



Date	25 May 2026
Time	3-5pm
Location	Richmond Town Hall, Councillors Room
Chair	Deputy Mayor Cr. Sharon Harrison
Minute taker	Lead Ageing Well and Disability Inclusion – Jess Barry
Content Manager Reference	D26/222550

Statement of Recognition of Wurundjeri Land

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.

Attendees

Councillor/s	Deputy Mayor Cr. Sharon Harrison Cr. Edward Crossland
Committee members	Stephanie Gotlib (online), Katarina Radonic, Keren Stephens, Madeline Ruskin (online), Grant Guppy, Collette O’Neill, Anne Holloway, Lisa Brumtis, Concetta Tahir
Council Officers	Lauren Krynjacki (Senior Coordinator, Ageing Well and Disability Inclusion), Jess Barry (Lead -Ageing Well and Disability Inclusion) and Laurice Younge (Community Development Officer – Disability Inclusion)
Guests	Philip Mallis - Principal Strategic Transport Planner and Tomas Lightbody Strategic Transport Planner
Apologies	Diep Nguyen

Item number	Item title or subject	Minute notes
1.	Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country	<p>Previous minutes were approved and actions discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mater street roads to park project: Question raised around the informal bicycle route included in the park design <p>Action: Lead Ageing Well and Disability Inclusion to ask Open Spaces if the informal bicycle route is in the final design for Mater Street</p>
2.	Declarations of conflict of interests of interest	None
3.	Yarra Kerbside Management and Parking Strategy	<p>An overview of the item was provided by the Principal Strategic Transport Planner and Strategic Transport Planner who outlined the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Yarra’s population will increase and more people will work here</i> • <i>Defines where the kerb is - it is not the carriageway</i> • <i>Lists different usages, elements and pressures:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Business trading</i> ○ <i>Street trees</i> ○ <i>Parklets</i> • <i>Pattern of usage over time and the demands on kerbside space have increased – micromobility e-bikes, e-scooters</i> • <i>Parking – 85% occupancy is the most efficient – many tools</i>

can be used to manage this

- Shows diagram of all the different types of parking
- The Kerbside and Parking project will be brought back to advisory committees as it progresses – the decision making framework will be brought back, Strategic Transport Officers will directly invite committees to next phases of consultation.

Questions from the Committee:

- How influenced are Council by the State government regarding population growth?
 - Answer: Principal Strategic Transport Planner notes that targets etc sit at State and Commonwealth level.
- Will there be a decision making framework? It is difficult to give feedback without one.
 - Principal Strategic Transport Planner notes that there will be and notes feedback.
- Comment to benchmark against other Councils
 - Answer: the project team does benchmark against other Councils
 - The Chair comments that we can't come up with a one size fit for all our street types
- The Spread Eagle Hotel in Richmond, on Coppins Street they have taken up a lot of the footpath with tables and beer kegs
 - The Chair has reported that example and encourages members to report if clearance is not 1.5m. It's up to everyone
- A member raises that businesses need to know the clearance bylaws and their obligations
 - The Chair confirms this is regularly communicated
- Food delivery bikes idling and parking on the footpath is brought up as an obstacle
 - Principal Strategic Transport Planner notes the feedback re: food delivery
- Barriers to the footpath like those near cafes mean you don't know if you can get back on the road, as there are long stretches with no kerb ramp and it was reported at Pride Festival that community members couldn't get back onto the footpath due to lack of kerb ramps.
- Notes that the plan needs a percentage for pedestrian use that is like the 85% for parking
- Asks if there is a limit to footpath trading permits?
 - Answer is that is overseen by local laws
 - Discussion of demarcation markers for footpath trading
- Cr. Crosslands mentions that Kerbside and Local Laws work together – that they are very interlinked and it's hard to have a policy for one without considering the other.
- A member raises that action needs to be taken when community members report people in a no standing zone – things are not resolved quickly
 - Noted by the Principal Strategic Transport Planner
 - Can Council Officers clarify if the out of office number is still working?
- A member notes they'd like to see more trees planted instead of low gardens
- A member notes that bicycles that are unpowered or

		<p><i>powered are dangerous and there needs to be a lot of work on those</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The Chair notes that scope is limited in the Kerbside and Parking Strategy - we can advocate to the State regarding enforcement of laws and bicycle parking can be controlled via this strategy if it's on a kerb</i> ● <i>A member asks how community members can assist Victoria Police to monitor cyclists who are going fast?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Answered that where we have incidents reported we pass it on to Police and other relevant teams</i> ● <i>Discussion of a traffic bridge and cyclists dismounting</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Principal Strategic Transport Planner notes the feedback about the bridge</i> <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strategic Transport Officers to inform Ageing Well and Disability Team to invite committee to next phases of consultation. ● Ageing Well and Disability Team Officers to find out if after hours line is working ● Ageing Well and Disability Inclusion Lead to send out information about demarcation markers as per local laws looking into them
4.	International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD 2026)	<p>An overview of the item was provided by the Community Development Officer – Disability Inclusion which outlined the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>IDPwD – what it is and some ideas of how we can mark it in 2026.</i> <p>Questions from the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>A member raised an idea of different organisations joining in with disability groups, music, and maybe groups that aren't about disability to attract a larger audience</i> ● <i>A member noted:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>It is the 20th anniversary of CRPD this year.</i> ○ <i>This year's IDPwD theme hasn't been announced yet</i> ○ <i>The event should not be ticketed for people with disability (PwD) – it should be for the whole community.</i> ○ <i>Let's keep the bar high and make sure we show disability is a part of human diversity - awareness and inclusion so it's not segregating groups as that's not inclusion and steer away from juvenile things where events are not intended for children</i> ● <i>A member noted:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The IDPwD theme is usually decided on later in the year so that will be a good guidance for us to organise around.</i> ○ <i>It is an opportunity to engage people with and without disability and champion some PwD ambassadors to show who the disability community are in Yarra</i> ● <i>A member noted that the event should be focused on and celebrate people with a disability</i> ● <i>A member noted that it should be fun and light-hearted and for a broad audience</i>

		<p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Community Development Officer – Disability Inclusion, will send through some ideas closer to the date that can be voted on (poll or similar)</i>
5.	Draft Universal Design and Disability Inclusion Policy Engagement	<p><i>An overview of the item was provided by the Senior Coordinator – Ageing Well and Disability Inclusion and the Lead – Ageing Well and Disability Inclusion who outlined the following matters:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Draft Universal Design and Disability Inclusion Policy was approved for public exhibition at the Council meeting held 13 May 2026</i> • <i>The public exhibition period will run from June 1st until 5th of July 2026</i> • <i>Outlined how Council will engage the community using different engagement methods and providing different ways to give feedback (online, in-person, phone)</i> • <i>Outlined when online and in-person engagement sessions will be held</i> <p>Questions from the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Noted intersection of disability and First Peoples could be mentioned explicitly in policy</i> • <i>Mentioned othering language ‘them’ in the Draft Policy – will provide specific feedback</i> • <i>Suggested older people’s cultural groups and churches could be good networks to engage with</i> • <i>Suggested programs for public housing tenants could be a good engagement pathway</i> • <i>Suggested busy shopping areas like Victoria Gardens, the Hive could be targeted and a ‘coffee with a cop’ type model could work in these locations</i> • <i>Mentioned connecting through The Self Advocacy Resource Unit (SARU) and the Disability Advocacy Resource Unit (DARU) to engage and relevant links for First Peoples like Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO)</i> • <i>Suggested to engage with Domestic Violence (DV) support organisations</i> • <i>Suggested engage with Women with Disabilities Victoria (WDV) and the First Peoples Disability Network (FPDN)</i> <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ageing Well and Disability Inclusion team to note DAC feedback and suggested pathways for engagement on the Policy</i>
6.	Member Updates	<p><i>Discussion was provided by members of the Committee who outlined the following matters:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>New disability carparks outside Finbar Neighbourhood House is a real positive</i> • <i>Asked about a camera near Yarra Primary in Ken Street on top of a parking sign – do Council know what it is?</i> • <i>New steps behind Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL) lead down to the river which is a positive</i> • <i>Raised employment of people with disability within Yarra and the Yarra City Council. How many people working at Yarra City Council have a disability?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Coordinator Ageing Well and Disability Inclusion stated that we don’t have that data on staff (has not been routinely asked or collected)</i>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abbotsford Convent – who is on the management committee? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Chair Deputy Mayor Cr. Harrison to look into it • Asked how the Autism Acceptance Week event went <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community development Officer – Disability Inclusion said it went well with the Wayfarers performed at Bargoonga Nganjin North Fitzroy Library • Raised planting native trees and impact on footpaths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Answer from Senior Coordinator: Scope of the DAC is limited to specific cases where trees impact access and that when the Urban Forest Strategy is due for renewal that would be when there is scope to look at trees more broadly and impacts. ○ The Chair advised that the Urban Forest Strategy will be up for consultation next year (2027) • The Chair Deputy Mayor Cr. Harrison acknowledged David Grant, who has passed away and his achievements as a disability advocate and a member of the DAC including improved policy, and facilities and buildings and improved public transport and inclusion in the community. <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers to find out if camera near Yarra Primary in Ken street on top of a parking sign is a Council one or what its origin is • The Ageing Well and Disability Inclusion team to share photos from Autism Acceptance Week event • The Chair Deputy Mayor Cr. Harrison to look into who is on the management/board of Abbotsford convent/what role Council plays
Other Business		<p>The following matters of general business were raised: From the committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Access Permit – a flexible model to enable more equal employment and inclusive opportunities in Yarra • Wellington Street update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The model filters won't go ahead as the Policy supporting it was not approved • VCAT E-scooter Case update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Chair Deputy Mayor Cr. Harrison outlined that in September 2025 the court's preliminary ruling implied that Council needs to keep footpaths clear under the Road Management Act but no final decision has been passed down and that is frustrating because Council can't look to include the principle of the finding in the Local Laws review <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chair Deputy Mayor Cr. Harrison to inquire about Yarra implementing a City Access Permit model
Meeting closed		<i>The meeting closed at 4.44pm</i>
Next scheduled meeting		Tuesday, 25 August