

Minutes

Minutes – Yarra Multicultural Advisory Committee – 4 February 2026



Date	4 February 2026
Time	6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Location	Location: Richmond Town Hall, Meeting Room 2
Chair	Chair: Councillor Mecca Ho; Councillor Kenneth Gomez
Minute taker	Amani Godwin
Content Manager Reference	D26/133259

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	Councillor Mecca Ho; Councillor Kenneth Gomez
Committee members	Nuraini Mahamud, Hassen Mohamed-Saeed, Steven Chu, Sarita Narayan
Council Officers	Amani Godwin (Council Officer)
Guests	N/A
Apologies	N/A

Item number	Item title or subject	Minute notes
1.	Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country	The meeting was opened by the Chair. An acknowledgment of Country was provided. Committee members introduced themselves and outlined their roles and backgrounds.
2.	Declarations of conflict of interests of interest	No conflicts of interest were declared.
3.	Update on Purpose of Committee	An overview of the item was provided by (Amani Godwin) which outlined the following matters..... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A refresher on the Committee’s purpose and Terms of Reference. Matters raised by the committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No matters were raised by a committee member. Actions (if any) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• actions were identified.
4.	Presentation (Multicultural Policy)	An overview of the item was provided by (Amani Godwin) which outlined the following matters <ul style="list-style-type: none">• multicultural issues, relevant Council strategies, emerging matters requiring advice, and the Committee’s role in shaping engagement Matters raised by the committee <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make it easier for people from different cultures to be heard

		<p>and included in Council decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure the Committee gives clear advice to Council about community needs and issues <p>Actions (if any)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue raising community issues and provide regular advice to Council on next steps.
5.	Priority Issues / Topics for Advisory Input	<p>An overview of the item was provided by (officer title) which outlined the following matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening community engagement, ensuring consultation prior to decision-making, and ongoing collaboration <p>Matters raised by the committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need to be consulted earlier before decisions are made, not after • Making sure communication with the community is clear and reaches everyone • Working more closely with Council on an ongoing basis, not just at certain times <p>Actions (if any)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council to engage the Committee earlier in planning and decision-making processes • Set up regular meetings or check-ins to support ongoing collaboration between Council and the Committee
6.	Other Business	<p>The following matters of general business were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates were provided on the Multicultural Policy, alignment with Council plans, and upcoming initiatives • Investment priorities, racism reporting challenges, community spaces, inclusion of Indigenous cultures, and facilities were discussed
7.	Meeting closed	The meeting closed at 7:35 pm
	Next scheduled meeting	6 May 2026