

MACKILLOP WARD UPDATE

Cr Stephen Jolly | Mayor and Councillor

Stephen.Jolly@yarracity.vic.gov.au | 0437 856 713



Unveiling the new-look Smith Reserve

New equipment at
Fitzroy Swimming Pool

Drainage upgrades on
your streets

MACKILLOP WARD UPDATE | Fitzroy

I was pleased to open the fantastic Smith Reserve for local families in Fitzroy. The upgrade provides a new playground for children, open space for local dogs and revitalised facilities for families to come together.

I held a public meeting at the Fitzroy public housing estate recently about the new Futsal court we're building for the young residents there. It'll be great to see the project get moving soon so we can deliver this vital recreational space for our young people. Residents also called for the housing office to revamp the playground there, which would complement the new court perfectly.

Council's position on public housing at Fitzroy and other estates is to renovate and not demolish the existing buildings, and I'll continue to fight the State Government's intended direction.

Finally, I'm pleased to see drainage improvement works finished on three key streets in Fitzroy, along with the works along Napier Street to make it smoother and easier for pedestrians to use.

Cr Stephen Jolly | Mayor and Councillor | MacKillop Ward

Smith Reserve now open after major upgrades

The upgraded Smith Reserve in Fitzroy is now open for the whole community to enjoy and has some fantastic new features. We've introduced a range of new play equipment throughout the reserve including:

- A balancing rope trail
- A large swing
- A sand pit
- Monkey bars
- A swing set
- Nature play options

There's also a new barbecue area, additional furniture and park shelters.

The improved dog off-leash area has also been elevated with new fencing and an upgraded path network with lighting.

These changes will help create a more enjoyable and secure environment for families and dog owners.

The \$830,000 upgrades are part of a larger vision outlined in the Smith Reserve Concept Plan, which was adopted by Council in March 2024. These improvements are also supported by the Victorian Government through the New and Upgraded Dog Parks program.



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.



Working for You

Local projects in your area

WORKING
FOR YOU

Drainage upgrades on key streets in Fitzroy

We've carried out a series of drainage upgrades on parts of busy streets throughout Fitzroy. They include:

- Charles Street, between Napier Street and George Street
- Moor Street, from Fitzroy Street and west of John Street
- St David Street, between Napier Street on George Street

Each project took about four weeks to complete with workers removing the ageing drainage systems, constructing and installing new pipelines and pits, and carrying out associated civil works.

Upgrades to part of Napier Street, Fitzroy

We've completed \$330,000 of renewal works on Napier Street, Fitzroy between Greeves Street and Chapel Street. The works focused on lifting kerb and channel to a new height so we could flatten out the footpath and reconstruct the crossovers. These works have made it easier for local schoolchildren to walk to and from school.

Maintaining our Council buildings

Council's annual \$100,000 roof and gutter cleaning program is in full swing. A total of 112 assets across Yarra are on a program of routine cleaning, to protect them and prolong the life of the buildings. Each roof and gutter costs between \$135 and \$2,600 to clean, depending on its size and whether specialist equipment such as boom lifts are required to access them.

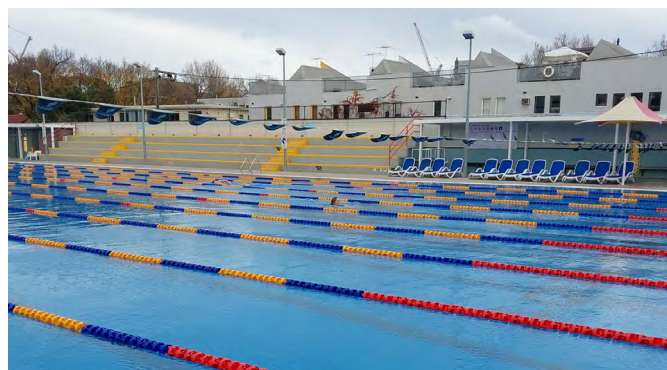
New gym equipment at Fitzroy Swimming Pool

The gym at Fitzroy Swimming Pool is better than ever following a major refresh of its gym equipment. We've added new Life Fitness cardio machines and free weights equipment, replaced strength and functional training equipment, added a Smith machine and completed flooring upgrades.

Along with the new equipment, our instructors have new microphones and headsets to improve their class delivery.

Council is investing \$2.5m over five years to ensure its three Yarra Leisure sites – which include Collingwood and Richmond Leisure Centres – are fitted out with the latest top quality gym equipment.

The outdoor pool has new FINA-standard lane ropes and is back operating at full capacity, with 10 lanes available for swimmers to use.



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