	2,829	1,543	1,286
Total non-current liabilities	25,870	29,133	(3,263)
Total liabilities	92,737	92,491	246
Net assets	2,101,027	2,013,443	87,584
Equity			
Accumulated surplus	681,219	666,372	14,847
Asset revaluation reserves	1,342,841	1,288,751	54,090
Other reserves	43,472	33,627	9,845
Surplus for the year	33,494	24,692	8,803
Total equity	2,101,027	2,013,443	87,584

*Draft financial results, subject to audit by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) and require certification by Council and VAGO. The final certified result will be subject to any changes, recommended by Council's auditors.

Statement of Cash flows

Statement of Cash Flows	YTD Actuals \$'000 Inflows (Outflows)	Annual Budget \$'000 Inflows (Outflows)	Annual Forecast \$'000 Inflows (Outflows)	Annual Variance \$'000 Inflows (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities				
Rates and charges	141,280	139,114	137,609	(1,505)
Statutory fees and fines	39,280	34,633	35,499	866
User fees	31,488	35,628	32,266	(3,362)
Grants – operating	19,693	18,298	20,751	2,453
Grants – capital	6,150	2,311	4,560	2,249
Contributions – monetary	4,505	6,879	4,617	(2,262)
Interest received	5,139	3,400	4,300	900
Trust funds and deposits taken/(repaid)	810	–	–	–
Other receipts	3,324	898	2,125	1,227
Net GST refund/(payment)	(226)	–	(736)	(736)
Payments to Employees	(102,086)	(103,314)	(95,449)	7,865
Payments to Suppliers	(87,510)	(94,984)	(88,320)	6,663
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	61,847	42,864	57,222	14,358
Cash flows from investing activities				
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(31,212)	(36,219)	(32,340)	3,879
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	1,066	305	1,195	890
Payments for investments	(5,000)	–	–	–
Proceeds from sale of investments	–	–	–	–
Net cash used in investing activities	(35,147)	(35,914)	(31,145)	4,769

Statement of Cash Flows	YTD Actuals \$'000 Inflows (Outflows)	Annual Budget \$'000 Inflows (Outflows)	Annual Forecast \$'000 Inflows (Outflows)	Annual Variance \$'000 Inflows (Outflows)
Cash flows from financing activities				
Finance costs	(788)	(788)	(651)	137
Proceeds from Borrowings	–	–	–	–
Repayment of borrowings	(4,532)	(4,532)	(4,669)	(137)
Interest paid – lease liability	(161)	(185)	(160)	25
Repayment of lease liabilities	(862)	(1,246)	(1,081)	165
Net cash used in financing activities	(6,343)	(6,751)	(6,561)	190
Net increase in cash held	20,358	199	19,517	19,318
Cash at beginning of period	32,885	104,410	96,885	(7,525)
Cash at end of period	53,243	104,609	116,40	11,793

*Draft financial results, subject to audit by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) and require certification by Council and VAGO. The final certified result will be subject to any changes, recommended by Council's auditors.

Statement of Capital Works

Statement of Capital Works	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actuals \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Current Final Projection \$'000	Annual Variance \$'000
Property						
Buildings	9,674	9,372	302	9,674	9,989	(315)
Total property	9,674	9,372	302	9,674	9,989	(315)
Plant and equipment						
Plant, machinery and equipment	940	377	563	940	384	556
Fixtures, Fittings and Furniture	165	184	(19)	165	190	(25)
Computers and telecommunications	1,440	929	511	1,440	1,457	(17)
Library books	600	599	1	600	600	–
Total plant and equipment	3,145	2,088	1,057	3,145	2,631	514
Infrastructure						
Roads	8,041	9,414	(1,373)	8,041	9,328	(1,287)
Drainage	4,050	4,056	(6)	4,050	4,525	(475)
Waste management	270	19	251	270	40	230
Parks, open space and streetscapes	7,980	5,015	2,965	7,980	5,228	2,752
Other infrastructure	3,029	1,466	1,563	3,059	1,599	1,460
Total infrastructure	23,370	19,970	3,400	23,400	20,720	2,680
Total capital works expenditure	36,189	31,430	4,759	36,219	33,340	2,879

Statement of Capital Works	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actuals \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Current Final Projection \$'000	Annual Variance \$'000
Represented by:						
New asset expenditure	7,778	4,987	2,791	7,808	5,448	2,360
Asset renewal expenditure	19,042	18,737	305	19,042	19,768	(726)
Asset expansion expenditure	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asset upgrade expenditure	9,369	7,707	1,662	9,369	8,124	1,245
Total capital works expenditure	36,189	31,430	4,759	36,219	33,340	2,879

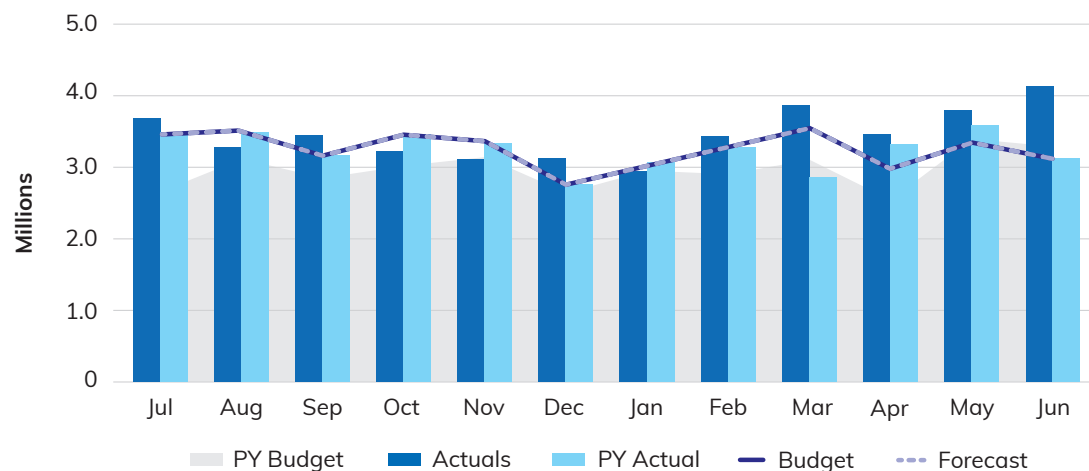
*Draft financial results, subject to audit by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) and require certification by Council and VAGO. The final certified result will be subject to any changes, recommended by Council's auditors.

Operating Performance

Statutory fees

Statutory fees greater than budget because of increased enforcement activity.

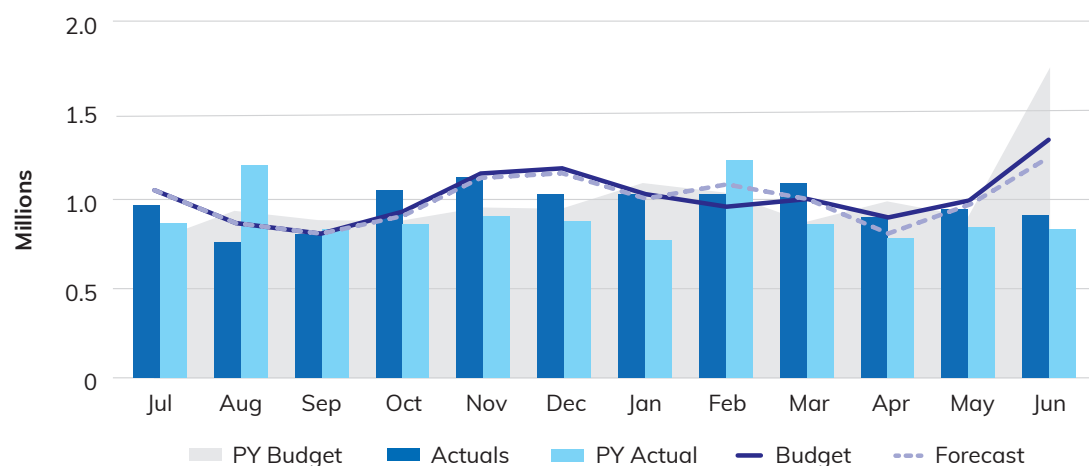
Parking fees and infringements



Recreation and Leisure Fees

Recreation and leisure income is less than budget due to decreased income from Learn to Swim and School programs.

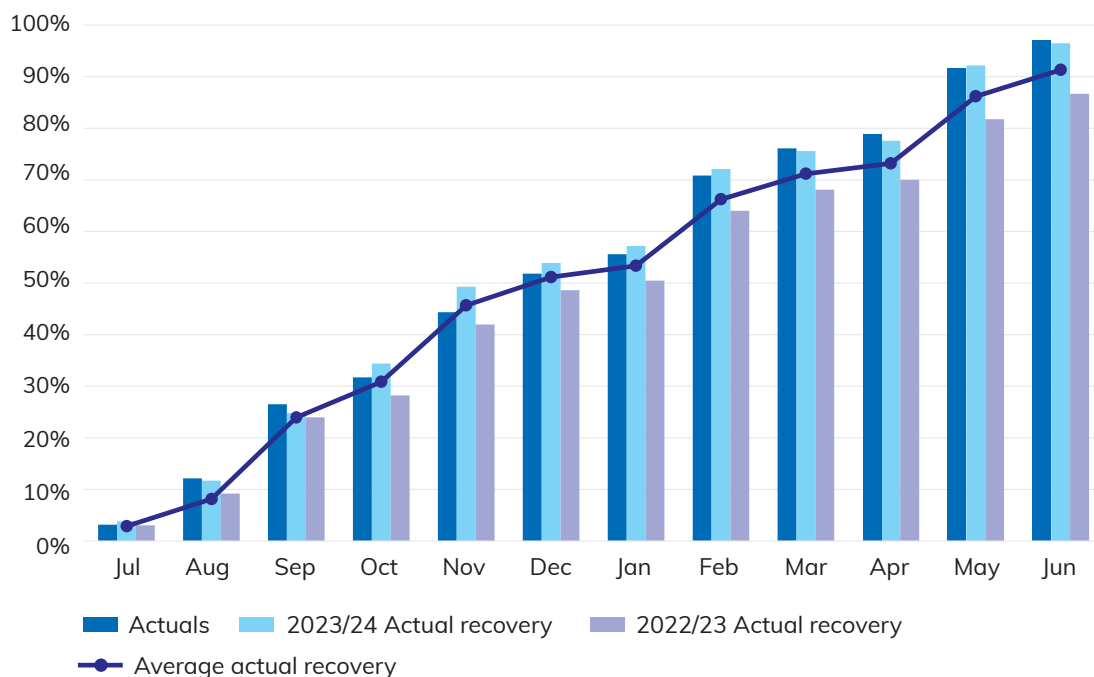
Recreation and Leisure Income



Rates Collection

The cash collections from rates is currently ahead of the average collections achieved in the last three years.

Rates collection by percentage of total rates raised (excluding arrears)



Parking Revenue

This report presents parking revenue data for the fourth quarter of financial year 2024/25. It is intended to provide stakeholders with an overview of parking revenue and identify any trends or patterns.

Parking revenue is broken down into two categories: paid parking and parking infringements.

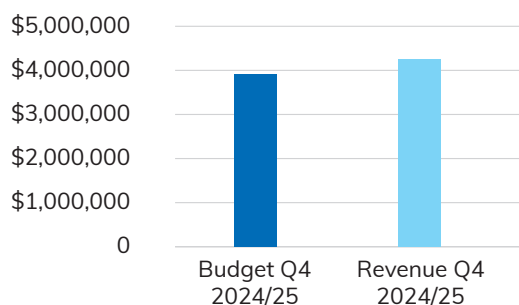
Paid parking revenue includes income generated from both pay-by-phone (PayStay) and meter payments made by drivers.

Q4 Overall Paid Parking Revenue

Total revenue received for Q4 24/25 increased by 8.43% compared to Q4 23/24. The graph below shows that the forecast revenue for Q4 was exceeded by 18.32%. Comparison of Q4 figures for 23/24 and 24/25 are shown below detailing total paid parking revenue for this Q4 increased by \$330,657.58 compared to the same quarter (Q4) at 2023/24:

- Q4 2023/2024: \$3,922,072.96
- **Q4 2024/2025: \$4,252,730.54**

Paid parking budget v revenue

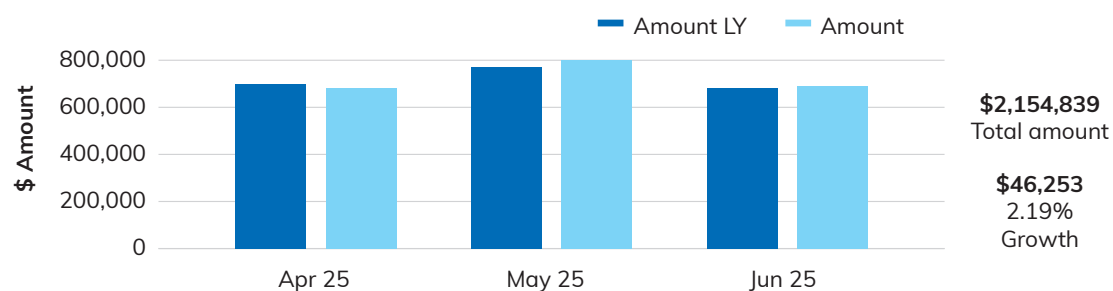


Q4 Paid Parking Meters

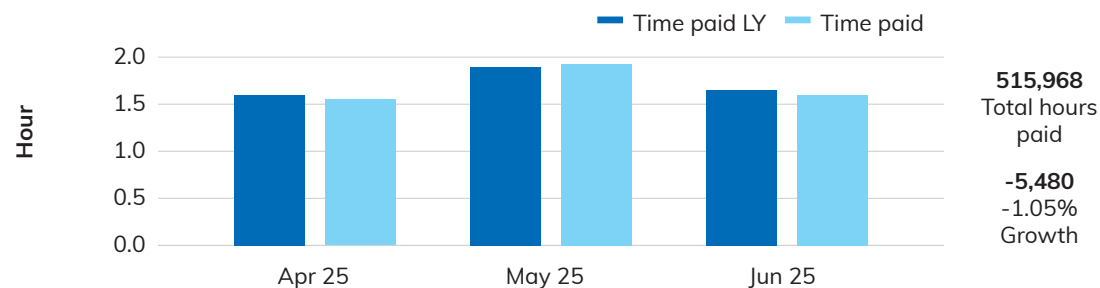
The table below shows the parking meter data including revenue and time paid (or length of stay). A total of 341,583 transactions occurred during Q4:

- Q4 2023/24 Meter Revenue: \$2,105,743.00
- Q4 2024/25 Meter Revenue: **\$2,154,839.00**

Sum of paid amount



Sum of time paid – hours

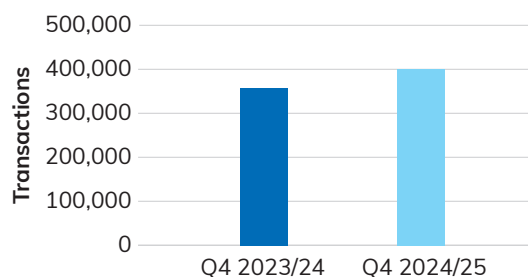


Q4 Paid Parking Pay by Phone

Pay by phone remains an active option for customers and the data continues to show an increase in the number of transactions when comparing Q4 23/24 to 24/25:

- Q4 2023/24 Pay by Phone Transactions: 357,750
- **Q4 2024/25 Pay by Phone Transactions: 400,742**

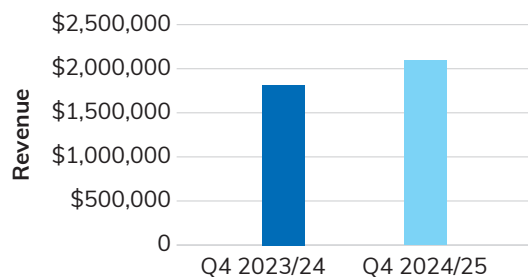
Pay-by-phone transactions



Revenue generated by pay by phone also shows an increase when comparing Q4 23/24 to 24/25:

- Q4 2023/24 Pay by Phone Revenue: \$1,816,329.96
- **Q4 2024/25 Pay by Phone Revenue: \$2,097,891.54**

Pay-by-phone revenue

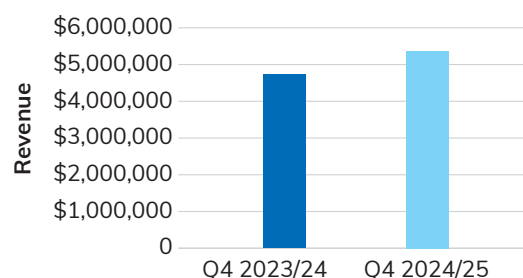


Q4 Parking Infringement Revenue

Revenue from infringements issued during Q4 shows an increase when comparing Q4 23/24 to 24/25:

- Q4 Infringement Revenue 2023/2024: \$4,733,067.00
- **Q4 Infringement Revenue 2024/2025: \$5,372,090.00**

Revenue from infringements issued

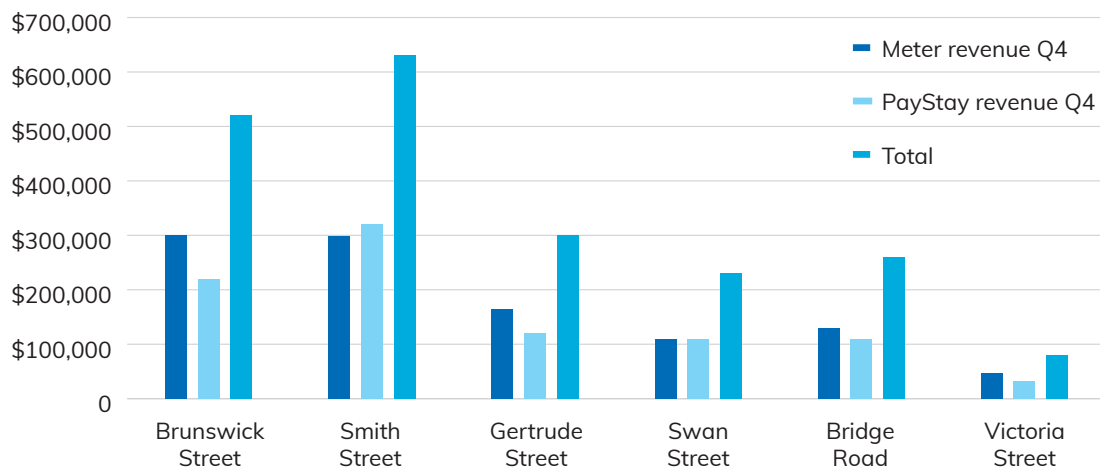


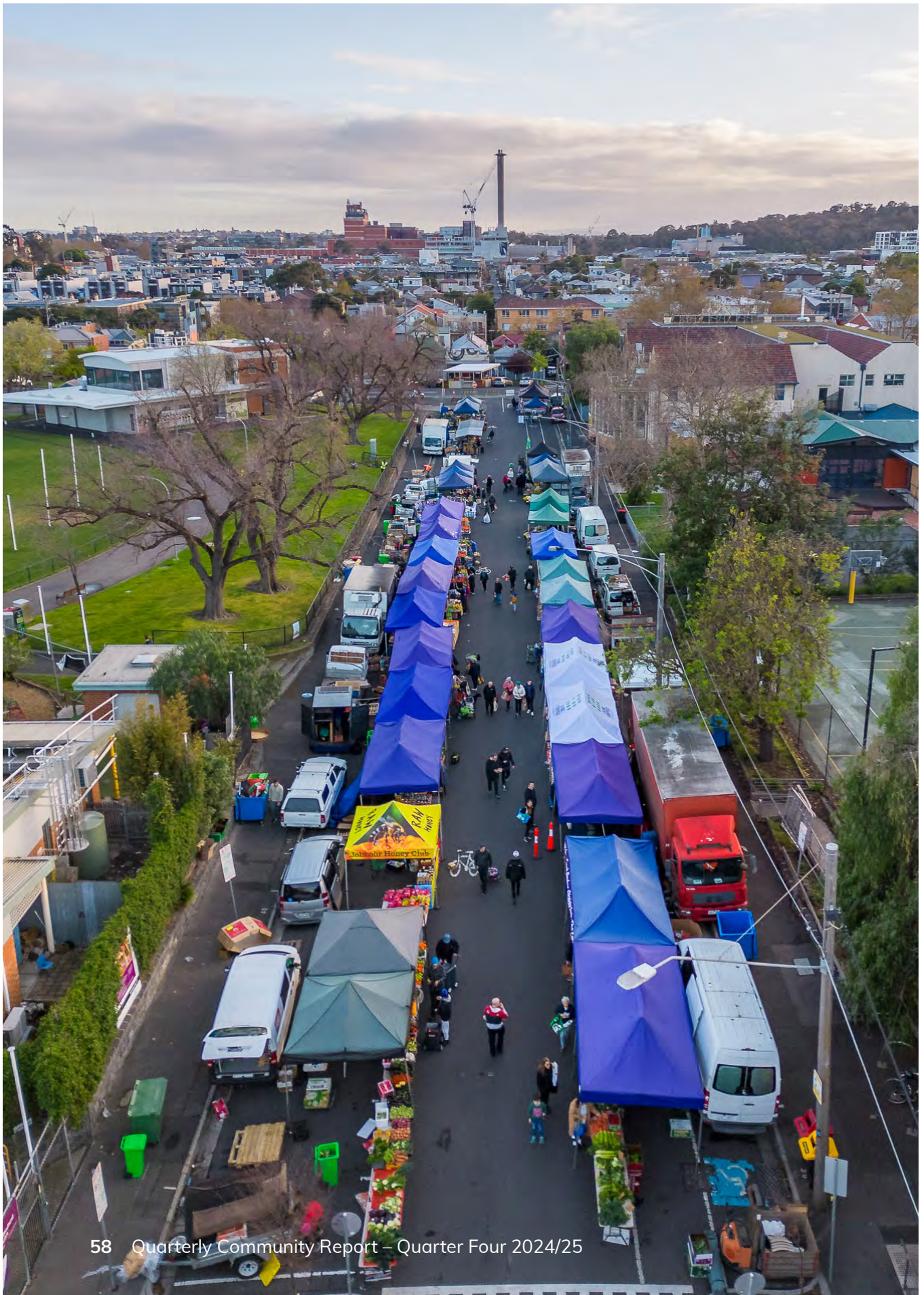
Activity Centre Paid Parking

Each shopping strip in Yarra is unique, influenced by a variety of factors such as the types of attractions and businesses located on the street. As a result, it is not possible to directly compare paid parking revenue across the business centres.

Several important variables to consider when looking at the various centres include different tariffs (hourly fee) applied across the centres, amount paid for on-street parking, and breadth of hours that paid parking is in effect.

Revenue from activity centre paid parking





58 Quarterly Community Report – Quarter Four 2024/25

Capital Works Projects Report

Council's 2024/25 Capital Works Program features an investment of \$36.22m, consisting of a new budget allocation of \$35.47m and carry-over projects with a budget of \$0.75m from the previous financial year.

Our quarter four capital works progress is provided below demonstrating how Council continues to deliver capital projects that positively impact on our assets and infrastructure by:

- ▶ improving community safety and usability,
- ▶ increasing the longevity and reliability,
- ▶ increasing usability and efficiency, and
- ▶ addressing our community's current and future needs.

End of Financial Year Budget Analysis

A total of \$31.43m of the adopted budget was spent on the capital works program by June end, representing 86.78% of the adopted budget or 94.27% of the forecasted spend of \$33.53m. A total of 216 projects were completed by

quarter four to successfully close out the delivery of Council's committed capital program this financial year. Throughout the financial year, the Council adapted to economic influences, emerging risks, and identified opportunities, which often led to changes in project scopes, budget adjustments, deferrals, cancellations, and the addition of new projects to the program. A summary of each category's performance is below.

Transport, Drainage and Urban Infrastructure

Final expenditure reached \$19.95m, representing 86.26% of the adopted budget. During this quarter, the primary focus was on completing the ongoing renewal program, alongside projects introduced in the latter half of the financial year. The final program was 148 projects. Of these, 129 projects were successfully completed by end of this quarter, 6 were deferred/cancelled, 12 projects are being carried over to the new financial year.



Plant and Equipment

The final expenditure reached \$2.11m. Of the 24 projects in this program, 20 were completed by this quarter and 4 were deferred/cancelled.

Property

The year-to-date expenditure at March end is \$3.99m, representing 41.22% of the adopted budget for renewal and upgrade to these assets. Three additional projects were added to the program leading to a new total of 68 projects. 22 have been completed.

Projects Completed by Q4

The table below provides a summary of the projects completed to date. This is accompanied by the list of projects completed under the project types highlighted below.

Status	Total count of completed projects (Q1 to Q4)
Completed	216
Carry Forward	13
Cancelled/ deferred	11

Transport

Works relating to the renewal, upgrade and construction of new road pavement, footpaths, kerb and channel, road safety and active transport assets to support Council's transport service.

Projects completed in Q4
Capital City Trail – St Georges Road, Fitzroy North – pedestrian Signal changes
Cremorne footpaths
Drummond St and Park St, Carlton North – new raised zebra crossing, kerb extensions and landscaping
Gray Street & Noone Street and Trenerry Crescent, Clifton Hill – conversion to standard T-intersection, new raised zebra crossing, painted bicycle lanes
Green St, Richmond – road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.
Mcllwraith St, Carlton North – road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.
Road safety – Miller St, Richmond slow point improvement construction
Trenerry Crescent between Gray and Maugie Streets, Abbotsford – upgrade of road humps, painted bicycle lanes, new median islands and road markings.
Various footpath renewals – asphalt footpath reinstatement
Wall St, Richmond – road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.
Yambla Street & Roseneath Street and Gray Street, Clifton Hill – new raised zebra crossing

Buildings

Works relating to the renewal, upgrade and construction of new Council buildings and facilities to support community services.

Projects completed in Q4

Climate emergency – electrification Works

Buildings designs for future program – preliminary/structural investigations on Richmond Recreation Centre and Collingwood Leisure Centre

Carlton Hall accessibility works

Children services building redevelopment works

Children's services buildings renewal works at Richmond Kindergarten

Collingwood Leisure Centre renewal works – auto doors, lighting and AC upgrades

Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works – auto doors, PA system, AC units, lighting, alarm, handryers, switchboard

Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works – main building HVAC replacement

Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works – male changing rooms (COGEN) removal of cogen – design

Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works – sauna internals require replacement due to age and wear & tear

Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works – spa air handling system – condensation issues

Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works – turning redundant cogen plant room into male change room

Installation of monitors on various council buildings

Leisure mechanical plant and equipment – dry and wet side equipment including RRC pool blanket

Leisure mechanical plant and equipment – replacement of various plants and equipment across all centres

Richmond Library renewal works

Richmond Recreation Centre renewal works – laserlite and movement (Upper roof section showing signs of corrosion)

Richmond Recreation Centre renewal works – shower renewal

Yarraberg Children's Centre renewal works

Open Space

Works relating to the renewal and upgrade of existing open space assets and construction of new open space assets such as parks, trees, playgrounds and ovals to support Council's recreation services.

Projects completed in Q4

Cambridge Street Park, Collingwood – play equipment works

Childcare playground works

Delivery of the temporary public open space at Bendigo Kangan Institute, Cremorne

Minor lighting renewal works

Open Space minor works – turf

Open Space renewal works – furniture assets

Pathway – minor works project

Playground – minor works project

Retention of three street trees at 91, 103 & 201 Swan St, Richmond

Signage – minor works project

Sports infrastructure minor works

Street tree planting project

Tree planting program – rewilding

Victoria Park, Abbotsford – renewal of turf irrigation and drainage design

Walls and fences – minor works project

Stormwater

Works relating to the renewal, upgrade and construction of new stormwater assets, such as drainage pipes and pits to support the Council's stormwater management service.

Projects completed in Q4

Abinger St, Richmond – between Church St and Lyndhurst St, Richmond – drainage renewal works

Brunswick St / Palmer St, Fitzroy – drainage renewal works

Cutter St and Farm St, Richmond – drainage and flood design

Drainage renewal works – various sites

Emergency drainage renewals

Hull St and Bosisto St, Richmond – drainage design improvements

Lucerne Cr, Alphington – drainage and flood design

Mary St and Charles St, Richmond – drainage and flood design

Moor St, Greeves St and St David St, Fitzroy – drainage and flood design

Roseneath St, Clifton Hill - flood mitigation works

Victoria St, Fitzroy between Fitzroy St and Brunswick St (sound side) – drainage renewal project

Major Q4 Adjustments

Budget adjustments are required throughout the financial year to minimize delivery risk as they materialize or as a result of incorporating additional priority works into the program.

The following were the major budget adjustments this quarter:

- ▶ Council was awarded a Building Blocks Improvement Grant from the VSBA for playground upgrade and building renewal works to Princes Hill Kindergarten. The work will be delivered this financial year and 2025/26.
- ▶ Inclusion of an additional project for a temporary public open space at the Bendigo Kangan Institute in Cremorne Street, Cremorne.
- ▶ 13 projects were approved as carry-over projects into the 2025/26 financial year's capital program. As a result, council has applied budget adjustments to the current year's program and these projects are included in the adopted budget for a total carry forward value of \$2.75m. The carry forward projects are:
 - Road safety improvements on Wellington/Langridge St, Collingwood
 - Charles Evans Reserve Park upgrades
 - Commemoration for the Vietnamese migration anniversary
 - Intersection upgrades on Lennox/Bridge St, Richmond
 - Intersection upgrades on Lennox/Hihett St, Richmond
 - Intersection upgrades on Lennox/Swan St, Richmond
 - Intersection Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety Improvements on Wertheim St / Stawell St, Richmond
 - Protected bike lanes, line marking and improvements design work on Church St, Richmond between Victoria St and Murray St, Abbotsford
 - Streetscape improvement on Gertrude St corner Brunswick St, Fitzroy North
 - Intersection upgrade design works on Scotchmer St/St Georges Road, Fitzroy North.
 - Fairfield Park playground design
 - Merri Creek Parklands, Quarries Park playground design
 - Collingwood Leisure Centre gas removal as part of the electrification of plant.

Annual Plan performance

Council adopted its Council Plan 2021-25 on 19 October 2021. The Council Plan, incorporating the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan, sets out the medium-term direction of Council and the outcomes sought by Councillors for their term. This financial year 2024/25, is the final year four of the Council Plan 2021-25.

The Council Plan 2021-25 has six Strategic Objectives representing the Strategic Direction that responds to the Community Vision.

The Annual Plan and Budget operationalise the Council Plan. The Annual Plan identifies several initiatives under each Strategic Objective which are significant projects that Council will undertake towards achieving the Strategic Objectives.

The Annual Plan progress at the end of June had 24 complete (63%), 13 Actions in progress 34%, and one Action (3%) did not start. Of the 13 Actions in progress, three (8%) are on track (at least 90% of target achieved), seven are monitor (between 75% and 90% of the target achieved) and three (8%) are off track (less than 75% of the target achieved).

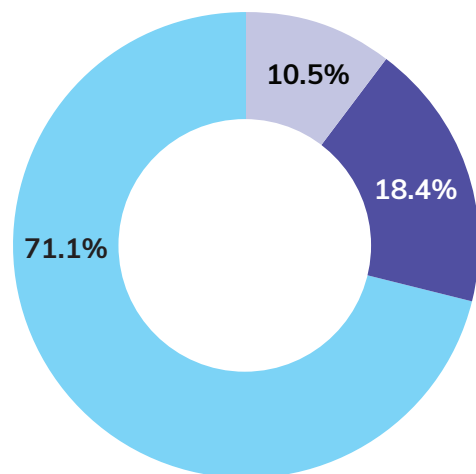
Council's progress in delivering the 2024/25 Annual Plan actions for quarter 4 (April, May, June 2025), is detailed in the next section under our six Strategic Objectives.



Action Summary

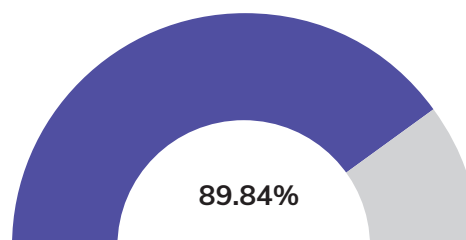
By Performance

Action Status



- 27 On track
- 4 Off track
- 7 Monitor
- 0 Not applicable

Action Progress Against Targets



- 38 actions reported on
- 27 At least 90% of action target achieved
- 7 Between 75% and 90% of action target achieved
- 4 Less than 75% of action target achieved
- 0 actions with no target set

Annual Plan 2024-25 Progress Q4

- Green

At least 90% of action target achieved
- Red

Less than 75% of action target achieved
- Amber

Between 75% and 90% of action target achieved
- No target set

1 Climate and Environment

Action Title: 1.1.1.1 Deliver a new Climate Emergency Plan and support community to take climate action (FSS)						
Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Climate Emergency Officer	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green
Action Progress Comments: We have developed, and Council adopted a new Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 and Climate Emergency Action Plan 2024-2027 (Action Plan). The Action Plan includes 237 actions, many of which support our community to take action on climate change. This includes programs such as the Climate Safe Rooms/Yarra Home Energy Upgrade program which is retrofitting the homes of 55 people at risk of climate impacts in order to improve home thermal comfort; the Walk Talk Swim Birrarung program which aims to connect our community with the Birrarung/Yarra River and empower the next generation of urban waterway stewards and swimmers; the Climate Voices program which supports community members at risk of climate impacts to build skills so that they can advocate on issues important to them; the Can't Vote, Can Campaign program which aims to support year 9 students to understand democracy and how to influence for a purpose; and a range of programs which support community members and households to switch to renewables, go all-electric and reduce their household greenhouse emissions.						

Action Title: 1.1.1.2 Zero Carbon Yarra

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Sustainable Energy Coordinator	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Council continues to deliver the Sustainable Business Yarra Working Group including running events and a regular newsletter for subscribers.

The future of the Business Renewable Buying Group is under review by the working group consisting of representatives of the 37 participating Councils. A final direction has not yet been reached.

Council has reviewed opportunities and investigated potential solutions, along with other neighbouring councils. To support this, Yarra has worked with Merri-bek Council who undertook a review of local government energy upgrades programs, and we are now working collaboratively to complete a further report with recommendations including:

- ▶ General residential offerings;
- ▶ At risk/ vulnerable populations;
- ▶ Strata and apartments; and
- ▶ Advocacy.

Action Title: 1.1.4.1 Expand the Library of Things program to support circular economy strategies

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Coordinator Library Development and Marketing	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Two additional thermal imaging cameras, and five collapsible 120kg trollies were added to the Library of Things this year. These items are in addition to the existing thermal imaging cameras, energy efficiency kits, and portable induction cooktops which continue to be popular. Items in this collection have been loaned a total of 87 times this year, averaging 6.7 loans per item. The trollies will be made available for loan from July 2025.

2 Social equity and health

2.1.1.1 Aboriginal Partnerships

Action Title: 2.1.2.2 Ageing Well in Yarra						
Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Equity and Community Development	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green
Action Progress Comments: The newly adopted Council Plan affirms Council's ongoing commitment to work in partnerships with all First Peoples connected to Yarra, and recognises and respects the Traditional Owners of the land now known as Yarra, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung. A dedicated strategic indicator focuses on "increased and strengthened partnerships with Aboriginal Controlled organisations to progress Closing the Gap socio-economic outcome areas." Council finalised and submitted its Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to Reconciliation Australia on 31 May 2025, reinforcing its commitment to cultural recognition, inclusion, and supporting pathways that enable greater self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. New Terms of Reference were adopted for the Yana Ngargna Advisory Committee 2025, providing a strengthened platform for ongoing engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities on Council's role in respecting land, culture and self-determination. To support the committee's renewal, Expressions of Interest opened in June for up to seven community members, plus Co-Chairs from the Council and the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung.						

2.1.1.1 Aboriginal Partnerships (continued)**Action Title: 2.1.2.2 Ageing Well in Yarra (continued)**

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Equity and Community Development	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: The process invited Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with lived experience and cultural knowledge to contribute insights on Council policies, plans and priorities. Committee members will receive an honorarium for their participation. Working in partnership with community, Council delivered events for National Sorry Day and National Reconciliation Week (NRW). Sorry Day, held on 26 May, commemorates the anniversary of the Bringing Them Home report being tabled in Parliament and honours the strength and resilience of the Stolen Generations. The event featured a moving address by Aunty Eva Jo Edwards, a Mutti Mutti, Boon Wurrung and Yorta Yorta woman and survivor of the Stolen Generations, as well as a powerful performance by Amos Roach. The NRW theme, Bridging Now to Next, encouraged reflection and forward momentum, events included Reconciliation on the Rooftop at Bargoonga Nganjin with Aboriginal Housing Victoria and Yarra Libraries; ; a procurement learning session with Reconciliation Australia and Supply Nation; and Takariliya by Thelma Beeton, exhibited at Fitzroy Library and exploring Palawa identity and family. Council's revised Community Grants Program includes a First Peoples' Partnerships stream with an allocation of 5 percent of the funding pool. This stream supports initiatives that promote self-determination through wellbeing and economic prosperity; strengthen cultural expression, ceremony and living heritage; enable truth-telling projects that deepen understanding of history and ongoing connection to Country; and resource community-controlled organisations to lead land care, placemaking and cultural site interpretation. Council supported the JINDI WORABACK community event on Sunday, 1 June 2025, at the Bundha Sports Centre in North Fitzroy. The event featured a friendly basketball game between the Koorie Academy Allstars and the Victoria Police Ballers. It opened with a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony by a Wurundjeri Elder, followed by traditional dancers and a didgeridoo performance.

Action Title: 2.1.2.1 Improving access and inclusion

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Aged and Disability Services	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	88%	100.00%	● Amber

Action Progress Comments: During this quarter, a World Autism Awareness Day community live music event, was held on 5 May 2025 and was attended by over 60 community members. The performances were provided by people with disability and showcased how events can be accessible for all. Council's Disability Advisory Committee were consulted on several significant projects including the Walkability/Wheel ability Audit, Climate Safe Rooms and Brunswick Oval Precinct Redevelopment Plan. Their community contribution continues to inform Council projects and ensure a broad understanding of the diverse needs of the community are considered.

Action Title: 2.1.2.1 Open Library program

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Information Management Lead	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: An internal review on the impact of the current Open Library program has been completed, which includes recommendations regarding optimum service hours, based on the needs of the community.

Action Title: 2.1.2.2 Digital literacy – library programs and services

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Coordinator Library Development and Marketing	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Yarra Libraries aims to deliver 2,000 free community programs each year, ranging from early literacy programs (e.g. Storytime), digital literacy and creative technology workshops, thought-provoking public lectures and literary events. Thus year, 296 digital literacy programs were delivered, supporting 572 community members to improve their confidence and skills using technology and accessing online services.

Action Title: 2.1.2.2 Ageing Well in Yarra

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Aged and Disability Services	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	85%	100.00%	● Amber

Action Progress Comments: The draft Ageing Well Policy is ready for presentation to Council in August 2025 and the Action Plan will be finalised by September 2025 with cross organisational support. The Policy and Action Plan will be aligned to the new Council Plan. Council's Active Ageing Advisory Committee provided input into the purpose of the plan and key priority areas, which will embed the principles of Age Friendly Cities. The focus on the Action Plan will be on four key areas including creating age-friendly environments, community focused aged care services, improving healthy ageing, and advocacy and stewardship.

Action Title: 2.1.2.3 Commence implementation of actions identified for the first phase of the action plan.

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Aged and Disability Services	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: The full implementation of the ageing well Action Plan will occur from July 2025 after it is finalised to ensure alignment to the Council Plan. Specific actions completed this quarter included the Seniors and Sprouts intergenerational program, intergenerational week at the Railway Neighbourhood House, engaging with Vietnamese Seniors Groups to develop a sustainable model, World Elder Abuse Art project, Yarra Services Forum; and the Bent Twig Alliance LGBTQIA + meet and greet.

Action Title: 2.1.3.1 Planning for our future Kindergarten reforms (FSS)

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Family, Youth and Children's Services	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Victorian Department of Education has advised that they will be working with Councils during the 2025 calendar year to review and update Kindergarten Infrastructure and Services Plans. Yarra's draft plan is well progressed. This will inform Council's future service and infrastructure planning in the early years space.

Action Title: 2.1.3.2 Youth engagement

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Family, Youth and Children's Services	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Yarra Youth Services supported a range of programs for young people in Yarra, including:

Leadership & Career Development:

- ▶ 51 young people were supported into paid work opportunities co-running events and programs.
- ▶ 24 young people completed a Youth Facilitation course.
- ▶ 18 young people were supported with career planning/readiness opportunities
- ▶ 12 young people participated in a leadership program.

Health & Community Connection:

- ▶ 83 young people attended community cooking sessions with Cultivating Communities.
- ▶ 12 young people received Youth Mental Health First Aid training.

School & Community Safety Partnerships:

- ▶ Yarra Youth Services worked in partnership with 5 schools this quarter engaged 106 students

In addition to specific programs, the Youth Services Team continue to support a number of young people who attend the Fitzroy Youth Centre, and Richmond Youth Hub, as well as through individualised 1:1 support:

- ▶ Yarra Youth Centre (Fitzroy): 993 participants, 3720 contacts.
- ▶ Richmond Youth Hub: 211 participants, 1624 contacts.
- ▶ Youth Support Team: 19 young people in case management (456 contacts), with 249 additional brief interventions.

The North Richmond Precinct Advisory Group has been established to provide integrated and holistic support to young people living and foster partnerships amongst agencies, organisations and service providers so that programs for young people in the precinct are coordinated, respond to needs, and are evidence-based.

Action Title: 2.1.5.1 Women Making Waves						
Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Recreation and Leisure	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green
<p>Action Progress Comments: The Women Making Waves program has successfully achieved its milestones. A comprehensive data collection survey was developed and implemented, providing valuable insights into participant needs and preferences. Community consultation and research were completed, with findings reviewed and integrated into program improvements. Recommendations to enhance program delivery and attendance have been actioned, including rescheduling sessions to better support parents and carers, and expanding the Learn to Swim program from two to three levels to improve safety and learning outcomes. Additionally, a Gender Impact Assessment was completed to support inclusive gym access, with proposed changes to women-only sessions at Richmond Recreation Centre and Collingwood Estate Gym, in partnership with CoHealth.</p> <p>Participants have reported a high level of satisfaction with the program, reflected in a steady increase in average monthly attendance—up from 215 in FY23/24 to 250 in FY24/25. While this marks positive growth, most participants being returning regulars rather than new attendees.</p>						

Action Title: 2.1.5.1 Celebrating Cultural Diversity

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Senior Coordinator Community Development	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: The Multicultural Partnerships Policy sets out how Council supports and recognises multicultural and multifaith communities in Yarra, with the goal of enabling full participation in civic and community life. The Policy identifies five overarching priorities: standing against racism; effective communication and respectful engagement; cultivating connections; building inclusive and accessible spaces; and fostering community capacity. The following activities demonstrate how these priorities were progressed during the reporting period.

Cultural Diversity Week (CDW) was celebrated across Yarra by community organisations, with Council supporting several local events. These included community lunches hosted by the Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre and North Carlton Railway House; a Bridges to Harmony event held by Fitzroy Learning Network; and a Harmony Day celebration jointly delivered by Collingwood Neighbourhood House, Wellington Centre and Collingwood Yards.

Council hosted its first Iftar dinner on 20 March 2025 at Fitzroy Town Hall, co-designed with members of the local Muslim community. Additional Eid celebrations were also supported by Council, including events organised by the Somali Women's Group and Cohealth.

A co-designed event marking the 50th anniversary of Vietnamese migration to Australia was held on 21 June 2025 at Collingwood Town Hall. The event celebrated the rich cultural heritage of the Vietnamese community through traditional dancing, food, and live performances. As part of Refugee Week, a second celebration of the 50-year milestone took place on 23 June 2025 at Richmond Town Hall, highlighting the significant contributions of the Vietnamese community to the City of Yarra.

Action Title: 2.1.5.2 LGBTIQA+ Partnerships						
Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Equity and Community Development	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green
<p>Action Progress Comments: The development of the revised Rainbow Strategy began in 2024 with a review of the outcomes of the existing policy in collaboration with the Rainbow Advisory Committee. Insights from this review informed the design and direction of broader community consultation, which took place during the Midsumma Carnival and Victoria's Pride festival. The consultation included face-to-face engagement as well as an online survey distributed via Your Say Yarra. Feedback gathered through this extensive engagement process has shaped the content of the draft Rainbow Strategy, which is scheduled to be considered by Council early in the new financial year.</p> <p>Council also marked key days of significance in the LGBTIQA+ calendar. On 15 May 2025, IDAHOBIT (International Day Against Homophobia, Bi-phobia, Intersex Discrimination and Transphobia) was recognised with a film screening and flag raising. Additionally, an event titled Somewhere Sober is being planned for 3 July 2025 to promote alcohol-free spaces and create opportunities for LGBTIQA+ communities to connect with like-minded individuals and explore sobriety in a supportive environment.</p>						

Action Title: 2.1.6.1 Public, Social and Affordable Housing

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Equity and Community Development	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Action Progress Comments: Council continues to oppose the demolition of Melbourne's public housing towers through sustained advocacy to the Victorian Government. Officers actively participate in key advocacy forums, including M9, Yarra Zero, the Victorian Alliance to End Homelessness (VAEH), and the Inter-Council Affordable Housing Forum (ICAHF). As part of this work, Council made a formal submission to the Legal and Social Issues Committee's Inquiry into the Redevelopment of Melbourne's Public Housing Towers on 26 March 2025. The submission reaffirmed Council's strong opposition to the blanket demolition of all 44 towers, including the twelve within Yarra, and called for thorough, site-by-site assessments with genuine consideration of refurbishment and upgrade options.

To reinforce its position, Council also wrote directly to the Committee Chair, Mr Joe McCracken MP, requesting the disclosure of cabinet submission documents that informed the Government's decision. It urged the Committee to obtain and release these documents — either in full or in part — to support transparency, accountability and community trust, and to inform the Committee's assessment of the rationale, cost modelling, and treatment of alternatives.

In parallel, Council is progressing the establishment of a Public and Community Housing Advisory Committee through an open Expression of Interest process, designed to strengthen Council's long-term advocacy and community engagement on public housing redevelopment.

3 Local Economy

Action Title: 3.1.1.1 Update the Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager City Strategy	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	83%	100.00%	● Amber

Action Progress Comments: The first draft of the Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy has been received. A briefing paper is being prepared for Councillors ahead of the 15 July Council meeting.

Action Title: 3.1.2.1 Precinct Activation Program

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager City Strategy	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	82%	100.00%	● Amber

Action Progress Comments: Officers continue to work with Brunswick Street businesses on an activation program, including the successful launch of a new brand and identify for the street 'One Street Fitz All', a community/traders event, merchandise, marketing and promotion.

Officers have continued to support trader groups and associations by providing tailored guidance and assistance based on their specific needs. This has occurred alongside work on broader business initiatives, including reducing red tape and preparing for the one-hour free parking trial on the retail and service streets of Victoria, Bridge, and Swan streets in Richmond.

Action Title: 3.1.2.2 Night Time Economy Action Plan

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager City Strategy	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Data related to the Night Time Economy Action Plan continues to be collated, in particular via Council I.Q transactional data.

The Night Time Economy action plan has been integrated into the new Eco Development draft strategy that will be carried out over the next 12 months and adopted in 2026.

Action Title: 3.1.4.1 Implement Leaps & Bounds Cultural Music Festival

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Coordinator Festivals and Events Officer	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Program and marketing plan to be finalised following EOI conclusion.

Leaps & Bounds Music Festival is a venue-focused winter festival, designed to amplify and support Yarra's vibrant live music scene by showcasing homegrown talent across iconic local venues. Participating venues are selected through an annual Expression of Interest (EOI) process, which includes funding support to help deliver their proposed events as part of the festival program.

The 2025 Leaps and Bounds Music Festival program was launched on Thursday 12 June 2025 via Council channels and a dedicated Festival website lbmf.com.au. The announcement marked the beginning of a multi-platform marketing campaign, across print, digital, radio, and social media.

The Festival will run from 25-27 July 2025, spanning 20 venues with more than 60 acts, including pub takeovers, First Peoples showcases and community-curated live music, all aimed at championing local artists and supporting local venues and workers.

Action Title: 3.1.4.2 Review of Triennial Major Cultural Event Partnerships program

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Coordinator Festivals and Events Officer	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: A review of the Major Cultural Event Partnership program has been completed in line with the review of the Community Grants program.

At the Council meeting on 17 June 2025, Council endorsed the proposal to establish the new funding and service agreements from FY26 through a limited Expression of Interest by invitation to current event organisers responsible for the delivery of Victoria Street Lunar Festival, Johnston Street Fiesta, Gertrude Street Projection Festival and Victoria's Pride by Midsumma Festival.

4 Place and Nature

Action Title: 4.2.2.1 Protocol for mitigating combustible cladding risks

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Chief Financial Officer	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Liaison with Building Owners, Body and Corporate Managers commenced at the start of the audit program in 2017-18 and continues. This work will continue into 2025-2026 work program to resolve building notices /building orders.

Action Title: 4.2.2.1 Built Form Provisions for Activity Centres and Employment Precincts

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager City Strategy	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	18%	100.00%	● Red


Action Progress Comments: Amendment has not progressed. Awaiting consent from the Minister for Planning to publicly exhibit the amendment. Formal request for update on timing sent from Mayor.

Action Title: 4.2.2.2 Gipps Street Major Employment Precinct Local Area Plan

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager City Strategy	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	51%	100.00%	● Red

Action Progress Comments: Other work has taken priority (i.e. flooding, Plan for Victoria and reform analysis, Council's Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy, C271, Live Music precincts background analysis). Finalising issues and opportunities paper to be presented to a Councillor workshop. As reported, the work program was adjusted to facilitate planning reform, housing targets and the review of Council's Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy.

Action Title: 4.2.2.3 Amendment to update Flood Mapping in Yarra

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager City Strategy	Not Started	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	0%	100.00%	 Red

Action Progress Comments: Discussions with Melbourne Water continuing to occur. Melbourne Water intending to take lead on the scheme amendment for Councils. Dependent on State Government

Action Title: 4.2.2.5 Commence development of a new Community Infrastructure Plan (FSS)

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager City Strategy	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Sep-2025	100%	100.00%	 Green

Action Progress Comments: The first and second stages for community engagement were carried out alongside the Council Plan engagement, with broad community engagement and social research carried out in late 2024, and deliberative engagement with a community working group meeting in late January and early February in 2025. The outcomes from these stages of engagement are informing the development of the Community Infrastructure Plan.

In addition, the draft Community Infrastructure Plan will be placed on public exhibition in July/August 2025. The strategic components of the Community Infrastructure Plan are being drafted now, where outcomes from community engagement is informing these components, such as the strategic objectives for community infrastructure planning in Yarra, and principles about what community infrastructure should look like, or should be provided in Yarra. The audit data collection is well underway, with a focus on understanding potential gaps in community infrastructure to respond to community need over time.

Action Title: 4.2.3.1 Greening Yarra new open space and urban design projects

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager City Strategy	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	95%	100.00%	 Green

Action Progress Comments: Project is delayed due to the time required to secure the lease for the use of the land with Homes Victoria/ Department of Families, Fairness and Housing. The lease has now been executed, and the project is out to tender for a construction contract. The project will be delivered by October 2025.

Action Title: 4.2.3.1 Rewilding Yarra - Bringing Nature Back to Yarra initiative

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager City Works	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: During 2024/25, on ground works associated with the Bringing Nature Back (BNB) to Yarra Program has resulted in healing country through reinstatement of original vegetation, strengthening of wildlife corridors along waterways, provision of winter foraging opportunities for the threatened Grey-headed Flying-fox.

A Total of 80,710 local native tubestock of over 70 different species were planted by community, staff and ecological contractors, expanding areas of open space managed for biodiversity outcomes by 2.1ha. including 380 canopy species. Ecological contractors record all planted tubestock species diversity live in a data collection management platform.

Action Title: 4.2.4.1 Zero carbon development planning scheme amendment

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Environmental Sustainable Development Advisor	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	72%	100.00%	● Red

Action Progress Comments: Council has continued to advocate to the Minister through CASBE (Council Alliance for Sustainable Built Environment) for the planning scheme amendment.

The recently announced State Government reforms for Residential Provisions have implications for this work and will also form the basis of advocacy through CASBE.

5 Transport and movement

Action Title: 5.1.1.1 Kerb Side Strategy (FSS)

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Unit Manager Strategic Transport	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	86%	100.00%	● Amber

Action Progress Comments: Initial data collection of car parking inventory and use is complete. Results have been integrated into Council's GIS for use.

Further work has been included in the new Council Plan and 2025-26 Budget to continue this work in the next Financial Year.

Some of the kerbside data will need to be collected as part of broader asset work scheduled for the end of the calendar year as that is the most effective and easiest way of obtaining this data.

Action Title: 5.1.1.2 Active transport – cycling and public transport (FSS)

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Unit Manager Strategic Transport	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Scoping and project inception has continued to be implemented in reaching completion of active transport projects.

Some projects have been delayed due to external approvals and being paused by Council. Most projects have been carried over into the 2025-26 Budget for completion in the next financial year Preparation work required in early stages of project inception have been completed for projects nominated for the 2025-26 Budget

Action Title: 5.1.1.3 Micro mobility

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Unit Manager Strategic Transport	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Most of this project was cancelled due to the withdrawal of shared e-scooters in Yarra in March 2025. Council continues to implement this plan for shared e-bikes and continue work on a permanent shared e-scooter scheme.

Action Title: 5.1.2.1 Compliance and Parking Digitalisation (FSS)

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Parking and Compliance Services	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	80%	100.00%	● Amber

Action Progress Comments: Council was awarded a \$200,000 State Government grant in September 2024 to continue improving business-related permits. The funding for the digital program has been completed. The project has made significant progress, with the project team successfully recruited including an experienced consultant. The Project Management Plan and Scope of Works have been completed. The internal workflow and process mapping is complete and are scheduled for refinement with the consultants in July. The completion date estimated to be November 2025.

Action Title: 5.1.2.2 Parking Services Systematic Review (FSS)

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Parking and Compliance Services	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	81%	100.00%	● Amber

Action Progress Comments: Projects that have been initiated or completed:

- User Pays Pricing Model (merchant fees)
- BPAY for parking permits
- Review and implementation of abandoned vehicle process
- Review of Council's towing contract, resulting in significant cost savings to Council
- Implementation of parking asset data in Yarra maps
- Reviewed the feasibility of license plate recognition software

Projects that have been initiated:

- Virtual Paid Parking
- Commenced a review of parking sensor data
- Review of the standard operating procedure manual for Parking Enforcement

Parking enforcement update:

- Implemented changes to AFL rostering and enforcement plans, to support community's expectations
- Highest volume of parking infringements issued
- Budget: \$17,500 – YTD: \$17,906,689
- Planned resourcing for major events
- Standard operating procedures review in progress

Implementation of one hour Free Parking Project.

Action Title: 5.1.3.1 Expanding 30km/h Trial						
Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Infrastructure, Traffic and Civil Engineering	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jul-2026	98%	100.00%	● Green
<p>Action Progress Comments: The 30km/hr trial covering all local roads in Fitzroy and Collingwood commenced in May 2024, with the trial intended to be in place for up to 24 months. Following a higher level of interest and feedback in the first couple of months of the trial, we have received limited feedback or notable concerns from the community over the past 6 months. Since the start of 2025, we are aware that the State Government has commenced a review of its Speed Zone Policy and Guidelines, with officers participating in an initial stakeholder workshop. We understand the updated policy and guidelines may assist the State Governments to develop its position on 30km/hr speed limits in Victoria, which will effectively determine how lower speed limits can be applied, irrespective of the outcome of the current trial in Fitzroy and Collingwood. While this review takes place, we will continue to work with our road safety partners to deliver the trial in Yarra, including a review of lower speed limits on public transport, while addressing any amendments community concerns as they arise</p> <p>Traffic data has been collected and an infrastructure plan is being prepared for additional signs and pavement markings to be installed in line with the trial methodology.</p>						

6 Democracy and governance

Action Title: 6.1.2.1 Procurement Excellence and Governance (FSS)

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Procurement Coordinator	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Periodically monitor and review the policy and update the process for releasing corporate cards to ensure all required forms and training are completed.

Action Title: 6.1.4.1 Develop a new Property Strategy (FSS)

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Property Services	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: Significant feedback was received during community engagement highlighting the importance of transparency, consultation, and strong governance. In response, the strategy has been amended to reinforce these principles, ensuring Council oversight and the community's voice in key decisions, including any buying and disposing of properties. The revised strategy was adopted by Council and is being implemented.

Action Title: 6.1.5.1 Customer Experience (CX) Program

Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Customer Experience	In Progress	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	95%	100.00%	● Green

Action Progress Comments: A phased implementation is currently underway to accelerate service response times and enhance customer turnaround. This initiative is focused on streamlining workflows, optimising resource allocation, and ensuring faster resolution of customer inquiries. The changes aim to deliver more consistent, high-quality service while aligning with customer expectations

Action Title: 6.1.5.1 Review the Service Landscape Program (FSS)						
Responsible Person	Status	Start Date	End Date	% Complete	Target	On Target %
Manager Business Transformation	Completed	01-Jul-2024	30-Jun-2025	100%	100.00%	● Green
Action Progress Comments: Four services have been completed through effective data analysis, benchmarking, stakeholder engagement and service design, using the Service Planning and Review Principles, resulting in operational enhancements that achieve, financial sustainability, social uplift.						



Yarra City Council

PO Box 168, Richmond, VIC 3121
9205 5555
info@yarracity.vic.gov.au
yarracity.vic.gov.au

Customer service centres

Richmond Town Hall
333 Bridge Road, Richmond

Collingwood Town Hall
140 Hoddle Street, Abbotsford

7.5. Proposed Discontinuance of Road abutting 74-76 Rose Street, Fitzroy

Author Kirti Madan – Property Project Officer

Authoriser General Manager Infrastructure and Environment

Executive Summary

This report seeks Council's authority to commence the statutory procedures pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1989 (Vic)* (Act) to discontinue the road abutting 74-76 Rose Street, Fitzroy, being the land shown highlighted in yellow on the site plan attached as **Attachment 1** (site plan).

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Acting under section 17(4) of the Road Management Act 2004 (RMA), resolves that the road abutting 74-76 Rose Street, Fitzroy, being part of the land contained in certificate of title volume 09775 folio 989 and shown as the 45 square metre parcel on the title plan attached as **Attachment 2** (road), be removed from Council's Register of Public Roads on the basis that the road is no longer required for general public use.
2. Acting under clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 1989 (Act):
 - (a) Resolves that the required statutory procedures be commenced to discontinue the road;
 - (b) Directs that, under sections 207A and 223 of the Act, public notice of the proposed discontinuance be given in "The Age" newspaper;
 - (c) Resolves that the public notice should state that if the road is discontinued, Council proposes to sell the road to the adjoining owner for market value; and
 - (d) Authorises the General Manager Infrastructure and Environment to undertake the administrative procedures necessary to enable Council to carry out its functions under section 223 of the Act in relation to this matter.

History and background

1. The road, being the land shown highlighted in yellow on the site plan attached as **Attachment 1** and is shown as the 45 m² parcel on the title plan attached as **Attachment 2** (title plan) is known as Council laneway number 1830.
2. 76 Rose Street Developments Pty Ltd (the applicant) is the registered proprietor of the adjoining property 74-76 Rose Street, Fitzroy, being the whole land contained in certificate of title volume 09775 folio 989 attached as **Attachment 3** to this report (76 Rose Street property) and is shown delineated blue on the site plan attached as **Attachment 1**.

3. Barbotine Pty Ltd (adjoining owner) is the registered proprietor of 78-84 Rose Street, Fitzroy, being the whole land contained in certificate of title volume 10116 folio 808, shown delineated in red on the site plan (Barbotine property). A copy of Title and plan search is attached as **Attachment 4** to this report.
4. The applicant is currently under contract to purchase Barbotine property, with settlement expected to occur in the near future.
5. A planning permit (PLN24/0738) has already been issued—through VCAT proceedings—for a proposed development that encompasses both the applicant's existing property and the adjoining property under a single development.
6. The applicant has requested that Council discontinue and sell the road to it (proposal). The applicant has agreed to pay Council's costs and disbursements associated with the proposal together with the market value for the transfer of the discontinued road to the applicant.

Site Context

Road Status:

7. The road:
 - (a) is listed on Council's Register of Public Roads as laneway number 1830;
 - (b) is shown as a 'road' on plan of consolidation 166209X and 354140W;
 - (c) is part of the land contained in certificates of title volume 09775 folio 989 (known as 74-76 Rose Street, Fitzroy) and volume 10116 folio 808 (known as 78-84 Rose Street, Fitzroy). A copy of the title searches is attached to this report as **Attachment 3** and **Attachment 4**;
 - (d) has a total area of 45m²;
 - (e) terminates in a dead end and does not contribute to the pedestrian network of the local area; and
 - (f) does not provide access to any other adjoining properties.
8. As the road is a 'road' for the purposes of the Act, Council has the power to consider discontinuing the road under sections 207A and 223 of the Act. If discontinued, the road will vest in Council.

Adjoining owners

9. As 76 Rose Street property and Barbotine property are the only properties which abut the road, the applicant was not required to obtain consent from any other adjoining owners.
10. The applicant has provided Barbotine's written consent to the proposal, a copy of which is attached as **Attachment 5** to this report.

Site Inspection

11. A site inspection of the road was conducted by Linear Land Surveying on 3 December 2024. The site inspection report notes that:
 - (a) currently, the road has a vehicular or pedestrian right of way but only provides access to the carpark on site at 74-84 Rose Street, Fitzroy;

- (b) the carpark at 74-84 Rose Street, Fitzroy will no longer be in use once the site is re-developed;
 - (c) there are no obstructions within the road;
 - (d) comprises a bluestone pavement with a central invert and grated pit; and
 - (e) the road is not required for general public access.
12. A copy of the site inspection report is attached as **Attachment 6** to this report.

Discussion

Removal of road from Council's Register of Public Roads

13. It is considered that the road is no longer reasonably required for general public use pursuant to section 17(4) of the RMA as:
- (a) it is entirely enclosed by, and provides access solely to, the adjoining properties at 74–76 and 78–84 Rose Street, Fitzroy, which are proposed to be consolidated and developed as a single site;
 - (b) it does not provide access to any of the other adjoining properties; and
 - (c) it holds limited strategic value to Council.

Public Authorities

14. The following statutory authorities have been advised of the proposal and have been asked to respond to the question of whether they have any existing assets in the road which should be saved under section 207C of the Act:

Greater Western Water	Telstra	NBN (Telecom)
Melbourne Water	Optus	TPG (Telecom)
CitiPower	APA Gas	Yarra City Council

15. Melbourne Water, CitiPower, Telstra, NBN (Telecom) and TPG (Telecom) have advised that they have no assets in or above the road and no objection to the proposal.
16. APA Gas has advised no gas infrastructure is impacted and it has no objection to the proposal.
17. Optus has advised that the discontinuance of the road will not impact Optus operations.
18. Council officers have advised they have no objection to the proposal.
19. On 8 October 2024, Greater Western Water (GWW) advised that the parcel of land proposed for discontinuance contains existing GWW sewer mains. With respect to these assets, GWW will not object to this proposal subject to the following:
- (a) a 2-metre-wide sewerage easement is created over the road in favour of GWW;
 - (b) any proposed fences must be located a minimum distance of 800mm clear of the centreline of existing sewer mains;

- (c) any proposed fence lines must be located a minimum of 1 metre from sewer manholes and/or sewer inspection shafts; and
 - (d) any proposal to build over GWW assets will require GWW's written consent.
20. A copy of the correspondence received from GWW is attached to this report as **Attachment 7**.

Options

Option 1 – Commence statutory procedures to discontinue the road

Recommended

21. Council has the authority to commence the statutory procedures to discontinue the road pursuant to clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the Act after which it may vest in Council or be sold to the adjoining owner. This option would allow the proposal to be formally considered through the statutory process, including public consultation.

Option 2 – Not commence the statutory procedures to discontinue the road

Not recommended

22. Council has the authority to decide not to commence the statutory procedures to discontinue the road. However, that is not recommended because:
- (a) the owner requires that the road be discontinued to facilitate its development in accordance with the planning permit; and
 - (b) the road has limited strategic value to Council.

Community and stakeholder engagement

Public Notice

23. Before proceeding with the discontinuance, Council must give public notice of the proposal in accordance with section 223 of the Act. Under which a person may, within 28 days of the date of the public notice, lodge a written submission regarding the proposal.
24. Where a person has made a written submission to Council requesting that he or she be heard in support of the written submission, Council must permit that person to be heard before a meeting of Council or a Committee which has delegated authority to hear those submissions, giving reasonable notice of the day, time and place of the meeting.
25. After hearing any submissions made, Council must determine whether the road is not reasonably required as a road for public use, in order to decide whether the road should be discontinued.
26. A decision about whether the submissions are to be heard at an Ordinary Council Meeting or an Extraordinary Council Meeting can be decided later.

Strategic Analysis

Alignment to Council Plan

27. Strategic Objective four - Running the City:

- (a) Strategy 10: Ensure all decisions are financially sound, transparent, and accountable to the community;
 - (b) Strategy 11: Ensure we deliver services that are fit for purpose and provide value to the community; and
 - (c) Strategy 13: Manage Council's land and building assets to maximise value to the local community.
28. Furthermore, the Management Policy for Laneways, Passageways, and Rights of Way in Yarra, states: "Where there is no strategic or long-term municipal value, Council's preference is to discontinue the laneway or passageway and sell the land to a new owner at a price determined by Council's Property Services branch."

Climate emergency

29. There are no climate emergency and sustainability implications.

Community and social implications

30. There are no community or social implications.

Economic development implications

31. There are no economic development implications.

Human rights and gender equality implications

32. There are no human rights or gender implications.

Finance and Resource Impacts and Interdependencies

33. The owner has agreed to acquire the road for its market value (plus GST). An independent and qualified valuer will conduct a valuation before the second Council report, where the final decision on this matter will be made.
34. The preliminary estimate for the road is approximately \$300,000.
35. In addition to the market value of the road (plus GST), the owner has agreed to pay Council's costs and disbursements associated with the proposal.

Legal and Legislative obligations

Conflict of interest disclosure

36. Section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of interest in a matter to which the advice relates. The officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Risks Analysis

37. The road:
- (a) is entirely enclosed by, and provides access solely to, the adjoining properties at 74–76 and 78–84 Rose Street, Fitzroy, which are proposed to be consolidated and developed as a single site;
-

- (b) terminates in a dead end and does not contribute to the pedestrian network of the local area; and
 - (c) holds limited strategic value to Council.
38. Based on the above considerations, the proposal presents minimal risk, with negligible to no impact on surrounding properties, infrastructure, or traffic flow.

Implementation Strategy

Timeline

- 39. Should Council decide to support the proposal, the public notice will be advertised as soon as possible allowing 28 days for any submissions. A second report will be brought back to Council in late 2025 which will include any submissions received from the community.
- 40. Council will then have to decide whether to discontinue the road or not. If the road is discontinued, the settlement and transfer of land will occur in late 2025 or early 2026.
- 41. Although not anticipated for this proposal, should Council receive a large number of submissions requesting to be heard, the above timeline may be impacted.

Communication

- 42. All communications with the community in relation to the proposal will be carried out in accordance with section 223 of the Act and Council Community Engagement Policy.

Report attachments

- 1. 7.5.1 Attachment 1 - Site Plan-74-84 Rose Street, Fitzroy
- 2. 7.5.2 Attachment 2 - Title Plan-74-76 Rose Street, Fitzroy
- 3. 7.5.3 Attachment 3 - Title and Plan Search -74-76 Rose Street, Fitzroy Vic 3065
- 4. 7.5.4 Attachment 4 - Title and Plan Search -78-84 Rose Street, Fitzroy Vic 3065
- 5. 7.5.5 Attachment 5 - Written consent from Barbotine property
- 6. 7.5.6 Attachment 6 - Site Inspection Report-74-76 Rose Street, Fitzroy
- 7. 7.5.7 Attachment 7 - GWW Response Letter - 74-84 Rose Street Fitzroy

Attachment 1 – Site Plan



Attachment 7.5.2
Attachment 2 - Title Plan-74-76 Rose Street, Fitzroy



Copyright State of Victoria. No part of this publication may be reproduced except as permitted by the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth), to comply with a statutory requirement or pursuant to a written agreement. The information is only valid at the time and in the form obtained from the LANDATA REGD TM System. None of the State of Victoria, its agents or contractors, accepts responsibility for any subsequent publication or reproduction of the information.

The Victorian Government acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Victoria and pays respects to their ongoing connection to their Country, History and Culture. The Victorian Government extends this respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

**REGISTER SEARCH STATEMENT (Title Search) Transfer of
Land Act 1958**

Page 1 of 1

VOLUME 09775 FOLIO 989

Security no : 124125281974U
Produced 12/06/2025 02:14 PM**LAND DESCRIPTION**

Land in Plan of Consolidation 166209X.
PARENT TITLES :
Volume 08175 Folio 233 Volume 08352 Folio 390
Created by instrument CP166209X 27/10/1987

REGISTERED PROPRIETOR

Estate Fee Simple
Sole Proprietor
76 ROSE STREET DEVELOPMENTS PTY LTD of LEVEL 5 30-36 BAY STREET DOUBLE BAY
NSW 2028
AY539868T 28/10/2024

ENCUMBRANCES, CAVEATS AND NOTICES

MORTGAGE AY539869R 28/10/2024
PALLAS FUNDS PTY LTD

Any encumbrances created by Section 98 Transfer of Land Act 1958 or Section
24 Subdivision Act 1988 and any other encumbrances shown or entered on the
plan or imaged folio set out under DIAGRAM LOCATION below.

DIAGRAM LOCATION

SEE TP234774V FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND BOUNDARIES

ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 125 DAYS

NIL

-----END OF REGISTER SEARCH STATEMENT-----

Additional information: (not part of the Register Search Statement)

Street Address: 74-76 ROSE STREET FITZROY VIC 3065

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICES

NIL

eCT Control 23592P WATSON WALLACE
Effective from 28/10/2024

DOCUMENT END



Imaged Document Cover Sheet

The document following this cover sheet is an imaged document supplied by LANDATA®, Secure Electronic Registries Victoria.

Document Type	Plan
Document Identification	TP234774V
Number of Pages (excluding this cover sheet)	1
Document Assembled	12/06/2025 14:14

Copyright and disclaimer notice:

© State of Victoria. This publication is copyright. No part may be reproduced by any process except in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth) and for the purposes of Section 32 of the Sale of Land Act 1962 or pursuant to a written agreement. The information is only valid at the time and in the form obtained from the LANDATA® System. None of the State of Victoria, LANDATA®, Secure Electronic Registries Victoria Pty Ltd (ABN 86 627 986 396) as trustee for the Secure Electronic Registries Victoria Trust (ABN 83 206 746 897) accept responsibility for any subsequent release, publication or reproduction of the information.

The document is invalid if this cover sheet is removed or altered.



Copyright State of Victoria. No part of this publication may be reproduced except as permitted by the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth), to comply with a statutory requirement or pursuant to a written agreement. The information is only valid at the time and in the form obtained from the LANDATA REGD TM System. None of the State of Victoria, its agents or contractors, accepts responsibility for any subsequent publication or reproduction of the information.

The Victorian Government acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Victoria and pays respects to their ongoing connection to their Country, History and Culture. The Victorian Government extends this respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

**REGISTER SEARCH STATEMENT (Title Search) Transfer of
Land Act 1958**

Page 1 of 2

VOLUME 10116 FOLIO 808

Security no : 124125283857X
Produced 12/06/2025 02:41 PM**LAND DESCRIPTION**

Land in Plan of Consolidation 354140W.

PARENT TITLES :

Volume 08136 Folio 305 Volume 08393 Folio 918 Volume 09125 Folio 088

Volume 10095 Folio 360

Created by instrument PC354140W 19/05/1993

REGISTERED PROPRIETOR

Estate Fee Simple

Sole Proprietor

BARBOTINE PTY LTD of 1/71 ROSE STREET FITZROY VIC 3065
AB204154F 10/04/2002**ENCUMBRANCES, CAVEATS AND NOTICES**

CAVEAT AY134881K 25/06/2024

Caveator

76 ROSE STREET DEVELOPMENTS PTY LTD AS TRUSTEE FOR THE ROSE STREET
DEVELOPMENT TRUST ACN: 676091651

Grounds of Claim

AGREEMENT WITH THE FOLLOWING PARTIES AND DATE.

Parties

THE REGISTERED PROPRIETOR(S)

Date

21/05/2024

Estate or Interest

FREEHOLD ESTATE

Prohibition

UNLESS I/WE CONSENT IN WRITING

Lodged by

MADDOCKS

Notices to

BETTINA SHEERAN of "COLLINS SQUARE" LEVEL 25 727 COLLINS STREET MELBOURNE
VIC 3008

Any encumbrances created by Section 98 Transfer of Land Act 1958 or Section
24 Subdivision Act 1988 and any other encumbrances shown or entered on the
plan set out under DIAGRAM LOCATION below.

DIAGRAM LOCATION

SEE PC354140W FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND BOUNDARIES

ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 125 DAYS

NIL

-----END OF REGISTER SEARCH STATEMENT-----

Additional information: (not part of the Register Search Statement)

Street Address: 78-84 ROSE STREET FITZROY VIC 3065

Title 10116/808

Page 1 of 2



Copyright State of Victoria. No part of this publication may be reproduced except as permitted by the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth), to comply with a statutory requirement or pursuant to a written agreement. The information is only valid at the time and in the form obtained from the LANDATA REGD TM System. None of the State of Victoria, its agents or contractors, accepts responsibility for any subsequent publication or reproduction of the information.

The Victorian Government acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Victoria and pays respects to their ongoing connection to their Country, History and Culture. The Victorian Government extends this respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

REGISTER SEARCH STATEMENT (Title Search) Transfer of Land Act 1958

Page 2 of 2

DOCUMENT END



Imaged Document Cover Sheet

The document following this cover sheet is an imaged document supplied by LANDATA®, Secure Electronic Registries Victoria.

Document Type	Plan
Document Identification	PC354140W
Number of Pages (excluding this cover sheet)	1
Document Assembled	12/06/2025 14:41

Copyright and disclaimer notice:

© State of Victoria. This publication is copyright. No part may be reproduced by any process except in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth) and for the purposes of Section 32 of the Sale of Land Act 1962 or pursuant to a written agreement. The information is only valid at the time and in the form obtained from the LANDATA® System. None of the State of Victoria, LANDATA®, Secure Electronic Registries Victoria Pty Ltd (ABN 86 627 986 396) as trustee for the Secure Electronic Registries Victoria Trust (ABN 83 206 746 897) accept responsibility for any subsequent release, publication or reproduction of the information.

The document is invalid if this cover sheet is removed or altered.

PLAN OF CONSOLIDATION		LTO use only EDITION 1	Plan Number PC 354140 W	
Location of Land Parish: JIKA JIKA Township: _____ Section: _____ Crown Allotment: _____ Crown Portion: 83(PART) LTO base record: CHART 115 (2796) Title References C/T'S 8136/305, 8393/918, 9125/088 & 10095/360 Last Plan Reference: LOTS 1,2 & 5 ON LP.33760 + CLOSED ROAD Postal Address: 78 & 80 ROSE STREET (At time of subdivision) FITZROY 3065 AMG Co-ordinates (Of approx centre of plan) E: 321870 N: 5814730 ZONE 55		Council Certification and Endorsement Council Name: CITY OF FITZROY Ref: 2111 1. This Plan is certified under Section 6 of the Subdivision Act 1988. 2. This plan is certified under section 11(7) of the Subdivision Act 1988 Date of original certification under section 6 / / 3. This is a statement of compliance issued under section 21 of the Subdivision Act 1988. Council delegate Council seal Date 23 / 10 / 1992 Re-certified under section 11(7) of the Subdivision Act 1988. Council delegate Council seal Date / /		
		LTO use only Statement of compliance/ Exemption Statement Received <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date: 13 / 11 / 92		
		LTO use only PLAN REGISTERED TIME 12.30 P.M. DATE: 19 / 5 / 93 Assistant registrar of Titles.		
		Notations Depth Limitations NIL PARTY WALL EASEMENT BETWEEN LOTS 1 AND 5 ON LP33760 WILL MERGE UPON REGISTRATION OF THIS PLAN.		
Easement Information				
Legend: A - Appurtenant Easement E - Encumbering Easement R - Encumbering Easement (Road)				
Easement Reference	Purpose	Width (Metres)	Origin	Land Benefited/in Favour Of
A-1	PARTY WALL	AS SHOWN	A342107	LOT 5 ON LP. 33760
A-1	PARTY WALL	AS SHOWN	LP. 33760	LOT 5 ON LP. 33760
E-1	PARTY WALL	AS SHOWN	A342107	LOT 4 ON LP. 33760
E-1	PARTY WALL	AS SHOWN	LP. 33760	LOT 4 ON LP. 33760
Survey This plan is/ is not based on survey (To be completed where applicable) This survey has been connected to permanent marks (noted). in Proclaimed Survey Area no. _____				
<p>ROSE STREET</p> <p>FITZROY STREET</p> <p>ROAD</p> <p>496m²</p> <p>Scale 1:300</p> <p>LENGTHS ARE IN METRES</p>				
BARKER MONAHAN CONSULTING SURVEYORS & CIVIL ENGINEERS 581 GILBERT ROAD WEST PRESTON 3072 TELEPHONE 478 6133 FAX 470 5189		LICENSED SURVEYOR (PRINT) DAVID JOHN MONAHAN SIGNATURE _____ DATE / / REF 8720 VERSION 01		
		Sheet 1 of 1 Sheets DATE / / COUNCIL DELEGATE SIGNATURE Original sheet size A3		

Barbotine Pty Ltd (ACN 005 609 969)

Friday, 31 May 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: No Objections to Discontinuation and Potential Purchase of Laneway Abutting 78-84 Rose Street, Fitzroy, VIC 3065

Barbotine Pty Ltd (ACN 005 609 969) hereby declares that it has no objections to the discontinuation and the potential purchase of the laneway abutting 78-84 Rose Street, Fitzroy, VIC 306 as noted in picture below:



No works to occur in the laneway or closure of laneway to occur until settlement or unless agreed by both parties.

Furthermore, Barbotine Pty Ltd (ACN 005 609 969) has no objections to 78-84 Rose Street Developments Pty. Limited (ACN 676 091 651) as trustee for the Rose Street Development Trust, of Level 5, Pallas House, 30-36 Bay Street, Double Bay NSW 2028, acquiring the laneway.

Executed by Barbotine Pty Ltd (ACN 005 609 969):

Mary Pollifroni
Director/company secretary

MARY POLLIFRONI
Name of director/company secretary
(BLOCK LETTERS)

10/06/2024
Date of signature

Enzo Pollifroni
Director

Enzo POLLIFRONI
Name of director
(BLOCK LETTERS)

10/06/2024
Date of signature

**Fortis Development Group**

c/- Edward Robinson - Development Manager

+61 400 875 352

edward.robinson@fortis.com.au

Ref L.3361

Tuesday, 3 December 2024

Dear Ed,

**Re: Application to Yarra City Council to close road contained in TP973077V
74-84 Rose Street, Fitzroy**

Further to receiving your request, we have prepared this photo report to accompany the formal application to Council to discontinue the road contained within the proposed development site for 74-84 Rose Street, Fitzroy.

To satisfy Councils checklist please see the following information:



- Photographs of the road – see below plan legend showing direction of photos.
- Use of the road by public and the evidence of use or not use – the road is current used for access to the carpark on site at 74-84 Rose Street. The carpark will no longer be in use once the site is re-developed therefore deeming the road redundant.
- Any Obstructions such as fencing, bins, rubbish, vegetation, services etc – no obstructions in place – see photos.
- Type/Construction of the road – bluestone laneway – see photos
- Type of traffic – vehicle access to current carpark on site.
- Provides access to - road currently provides vehicle access to current carpark on site.
- Other details of suitable means of access – no obstruction in place (gates etc) so the road is open to public access.
- Details of fences, building, landscaping etc – abutting building on 74-76 Rose Street to be demolished as part of development works.

If you have any questions at all, please contact our office at your convenience.

Yours faithfully,

Samuel Brewin - Director / Licensed Surveyor**Linear Land Surveying****Linear Land Surveying Pty Ltd**

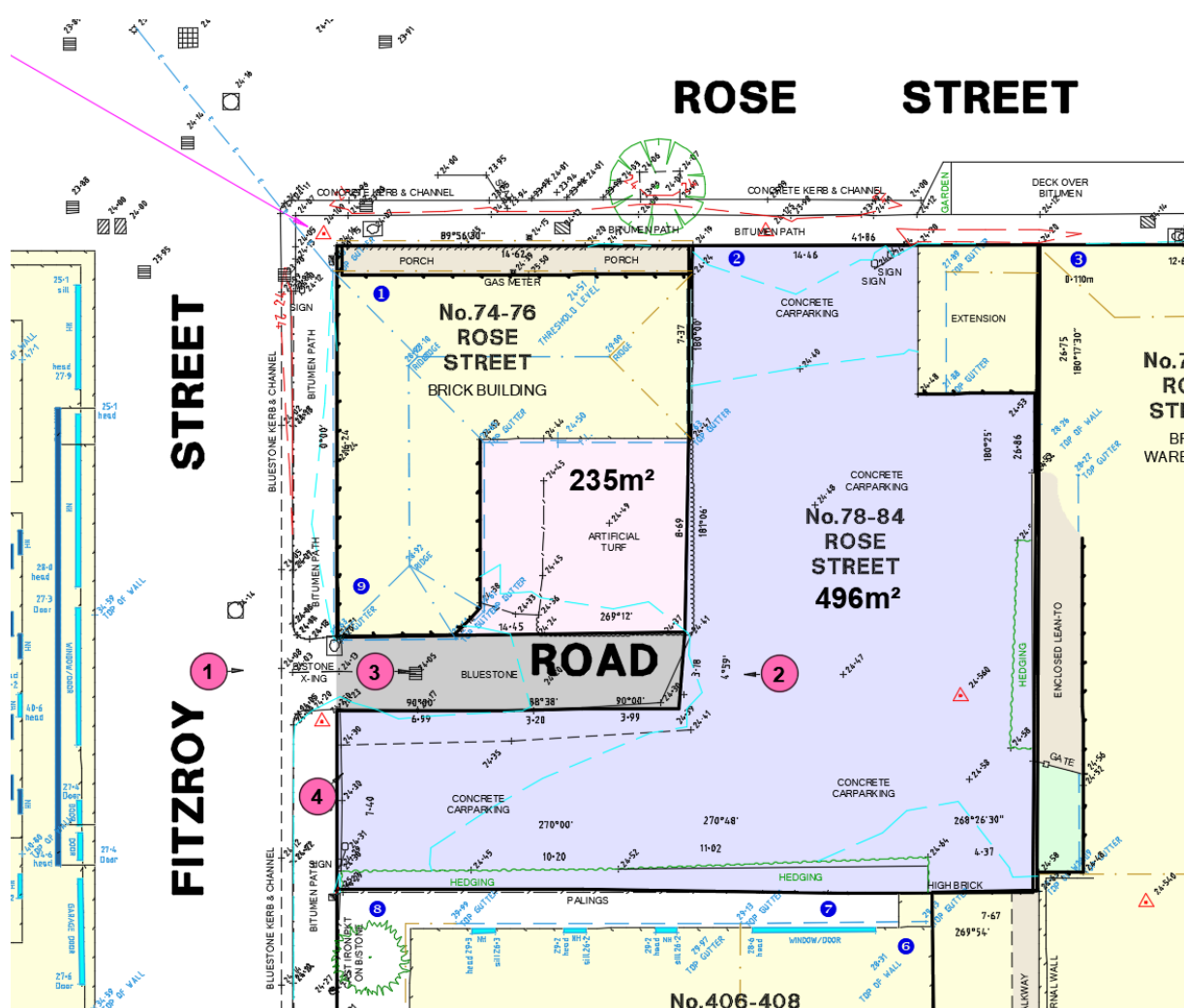
A.B.N 37 618 679 217

 www.linearlandsurveying.com.au (03) 9873 8888 survey@linearlandsurveying.com.au 5/31 Redland Drive, Vermont 3133 7 Bakers Lane, Alexandra 3714
By appointment only.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.



Snippet of Site Plan with Photo Direction



Linear Land Surveying Pty Ltd

A.B.N 37 618 679 217

www.linearlandsurveying.com.au

(03) 9873 8888

survey@linearlandsurveying.com.au

5/31 Redland Drive, Vermont 3133

7 Bakers Lane, Alexandra 3714
By appointment only.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.




PHOTO 1



Linear Land Surveying Pty Ltd


A.B.N 37 618 679 217

 www.linearlandsurveying.com.au

 (03) 9873 8888

 survey@linearlandsurveying.com.au

 5/31 Redland Drive, Vermont 3133

 7 Bakers Lane, Alexandra 3714
By appointment only.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.





PHOTO 2




Linear Land Surveying Pty Ltd


A.B.N 37 618 679 217

 www.linearlandsurveying.com.au

 (03) 9873 8888

 survey@linearlandsurveying.com.au

 5/31 Redland Drive, Vermont 3133

 7 Bakers Lane, Alexandra 3714
By appointment only.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.




PHOTO 3



Linear Land Surveying Pty Ltd


A.B.N 37 618 679 217

 www.linearlandsurveying.com.au

 (03) 9873 8888

 survey@linearlandsurveying.com.au

 5/31 Redland Drive, Vermont 3133

 7 Bakers Lane, Alexandra 3714
By appointment only.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.




PHOTO 4



Linear Land Surveying Pty Ltd


A.B.N 37 618 679 217

 www.linearlandsurveying.com.au

 (03) 9873 8888

 survey@linearlandsurveying.com.au

 5/31 Redland Drive, Vermont 3133

 7 Bakers Lane, Alexandra 3714
By appointment only.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.



Greater Western Water
 ABN 70 066 902 467
 36 Macedon Street, Sunbury Vic 3429
 Locked Bag 350, Sunshine Vic 3020

8 October 2024

SAMUEL BREWIN
 LINEAR LAND SURVEYING
 SUITE 5, 31 REDLAND DRIVE
 VERMONT, VIC 3133

Dear Samuel,

Re: PROPOSED DISCONTINUANCE OF ROAD
Location: 74-84 ROSE STREET, FITZROY

I refer to your email received by Greater Western Water (GWW) regarding the proposed Discontinuance of Road at the above location and request for comment from GWW. Please find **attached** plans of the general area and click on <https://www.gww.com.au/works-other-authorities> to access a copy of GWW's Asset Protection Guidelines. This document includes tables of minimum clearances and the section titled, "**Duty of Care**" which outlines responsibilities regarding asset proving.

As you will see on the plan provided, the parcel of land proposed for Discontinuance contains existing GWW sewer main. With respect to these assets, GWW will not object to this proposal subject to the following:

1. A certified Title Plan must show a 2.0m wide Sewerage Easement centrally located over the sewer main in favour of GWW pursuant to Section 12(1) of the Subdivision Act. This plan must then be referred to GWW for consideration prior to offering a withdrawal of objection.
2. Any proposed fences must be located a minimum distance of 800mm clear of the centreline of existing GWW sewer mains.
3. Any proposed fence lines must be located a minimum distance of 1.0m from sewer manholes and/or sewer inspection shafts.
4. The area over the water main for a distance of 2.0m either side of the centreline of the water main must not be built over or be enclosed by any structure. It must remain public land/reserve which provides GWW clear access to the asset for emergency maintenance and operational purposes.
5. Any GWW assets that may require relocation or alteration will require a separate application to carry out such work. Application can be made via email oaw@gww.com.au
6. Any plumbing works and/or proposal to build over GWW assets will require GWW's written consent via the appropriate application. GWW applications can be located at <https://www.citywestwater.com.au/pplus/>

Telephone 13 44 99
Email contact@gww.com.au

Teletypewriter 13 36 77

gww.com.au



Naturally, extreme care must be taken when working in the vicinity of GWW assets and GWW will seek cost recovery for any damage caused to its assets that can be attributed to this proposal.

If you require further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me on 0438 496 224.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dylan Letissier".

Dylan Letissier

Technical Officer, Other Authorities Works

7.6. Governance Report - August 2025

Author Patrick O'Gorman – Senior Governance Coordinator

Authoriser General Manager Governance, Communications and Customer Service

Executive Summary

The Governance Report presents to Council a range of statutory compliance, transparency and governance related matters for consideration and/or determination.

This report seeks Council's consideration on two matters, namely:

- (a) Motions to be submitted to the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) for the State Council Meeting on 10 October 2025 to assist Council's advocacy considerations; and
- (b) Approving an authorisation for a Council officer to exercise responsibilities under the Planning and Environment Act.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Endorses the following motions for submission to the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council to be held on 10 October 2025:
 - (a) *That the MAV calls on the Victorian Government to ensure that with regard to its planning reforms:*
 - (i) *Continues to require developers to provide their open space contributions directly to Councils;*
 - (ii) *Requires Build to Rent developments to make open space contributions to Councils;*
 - (iii) *Ensures that state planning instruments include genuine opportunities for the community to be heard directly and through council;*
 - (iv) *Requires the Department of Transport and Planning to provide to councils the capacity model used to determine the housing targets set for each Local Government Area as part of the Plan for Victoria; and*
 - (v) *Requires the Department of Transport and Planning to have a more collaborative approach in implementing the Development Facilitation Program, specifically seeking:*
 - a. *That Council officers be provided with the opportunity to participate in pre-application meetings;*
 - b. *That Council officers be involved in the review of draft planning permit conditions prior to a permit being issued, particularly in relation to matters over which Council has jurisdiction (including public realm*

- works, matters requiring Council approvals, construction management, and compliance);
 - c. Implements mechanisms for sharing fees or covering Council's costs associated with reviewing proposals and providing critical local technical and planning advice; and
 - d. Ensures Council is provided with adequate time to:
 - o Review and respond to referrals, including time after the public notification period to consider community submissions prior to finalising Council's position; and
 - o Review plans and documents relevant to Council-related conditions and areas of responsibility;
 - e. Provides Council with copies of final decisions and summaries of any objections received;
- (b) That the MAV calls on the Victorian Government to release its Final Report on Household Waste and Recycling Service Standards to enable councils to develop waste strategies with more certainty;
- (c) That the MAV:
- (i) condemns vilification, hate speech, and prejudice against all marginalised groups;
 - (ii) commits to working with local councils to ensure the safety and inclusion of all Victorians regardless of their race, religion, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation; and
 - (iii) calls on the Victorian Parliament and Government to implement a positive duty for organisations to take reasonable and proportionate steps to prevent vilification, as is currently the case for discrimination, sexual harassment and victimisation matters under the Equal Opportunity Act 2010;
- (d) That the MAV:
- (i) notes the recent findings from the Victorian Local Governance Association that 48% of women councillors - and 44% of councillors in total - have received a higher level of hostility than expected from some members of the public; and
 - (ii) continues to advocate to the Minister for Local Government and the Minister for Women to reinstate the Gender Equality Advisory Committee to address the challenges identified by female councillors and council employees; and
2. In the exercise of the powers conferred by s 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, resolves that Nicholas Iliov be appointed and authorised as set out in the instrument at Attachment One, 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.

Discussion

Motions for the MAV State Council

1. The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council will be held on 10 October 2025.
2. Council has the opportunity to submit motions for consideration by the MAV State Council. This is an opportunity to further Council's policy positions at a state level, particularly in relation to advocacy matters. Once submitted, the motions are taken to State Council and debated by the members. If adopted, they become the formal position of the MAV.
3. To be eligible for inclusion and presentation to the State Council, motions must:
 - (a) Be of strategic relevance to the MAV or of such significance to local government that they ought to be considered at the State Council meeting;
 - (b) Not be repetitive in form or substance of a motion or item considered at the most recently held meeting of the State Council; and
 - (c) Be submitted to the MAV by 15 August 2025.
4. It is proposed that Council endorse the following motions for submission to the MAV State Council to be held on 10 October 2025:
 - (a) That the MAV calls on the Victorian Government to ensure that with regard to its planning reforms:
 - (i) Continues to require developers to provide their open space contributions directly to Councils;
 - (ii) Requires Build to Rent developments to make open space contributions to Councils;
 - (iii) Ensures that state planning instruments include genuine opportunities for the community to be heard directly and through council;
 - (iv) Requires the Department of Transport and Planning to provide to councils the capacity model used to determine the housing targets set for each Local Government Area as part of the Plan for Victoria; and
 - (v) Requires the Department of Transport and Planning to have a more collaborative approach in implementing the Development Facilitation Program, specifically seeking:
 - a. That Council officers be provided with the opportunity to participate in pre-application meetings;
 - b. That Council officers be involved in the review of draft planning permit conditions prior to a permit being issued, particularly in relation to matters over which Council has jurisdiction (including public realm works, matters requiring Council approvals, construction management, and compliance);
 - c. Implements mechanisms for sharing fees or covering Council's costs associated with reviewing proposals and providing critical local technical and planning advice; and

- d. Ensures Council is provided with adequate time to:
 - o Review and respond to referrals, including time after the public notification period to consider community submissions prior to finalising Council's position.
 - o Review plans and documents relevant to Council-related conditions and areas of responsibility.
- e. Provides Council with copies of final decisions and summaries of any objections received;
- (b) That the MAV calls on the Victorian Government to release its Final Report on Household Waste and Recycling Service Standards to enable councils to develop waste strategies with more certainty;
- (c) That the MAV:
 - (i) condemns vilification, hate speech, and prejudice against all marginalised groups;
 - (ii) commits to working with local councils to ensure the safety and inclusion of all Victorians regardless of their race, religion, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation; and
 - (iii) calls on the Victorian Parliament and Government to implement a positive duty for organisations to take reasonable and proportionate steps to prevent vilification, as is currently the case for discrimination, sexual harassment and victimisation matters under the Equal Opportunity Act 2010.
- (d) That the MAV:
 - (i) notes the recent findings from the Victorian Local Governance Association that 48% of women councillors - and 44% of councillors in total - have received a higher level of hostility than expected from some members of the public; and
 - (ii) continues to advocate to the Minister for Local Government and the Minister for Women to reinstate the Gender Equality Advisory Committee to address the challenges identified by female councillors and council employees; and

Delegation under Planning and Environment Act 1987

5. In order to conduct inspection, enforcement and prosecution activities on Council's behalf, officers require specific authorisation under the relevant legislation. While authorisation for most legislation is provided by the Chief Executive Officer acting under delegation, specific provisions of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 require that the authorisation be made directly by Council resolution.
6. In order to undertake the required duties, staff members listed in the recommendation require authorisation under the Planning and Environment Act 1987. In addition, authorisation must also be provided under section 313 of the Local Government Act 2020 to enable these officers to commence enforcement action where necessary.
7. The proposed Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation is provided at Attachment One.

Options

Option 1 – Endorse motions to be submitted to the MAV

Recommended

8. By Council endorsing these motions to the MAV, it provides the opportunity to further Council's policy and advocacy positions at a state and national level.

Option 2 – Not endorse motions to be submitted to MAV

Not recommended

9. Council is not required to submit motions to the MAV.

Strategic Analysis

Alignment to Council Plan

10. Strategic Objective four - Running the City
Strategy 10: Ensure all decisions are financially sound, transparent, and accountable to the community.

Climate emergency

11. Not applicable to this report.

Community and social implications

12. Not applicable to this report.

Economic development implications

13. Not applicable to this report.

Human rights and gender equality implications

14. Not applicable to this report.

Finance and Resource Impacts and Interdependencies

15. Not applicable to this report.

Legal and Legislative obligations

Conflict of interest disclosure

16. Section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of interest in a matter to which the advice relates.
17. The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Risks Analysis

18. Not applicable to this report.
-

Implementation Strategy

Timeline

19. Motions to be submitted by 15 August. Motions to be considered at the MAV State Council meeting on 10 October 2025.

Communication

20. Motions will be communicated to the MAV following the Council meeting.

Report attachments

1. 7.6.1 Nicholas Iliov - Planning Enforcement Officer

Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation
Planning Enforcement Officer



In this instrument "officer" means -

Nicholas ILIOV

By this instrument of appointment and authorisation, Yarra City Council –

1. under section 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 - authorises the officer to carry out the duties or functions and to exercise the powers of an authorised officer under the Planning and Environment Act 1987; and
 2. under section 313 of the Local Government Act 2020 - authorises the officer either generally or in a particular case to institute proceedings for offences against the Acts and regulations described in this instrument.
-

It is declared that this Instrument -

- (a) comes into force immediately upon its execution; and
- (b) remains in force until varied or revoked.

This instrument is authorised by a resolution of the Yarra City Council on 12 August 2025.

Sue Wilkinson
Chief Executive Officer
Yarra City Council

12 August 2025

7.7. Response to Notice of Motion No. 7 2025: Opposition to Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund Levy

Author John Brockway – Chief Financial Officer

Authoriser General Manager Corporate Services (Acting)

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to update Council on actions taken in response to Council's Notice of Motion No.7 of 2025 – Opposition to Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the actions taken and outcomes in response to Notice of Motion No.7 of 2025 – Opposition to Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund.
2. Continues to oppose to the Emergency Services Volunteer Fund levy, including through collective advocacy with other Councils and interested groups.

History and background

1. At the ordinary Council meeting held on Tuesday 17 June 2025, it was resolved that Council undertake the following actions:

That Council:

1. Authorises the Mayor to write to the State government expressing Council's opposition to the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF), especially as it's to be increasingly used for non-core activities such as the salaries of top executives like the Secretary of Department of Justice and Community Safety, the Secretary of VicForests and the CEO of Emergency Management, all currently paid from consolidated revenue.
2. Includes a message with the rates notices clearly indicating that the ESVF is a State government levy that they are forcing Councils to collect for them and that Council totally opposes the ESVF and is campaigning to end it.
3. Seeks legal advice from a firm not connected to the State government as to whether we can refuse to collect the ESVF, the possibility of a legal challenge to the instruction to collect the ESVF, and any other options.
4. Reaches out to other Councils and interested groups to collectively advocate against this levy.

5. Receives an officer report on the estimated amount to be collected across municipality and the financial risk to Council if significant numbers of property owners refuse to pay the levy.

Discussion

Writing to the State Government

2. In line with the actions noted in the notice of motion, the Mayor has written to the Treasurer, Jaclyn Symes, expressing Council's opposition to the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF), including use for non-core activities such as salaries of State Government officials.

Rates notice messaging

3. Council has clearly separated State Government charges from Council charges on its rates notice. This includes messages within the rates notices brochure indicating that: the ESVF is a State government levy that Councils are being forced to collect; Council opposes the ESVF; and Council is campaigning against this levy.

Legal Advice

4. Council requested legal advice in relation to the ESVF, covering questions about whether Council could refuse to collect the levy on behalf of the State Government, whether there was a basis for a legal challenge to the ESVF legislation, whether Council could refuse to pass on the collected funds to the State Government, and whether any other options were available to Council.
5. The legal advice notes that Council has a statutory duty under the *Fire Services Property Amendment (Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund) Act 2025*, the *Local Government Act 1989* and *Local Government Act 2020* to collect the levy and pass it on to State Government once collected.
6. The legislation explicitly makes each of Victoria's 79 Councils a "collection agency" for the ESVF levy, and notes that Councils must:
 - (a) include the ESVF levy as a line item on each rates notice;
 - (b) in the event that any rates notice is part paid (whether for reasons of financial hardship or questions of principle), proportionally allocate any payment received from a ratepayer towards rates, charges; and
 - (c) remit all ESVF levy proceeds received to the State on the timetable set out in section 41 of the ESVF Act.
7. Refusal to collect or remit would place the Council in breach of statutory duty, in relation to sections 24, 25 and 41 of the ESVF Act, and expose it to ministerial enforcement action. The legal advice also expressed strong doubt that a Court would constrain a Minister acting on the provisions of section 74 of the ESVF Act to seek to punish a Council for failing to collect the ESVF levy.
8. In terms of actions that Council could pursue, the legal advice was for Council to:
 - (a) advocate collectively via the Municipal Association of Victoria for legislative amendments, such as extended hardship provisions;

- (b) integrate existing hardship policies under the combined operation of sections 27, 28 and 30 of the ESVF Act and sections 170, 171 and 171A of the Local Government Act 1989 to support ratepayers experiencing hardship in paying the ESVF levy, either by waiving or deferring payment requirements under those provisions of the respective Acts;
 - (c) assist volunteers by promoting the State's rebate process for Country Fire Authority and State Emergency Service members, to reduce their net liability; and
 - (d) clearly separate the ESVF levy on Council's rates notice.
9. The legal advice also noted that Council is not liable for any shortfall in payment of the ESVF, but any short-payment on rates must follow the apportioning-of-underpayment rules as set out in section 25(5) and (6) of the ESVF. These sections state that Council must apportion payments received from ratepayers across both rates and the ESVF levy, but ESVF levy funds are held in trust by councils, and any short payment ultimately represents lost State revenue.
10. In summary, the legal advice states that Council will need to follow the detailed procedures to collect the ESVF levy, in order not to risk the respective Ministers taking steps under section 74 of the ESVF Act and section 230 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, if the Minister for Emergency Services is of the view that Council has failed in its levy-collection responsibilities.

Collective Advocacy

11. Council through the Mayor, has been taking collective advocacy against the ESVF with the Municipal Association of Victoria, neighbouring M9 member councils, and has also reached out to regional Councils such as Loddon Shire, Macedon Ranges, and the Borough of Queenscliff to coordinate communication and state government advocacy. The Mayor also attended a recent Victorian Mayor forum on ESVF, further contributing to the advocacy efforts.

Options

12. There are no known options to present to Council.

Community and stakeholder engagement

13. Council is aware of ratepayer cost-of-living concerns and opposes the implementation of the ESVF by the state government, and the increase of the levy when compared against the previous Fire Services Property Levy.

Strategic Analysis

Alignment to Council Plan

Strategic Objective four - Running the City

Strategy 10: Ensure all decisions are financially sound, transparent, and accountable to the community.

Climate emergency

14. There are no climate emergency and sustainability implications.
-

Community and social implications

15. There are no community or social implications.

Economic development implications

16. There are no economic development implications.

Human rights and gender equality implications

17. As mentioned above, this levy is being imposed at a time of significant cost of living pressures and all ratepayers will be required to pay this, irrespective of their income or life circumstances.

Finance and Resource Impacts and Interdependencies

18. Council estimates that the imposition of the state government's Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund levy will raise an additional \$14.6 million from Yarra City Council ratepayers in the 2025-26 financial year. This is made up of:

Property Category	Amount to be raised 2025-26	Increase on previous year
Residential	\$ 14.788 million	\$ 4.357 million
Commercial	\$ 20.266 million	\$ 8.891 million
Industrial	\$ 4.714 million	\$ 1.426 million
Others*	\$ 0.128 million	(\$ 0.064 million)
Total	\$ 39.895 million	\$ 14.611 million

*Others include Vacant Properties, which were charged on a separate basis in 2024-25, but have been reclassified as residential/Commercial/Industrial in 2025-26 by the state government.

Legal and Legislative obligations**Conflict of interest disclosure**

19. Section 130 of the Local Government Act 2020 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any conflicts of interest in a matter to which the advice relates.
20. The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

Risks Analysis

21. Legal risks and implications are covered above in this report.

Implementation Strategy

Timeline

22. While this report acquits the actions of the Notice of Motion, Council will continue to actively oppose this levy, and advocate individually and collectively to State government on this matter.

Report attachments

Nil

8. Notices of Motion

8.1. – Notice of Motion No.10 of 2025 - Council Priorities

Author	Councillor Jolly
---------------	------------------

I, Councillor Jolly, hereby give notice that it is my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 12 August 2025:

Motion

That Council calls attention to:

1. Council Priorities:

- (a) The housing project next to Collingwood Town Hall, which is a unique project to provide housing for those mainly young people who keep our local economy alive but are being priced out of the housing market;
- (b) The Richmond Library redevelopment project, which is a plan to refurbish and possibly expand this library for the local community and to meet the needs of our growing population;
- (c) As part of the development of the Kerbside and Parking Strategy, the undertaking of a major review of parking rules in Yarra, inclusive of eligibility for parking permits. We note that almost 50% of locals (those living in apartments) do not receive any parking permits at the moment; and
- (d) As part of the development of the Waste and Recycling Strategy, the undertaking of a major review of waste and recycling services, inclusive of all waste service types, frequency, costs and consideration of those in our community not currently receiving waste services from Council. We note that almost 50% of locals (those living in apartments) do not receive any Council waste services at the moment.

2. Government Relations:

- (a) Council will work collaboratively with State and Federal governments wherever possible, including actively seeking State and Federal support for the Richmond Library upgrade and the Collingwood Housing Project. Further, we will work with the State Government's North Richmond Interdepartmental Committee and the Victoria Street Revitalisation Project, to continue to seek improvement of public safety within North Richmond including at the North Richmond railway station; and
- (b) However, Council will challenge State and Federal governments where their actions are against the interests of locals, including on the following matters:
 - (i) Continuing our opposition to the Emergency Services Volunteer Fund levy, which is a financial hit to locals, while it simultaneously cuts funding to frontline fire services; and

- (ii) And continuing to oppose the State Government's plan to demolish the public housing towers, as this would be devastating for the most disadvantaged residents of Yarra.

Report attachments

Nil

8.2. – Notice of Motion No.11 of 2025 - AFL Football Finals Festival**Author** Councillor Davies

I, Councillor Davies, hereby give notice that it is my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 12 August 2025:

Motion

1. Council requests a report by December 2025 regarding the potential of Richmond and Swan Street as a key destination for AFL finals festivals.
2. That the report includes consideration of the matters including but not limited to the following:
 - (a) Potential locations and type of events that Council can provide to complement the annual AFL finals events, including the AFL public holiday and AFL grand final day as key festival dates;
 - (b) Key stakeholder engagement including the AFL, sponsors, cultural ambassadors and third parties event organisers;
 - (c) Key risks including permits, compliance and statutory requirements; and
 - (d) Potential scope of financial implications for consideration in the 2026/27 Budget process.

Report attachments

Nil

8.3. – Notice of Motion No.12 of 2025 – State Planning Reforms

Author	Councillor Harrison
---------------	---------------------

I, Councillor Harrison, hereby give notice that it is my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 12 August 2025:

Motion

That Council:

1. Requests the CEO write to the Department of Transport and Planning to express its commitment to work collaboratively to with the State on planning reforms and efforts to increase housing supply and requests:
 - (a) The Department of Transport and Planning releases the DTP Practice Note and Capacity Model use to determine the Plan for Victoria housing target for the municipality;
 - (b) Finalises and approves the North Richmond Draft Masterplan, April 2022, that was consulted on; and
 - (c) Approves Planning Scheme Amendment C291 Bridge Road and Victoria Steet and C317 Cremorne and progress C318 Cremorne to enable public exhibition.
2. Requests the CEO write to the Department of Transport and Planning raising concerns regarding the management of Planning Reforms and the administration of Planning Applications submitted via the Development Facilitation Program Approval Pathway, requesting the Department:
 - (a) Provides clarity around the role of Council when acting in the capacity of a Referral Authority for Planning Applications submitted via the Ministerial Approval Pathways, specifically the extent of what Council should consider;
 - (b) Commits to inviting Council Planning Officers to attend pre-application meetings;
 - (c) Acknowledges the local expertise Council Planning Officers bring to the work of reviewing Planning Applications and the work involved in the reviews undertaken where the Department of Transport and Planning is the Responsible Authority;
 - (d) Implement mechanisms for sharing fees or covering Council's costs associated with reviewing proposals and providing critical local technical and planning advice.;
 - (e) Commits to greater public transparency around DFP Applications, making all Application documents, including Referral Responses, relied upon in determining the Application publicly available via the DTP website in a timely manner;

- (f) Commits to providing Council Officers sufficient time to review Planning Applications where it is acting in the capacity of a Referral Authority, including time after the public notification period to consider community submissions prior to finalising Council's position, and delay determining Planning Applications submitted the Ministerial Approval Pathways until the Council's Planning Decisions Committee has met and has formed a position on the Application;
 - (g) Commits to providing Council officers the opportunity to review draft planning permit conditions prior to a planning permit being issued, particularly in relation to matters over which Council has jurisdiction (including public realm works, matters requiring Council approvals, construction management, and compliance);
 - (h) Commits to mandating that development projects include 10 per cent affordable housing where the applicant is seeking approval through the Development Facilitation Program on the basis that the application is a significant residential development that includes affordable housing;
 - (i) Commits to provide copies of the DTP Officer report and endorsed plans for Planning Applications approved by Minister for Planning as soon as applications are determined; and
 - (j) Ensures Council is provided with adequate time to review plans and documents relevant to Council related conditions and areas of responsibility.
3. Expresses strong opposition to changes to Council's Developer Contributions Plan Overlay and any plan for the State government collect developer contributions for community infrastructure and open space and distribute these to Local Government Areas, noting that such contributions should be tied to the municipality where development occurs in order to ensure that Council has funding to build much needed parks, sporting facilities and other much needed community infrastructure.
4. Requests that community engagement be undertaken as part of any Yarra Planning Scheme changes that implement the Yarra Housing Targets.

Report attachments

Nil

8.4. – Notice of Motion No.13 of 2025 - Road Renewals

Author	Councillor Wade
---------------	-----------------

I, Councillor Wade, hereby give notice that it is my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 12 August 2025:

Motion

That Council:

1. Requests a report regarding the development of a design guide to apply to renewals occurring on narrow streets (less than 8m between property lines) including to consider:
 - (a) allowing for shared use between cars, pedestrians and other modes of transport;
 - (b) the elimination of narrow footpaths in favour of kerbless shared streets where footpaths are too narrow to cater for wheelchair users, prams and other pedestrians who require more space; and
 - (c) mechanisms to allow for heritage elements to be retained where possible, while achieving modern accessibility standards.

Report attachments

Nil

8.5. – Notice of Motion No.14 of 2025 - Gleadell Street Market**Author** Councillor Davies

I, Councillor Davies, hereby give notice that it is my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 12 August 2025:

Motion

1. Council requests a report by March 2026 regarding the expansion possibilities of the Gleadell Street Market, Richmond.
2. That the report includes consideration of the matters including but not limited to the following:
 - (a) Potential establishment of a working group incorporating all Gleadell Street Market stakeholders, including individual permanent Gleadell Market Traders, Bindiiroo Yaluk Community School, Richmond Bowls Club, Friends of Gleadell, Neuma Church and other related third parties, such as Bridge Road Traders;
 - (b) Recommendations opportunities and strategies to expand the scope and scale of the weekly Gleadell Street Market including but not limited to the addition of short-term seasonal and new kinds of trading stalls, seasonal events, live music, expansion of the market footprint, widening of produce and entertainment offerings;
 - (c) Options and cost estimates for further promotion of Gleadell Street Market, including coordinated social media promotion, marketing, advertising and broader market related promotion and events;
 - (d) Recommendations on the streamlining of market operations and improving communication, working closely with stallholders; and
 - (e) Event logistics and regulatory impacts and considerations.

Report attachments

Nil

9. Petitions and Joint Letters

An opportunity is provided for Councillors to table or present a Petition or Joint Letter.

10. Questions without Notice

An opportunity is provided for Councillors to table a Question without Notice.

11. Delegates Reports

An opportunity is provided for Councillors to table or present a Delegate's Report.

12. General Business

An opportunity is provided for Councillors to raise items of General Business for Council's consideration.

13. Urgent Business

An opportunity is provided for the Chief Executive Officer to introduce items of Urgent Business.

14. Confidential Business Reports

The following items were deemed by the Chief Executive Officer to be suitable for consideration in closed session in accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020. In accordance with that Act, Council may resolve to consider these issues in open or closed session.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the meeting be closed to members of the public, in accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, to allow consideration of the following confidential items:

14.1. Council Advisory Committees - Appointments

Author	Phil De Losa – Manager Governance and Integrity
Authoriser	General Manager Governance, Communications and Customer Service
Confidential Reason:	<p>This agenda item is confidential information for the purposes of section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 for the following reason:</p> <p>(f) personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.</p> <p>The explanation as to why the specified ground/s applies is the details of each applicant's submission contains personal information.</p>

14.2. C1773 ERP Implementation Partner Tender - Commercial in Confidence

Author	Ivan Cubela – ERP Program Director
Authoriser	Acting General Manager Corporate Services
Confidential Reason:	<p>This agenda item is confidential information for the purposes of section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 for the following reason:</p> <p>(g) private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that - relates to trade secrets; or if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.</p> <p>The explanation as to why the specified ground/s applies is:</p> <p>Sensitive commercial information.</p>