

BOULEVARD WARD UPDATE | Burnley and parts of Richmond and Abbotsford

It's been pleasing to see a good early response to Council's one-hour free parking trial along Swan Street and Bridge Road. It allows visitors to grab that coffee, have a quick meal and explore our businesses and the broader precinct, benefiting our local traders.

In the coming months, I'm looking forward to seeing the introduction of the new pocket park in the Richmond Town Hall forecourt, and some of the activities at Richmond Library as part of the Libraries After Dark program.

It is exciting to see some fantastic state-of-the-art new gym equipment at our Yarra Leisure centres, which includes Richmond Recreation Centre. Some new group fitness classes have also been added including Tai Chi for older adults and the Parents and Prams program, which is for parents and carers of children under 12 months.

Council is working to improve parks and open spaces. We approved the Final Concept Design for upgrading the playground and landscaping at Golden Square Bicentennial Park in Burnley. Tenders have closed and works on this important upgrade will commence before Christmas. We are also having a consultation for an upgrade at Annette's Place. I encourage all park users to share your ideas on what you would like to see in the designs for these improved spaces and take part in planning the future of your local area.

Cr Sharon Harrison | Boulevard Ward

Beginning work on a better Richmond Library

As part of our 2025/26 Budget, Council is investing a total of \$300,000 in improvements for the Richmond Library both now and into the future. This includes funding for minor upgrades and maintenance over the next 12 months and planning for an exciting redevelopment of the facility and expansion of its services.

The investments include:

- \$100,000 for minor renewal works including wall and floor coverings, equipment replacement, new furniture and bathroom improvements.
- \$200,000 for preliminary investigations, feasibility and business case work for a future major redevelopment of the library.

As part of the preliminary work for the redevelopment, we will consult our stakeholders and the community to guide the direction of the project and the future uses of the library site. While a date is not yet set for these consultations, Council will schedule them once our initial investigations and feasibility studies are completed.



Our LGBTIQ+ Memorial

We have commissioned local artist Andrew Atchinson to create our LGBTIQ+ community memorial at Collingwood Town Hall Park.

The memorial, which will be built for \$320,000, will create a sanctuary for friends and family to remember loved ones who were part of the Yarra LGBTIQ+ community and died by suicide.

Atchinson's proposed design Flower Pavilion will contain seating underneath a canopy of

transparent coloured acrylic flowers. The stems will be bound together at the centre by a strong bronze ring.

Atchinson said the bouquet design was a shared symbol of this community and represented the members who had been affected by suicide.

The mural is set to be installed in June 2026.

Older adults love Move For Life!

The Move For Life program at our Yarra Leisure venues continues to grow with more than 40 classes scheduled every week.

The program focuses on strength training exercises for adults aged 55 and over. Its popularity has been proven with 18,000 participants recorded in 12 months.

This success is a testament to Council's unwavering commitment to providing safe, supportive and fun spaces for older adults to take part in physical activity.



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Local projects in your area



Road upgrades: Wall Street, Richmond

We've completed upgrades to Wall Street in Richmond, between Coppin and Lord Streets. The completed work includes new road surfacing, footpath and drainage. As part of the upgrades, we used an asphalt mix that contains up to 95 per cent recycled products including coffee cups and metal slag. It is the first street in Victoria to be using this product.



Road upgrades: Stawell Street, Richmond

Council workers recently completed upgrades on a section of Stawell Street in Richmond (from Manton Street to Swan Street). The works involved reconstructing the footpath, kerb and drain channel and resurfacing the road.

Residents and users will now benefit from improved road conditions, a lower risk of scraping their cars at the laneway entrance, and enhanced accessibility to footpaths. We delivered this project using contributions from the street's development site.



Yarraberg Children's Centre Richmond acoustics upgrades

Installing new acoustic panels at Yarraberg Children's Centre in Richmond has helped create a more comfortable space for children and staff. This creates a more conducive environment which is especially important for children who can struggle with auditory processing.



In progress: Drainage works on Coppin Street

We've been busy improving the drainage on Coppin Street in Richmond, between Abinger Street and Wall Street. The works have included relining the existing brick drainpipe, cleaning pipes, CCTV use to identify any issues in the drains, and associated civil works. The works began at the start of August and are expected to be completed in early September.



Renewal works on Jackson Street, Richmond

Jackson Street in Richmond is looking superb following works to improve the road pavement and footpaths, which were suffering from substantial cracking. The repairs allow for a better experience for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists alike.



New 40km/h speed limit on Burnley Street

The State Government's Department of Transport and Planning has reduced the speed limit on Burnley Street between Barkly Avenue and Victoria Street in Richmond to 40km/h. This speed limit is the standard for activity centres (including shopping precincts and school zones) and streets in built-up urban areas. The change is permanent, and the new speed limit applies at all hours.



Scan the QR code to find out what's happening across Yarra with our online Capital Works Map at yarracity.vic.gov.au/capitalworks