



Minutes

Council Meeting

Monday 9 October 2023, 7:00 pm

Dandenong Civic Centre,
225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong, Victoria 3175

greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



Council Meeting Details

At the time of printing this Agenda, the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 9 October 2023, will be open to the public to attend in person but will be subject to venue seating capacity. This will be a hybrid meeting consisting of Councillors attending in person and remotely.

If we are unable to accommodate you indoors, you will still be able to watch the webcast live on the Urban Screen in Harmony Square. To view the webcast and stay informed about the status of Council Meetings please visit Council's [website](#).

The Civic Centre basement carpark will be opened to all members of the public during library opening hours. Any parking in this area will be subject to availability and time limits as notified by any signage posted.

Your Councillors

[Mayor Eden Foster](#)

[Cr Sean O'Reilly](#)

[Deputy Mayor Lana Formoso](#)

[Cr Sophaneth \(Sophie\) Tan](#)

[Cr Tim Dark](#)

[Cr Loi Truong](#)

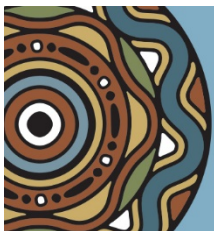
[Cr Rhonda Garad](#)

[Cr Richard Lim](#)

[Cr Angela Long](#)

[Cr Jim Memeti](#)

[Cr Bob Milkovic](#)



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders past and present.

We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters.

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 council@cgd.vic.gov.au

 greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



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Bunurong Country

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COUNCIL OBLIGATIONS AND AGENDA REPORTS

Council has several obligations in relation to its Community Vision, Council Plan, Instruments of Legislation and Council policy. These are summarily considered in each Agenda report and further details are added as required. The obligations are as follows:

Community Vision 2040 (Community Vision | Greater Dandenong Council)

After consultation with the Greater Dandenong community on what kind of future they wanted for themselves and our city, the Greater Dandenong People's Panel developed a new Community Vision for 2040:

- The City of Greater Dandenong is a home to all.*
- It's a city where you can enjoy and embrace life through celebration and equal opportunity.*
- We harmonise the community by valuing multiculturalism and the individual.*
- Our community is healthy, vibrant, innovative and creative.*
- Our growing city is committed to environmental sustainability.*
- Welcome to our exciting and peaceful community.*

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.

The Council Plan 2021-25 (Council Plan 2021-25 | Greater Dandenong Council)

The Council Plan describes the kind of future the Council is working for, and how Council will do this over four years. The Council Plan has the following key strategic objectives:

- *A socially connected, safe and healthy city*
- *A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts*
- *A city of accessible, vibrant centres and neighbourhoods*
- *A green city committed to a sustainable future*
- *A city that supports entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes*
- *A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community.*

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.

The Overarching Governance Principles of the Local Government Act 2020

Section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that a Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles. These are:

- a) Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
- b) priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
- c) the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
- d) the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
- e) innovation and continuous improvement are to be pursued;
- f) collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
- g) the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;
- h) regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
- i) the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

Also, in giving effect to the overarching governance principles above, a Council must take into account the following supporting principles:

- a) the community engagement principles (section 56);
- b) the public transparency principles (section 58);
- c) the strategic planning principles (section 89);
- d) the financial management principles (section 101);
- e) the service performance principles (section 106).

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.



The Gender Equality Act 2020

The *Gender Equality Act 2020* came into operation on 31 March 2021 and requires councils to take positive action towards achieving workplace gender equality and to promote gender equality in their policies, programs and services. The objects of the Act are as follows:

- a) to promote, encourage and facilitate the achievement of gender equality and improvement in the status of women; and
- b) to support the identification and elimination of systemic causes of gender inequality in policy, programs and delivery of services in workplaces and communities; and
- c) to recognise that gender inequality may be compounded by other forms of disadvantage or discrimination that a person may experience on the basis of Aboriginality, age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race, religion, sexual orientation and other attributes; and
- d) to redress disadvantage, address stigma, stereotyping, prejudice and violence, and accommodate persons of different genders by way of structural change; and
- e) to enhance economic and social participation by persons of different genders; and
- f) to further promote the right to equality set out in the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Council is obligated to think about how its programs and services affect different people and different communities and how we can avoid reinforcing unintentional inequalities. Reports authors must consider the requirements of the *Gender Equality Act 2020* and Council's Diversity, Access and Equity Policy when asking Council to consider or review any issues which have a direct or significant impact on members of the Greater Dandenong community.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities

Council, Councillors and members of Council staff are a public authority under the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and, as such, are all responsible to act in accordance with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006* (the Charter). The Charter is founded on the following principles:

- human rights are essential in a democratic and inclusive society that respects the rule of law, human dignity, equality and freedom;
- human rights belong to all people without discrimination, and the diversity of the people of Victoria enhances our community;
- human rights come with responsibilities and must be exercised in a way that respects the human rights of others;
- human rights have a special importance for the Aboriginal people of Victoria, as descendants of Australia's first people, with their diverse spiritual, social, cultural and economic relationship with their traditional lands and waters.

Given this municipality's diversity and inclusiveness, when developing or preparing a report for Council consideration, report authors are required to ensure their report is consistent with the standards set by the Charter.



Consideration of Climate Change and Sustainability

One of the overarching governance principles of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

In January 2020, this Council joined a growing number of cities around Australia and declared a “Climate and Ecological Emergency” and committed this Council to emergency action on climate change. Council has developed a Climate Change Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020-30 to help the City of Greater Dandenong become a resilient, net zero carbon emission city with an active community prepared for the challenges of changing climate.

When developing or preparing a report for Council consideration, report authors are required to consider what impacts their issue has on Council's Declaration on a Climate and Ecological Emergency, Council's Climate Change Emergency Strategy and the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* in relation to the overarching principle on climate change and sustainability.

Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks

Report authors will consider how their report aligns with existing Council policies, strategies, frameworks or other documents, how they may affect the decision of this report or are relevant to this process.



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1 MEETING OPENING

1.1 OPENING OF MEETING BY MAYOR

1.2 ATTENDANCE

Apologies

Cr Jim Memeti

Councillors Present

Cr Eden Foster, Mayor (Chair), Cr Lana Formoso, Deputy Mayor
Cr Tim Dark, Cr Rhonda Garad, Cr Richard Lim OAM, Cr Angela Long, Cr Bob Milkovic, Cr Sean O'Reilly, Cr Sophie Tan, Cr Loi Truong.

Officers Present

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer; Jody Bosman, Director City Planning, Design and Amenity; Peta Gillies, Director Community Strengthening; Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects; Kylie Sprague, Executive Manager Communications and Customer Service; Lisa Roberts, Manager Governance.



1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF LAND

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders past and present.

We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters and we also pay our respect and acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their Elders present here today, in acknowledging their journey.



1.4 OFFERING OF PRAYER, REFLECTION OR AFFIRMATION

All remained standing as Reverend Graeme Peters from Christian St James Anglican Church, a member of the Greater Dandenong Interfaith Network, read the following:

*"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.*

*O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are reborn to eternal life.*

Let us pray now for this meeting, this Council and this City.

God of love,

We thank you for the City of Greater Dandenong Council and the service they provide to our wonderful City.

We commit to you their agenda for this evening and ask that you would grant them:

- *wisdom in their deliberations;*
- *understanding of the complexities of the issues they will be dealing with;*
- *compassion for the people of Dandenong, and especially for the most vulnerable; and*
- *we pray for the courage to do what is right, even when it is hard to do.*

In this meeting:

- *help each one to listen well with a desire to understand.*
- *help each one to speak with charity and restraint and care for each other.*
- *help each one to act with character and conviction.*
- *help us all to seek the common good rather than our own agenda.*

We pray for your blessing over this City:

- *For economic growth and development.*
- *For greater employment opportunities for all.*
- *For respect and understanding between peoples of all nations, cultures and faiths present here in Dandenong.*
- *For peace on our streets and goodwill between our citizens.*
- *For solutions to the big problems we face such as youth crimes, and homelessness.*



We pray for our City Council that you would give them unity in their decisions and the capacity to see these decisions implemented.

We pray that you would bless also their families and those who give them this time to serve our City.

We ask all this in your loving name.

Amen."

1.5 STATEMENT BY THE MAYOR

I would like to officially inform Deputy Mayor Cr Lana Formoso, my fellow Councillors, CEO Jacqui Weatherill, Executive Team members, Council Officers and the Greater Dandenong community that tonight is my final Council meeting as Mayor as I have been selected as the Labor Party's preferred candidate to contest the by-election for the Victorian Government electorate seat of Mulgrave.

As such I will be taking a leave of absence commencing tomorrow Tuesday 10 October 2023 until the by-election, the date of which is yet to be confirmed.

During this leave of absence I will not collect any Councillor allowance and will be turning in my Council equipment to ensure I can run a campaign independent of Council.

I would like to thank you all for your unwavering support during my time as a Councillor and especially during my recent year as Mayor.

To serve the Greater Dandenong community in this way has been such a great honour and a privilege.

I have always prided myself on leading with enthusiasm, dedication and compassion.

Thank you to Deputy Mayor Lana Formoso and my fellow Councillors for your support. I have appreciated your faith in me and together we have worked hard and achieved significant outcomes for our community.

Greater Dandenong is my home as I grew up in Springvale and Noble Park. I still live locally and so it has been extremely rewarding and enriching to serve this wonderful community as Mayor.

I would like to thank CEO Jacqui Weatherill and the exceptional Executive Team and Council Officers for your support and commitment.

I would also like to thank my family and friends for your guidance, support and belief in me as well as your flexibility when I have not been able to catch up because of my shedule.

My mother is particularly an inspiration for me. Her ongoing strength and determination, her value-driven purpose, compassion and sense of equality I continue to carry forward in all that I do.

I would also like to thank Jo Thorn, Executive Assistant to the Mayor and Councillors. Your help has been pivotal to ensure we can all best serve our community. You cannot do much without Jo Thorn.

Thanks too to our talented Governance team who do so much for us all behind the scenes.



I am proud to be part of the most culturally diverse community in Australia. Our community continues to have its challenges, but our diversity is our strength.

I am very proud to have worked in my role as Mayor to support those most vulnerable and to enhance the physical and mental health and wellbeing of our residents. As a psychologist I understand the utmost importance of this work, both now and into the future.

As a Council we are committed to our community's vision of our City being a home to all. Greater Dandenong is a City where you can enjoy and embrace life through celebration and equal opportunity.

As Mayor I have enjoyed meeting so many inspiring people and relished the chance to attend so many community events that celebrate the uniqueness of who we are.

The many cultural traditions that come from all corners of the globe we celebrate in Greater Dandenong. They rightfully become new traditions that we all enjoy.

I am proud of the many major projects that we have developed together. Including progress on the Dandenong Aquatic and Wellbeing Centre, the Keysborough South Community Hub and the opening of the new state-of-the-art gym at the Noble Park Aquatic Centre.

We continue to invest in important capital works and community infrastructure creating vibrant and accessible spaces for our residents and visitors to enjoy.
We invest in maintaining our roads, footpaths, and drains and the protection of existing assets.

While our financial position remains strong, our ongoing challenge is balancing our continued investment in capital improvements while also funding ongoing asset renewal to maintain our current service standards.

The revitalised Springvale Boulevard was officially opened in the last 12 months to create a signature gateway entrance to Springvale.

We continue to revitalise the Noble Park activity centre and enhance community safety.

We have implemented the *Anti-Poverty Strategy* to ensure people currently living in poverty have the power and resources to share in life's possibilities and to realise their potential.

In March we launched the *Keep It Clean* campaign that aims to combat illegal dumping and street littering while further promoting Council's free hard rubbish collection service.

In my time as Mayor, the tree canopy coverage of our City was boosted with the planting of 2,744 trees in public places, and the 'One Tree Per Child' campaign was launched thanks to our fellow Councillor, Councillor Garad. We hosted our 10th annual Sustainability Festival, considered the most successful to date with more than 3,000 people in attendance at the Dandenong Market.

We are committed to climate change and financial, social and environmental sustainability.

Safety for motorists and pedestrians was also improved with three road safety projects receiving \$1 million in funding through the Blackspot Program.

We continued to advocate to State and Federal Governments to address key issues facing our Greater Dandenong community including homelessness, poverty, gambling and social and affordable housing.

The Local Government Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum continued their great work, along with the *Back Your Neighbour* advocacy campaign to the Federal Government.



This, in collaboration with over 39 other councils and peak bodies throughout Australia, resulted in the conversion of Temporary Protection Visas to permanent visas. This campaign success now allows local refugee and asylum seekers, some of whom have been in Australia for more than a decade, to finally feel that this country is their home as they will now be awarded permanent residency status in Australia.

I was also proud to be a part of the community memorial celebration held in tribute to Greater Dandenong Living Treasure Merle Mitchell AM during my time as Mayor. She was duly recognised for her passionate community activism and her many achievements as a member of the Spirit of Enterprise.

I am also very proud of our commitment to embedding reconciliation across Council for our Traditional Custodians as outlined in the *Reconciliation Action Plan*.

It has been a very busy and rewarding year as Mayor, once again I thank my fellow Councillors for giving me this incredible, life-changing opportunity.

Greater Dandenong is indeed an outstanding place to live, work, visit and play.

Serving you all in this role has been an honour and I will be forever grateful, thank you.

Cr Tim Dark left the Chamber at 7.10pm and returned to the Chamber at 7.13pm.



1.6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Meeting of Council held 25 September 2023.

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Meeting of Council held 25 September 2023 be confirmed.

MINUTE No.894

Moved by: Cr Loi Truong

Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

That the minutes of the Meeting of Council held 25 September 2023 be confirmed.

CARRIED 10 / 0

1.7 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.



1.8 ADOPTION OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Audit and Risk Committee held a meeting on 15 September 2023 and Minutes of this meeting, as summarised in the following table, are presented to Council for adoption.

Item	Topic
1.	<p>The Audit and Risk Committee reviewed, discussed and noted the following reports with Council officers and the internal auditor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Status of Internal Audit Actions• Internal Audit Status Update• Strategic Internal Audit Plan Update• Tree Management Internal Audit• Review of Maternal Child and Health• Review of the Management of Conflict of Interest
2.	<p>The Audit and Risk Committee discussed the following reports with the external auditor, RSD Audit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL) - VAGO Closing Report and Final Management Representation Letter for the financial year 2022-23• South East Leisure Pty Ltd (SEL) - VAGO Closing Report, Draft Management Letter and Draft Management Representation Letter for the financial year 2022-23• Greater Dandenong City Council - VAGO Closing Report, Final Management Letter and Draft Management Representation Letter for the financial year 2022-23
3.	<p>The Audit and Risk Committee reviewed its Annual Work Plan and Council's rolling Internal Control Environment Plan.</p>
4.	<p>The Audit and Risk Committee reviewed, discussed and noted a number of internal Council reports in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Risk Management Report - September 2023• Integrity Body Reports
3.	<p>The Audit and Risk Committee noted a number of Council reports submitted to the Committee which included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual Freedom of Information Report 2022-2023• Annual Report on Reimbursement of Councillor Expenses• Review of CEO and Councillor Purchasing Card Transactions 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023• Policy Compliance Register Update• Review of extension process for Kerbside Waste Collections contract• Audit & Risk Committee Activity Report

Recommendation

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 15 September 2023 be adopted.



MINUTE No.895

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Tim Dark

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 15 September 2023 be adopted.

CARRIED 10 / 0



2 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 1

2.1 DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance

Attachments: Nil

Executive Summary

1. Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, each Council is a body corporate and a legal entity in its own right. Each Council must therefore have a common seal (like any corporate entity) that is an official sanction of that Council. Sealing a document makes it an official document of Council as a corporate body. Documents that require sealing include agreements, contracts, leases or any other contractual or legally binding document that binds Council to another party.
2. This report recommends that the listed documents be signed and sealed.



Item Summary

3. There is one (1) item being presented to Council's meeting of 9 October 2023 for signing and sealing as follows:
- a) A letter of recognition to Ognjen Mandic, Corporate Services for 10 years of service to the Greater Dandenong City Council.

Recommendation

That the listed documents be signed and sealed.

MINUTE No.893

Moved by: Cr Sophie Tan

Seconded by: Cr Richard Lim OAM

That the listed documents be signed and sealed.

CARRIED 10 / 0



2.2 PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance

Attachments: 1. Petitions and Joint Letters [2.2.1.1 - 4 pages]

Executive Summary

1. Council receives a number of petitions and joint letters on a regular basis that deal with a variety of issues which have an impact upon the City.
2. Issues raised by petitions and joint letters will be investigated and reported back to Council if required.
3. A table containing all details relevant to current petitions and joint letters is provided in Attachment 1. It includes:
 - a) the full text of any petitions or joint letters received;
 - b) petitions or joint letters still being considered for Council response as pending a final response along with the date they were received; and
 - c) the final complete response to any outstanding petition or joint letter previously tabled along with the full text of the original petition or joint letter and the date it was responded to.
4. This report recommends that the listed items in Attachment 1, and the current status of each, be received and noted.



Petitions and Joint Letters Tabled

5. Council received no new petitions and no joint letters prior to the Council Meeting of 9 October 2023.

Note: Where relevant, a summary of the progress of ongoing change.org petitions and any other relevant petitions/joint letters/submissions will be provided in the attachment to this report.

Recommendation

That this report and its attachment be received and noted.

MINUTE No.896

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Angela Long

That this report and its attachment be received and noted.

CARRIED 10 / 0

Date Received	Petition Text (Prayer)	No. of Petitioners	Status	Responsible Officer Response
25/07/23	<p>Please note the following is an excerpt from the petition sent to Council and does not contain the letter in its entirety due to its size.</p> <p>I am writing in relation to the Progress St Level Crossing Removal Project (Project), comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the closure of the Progress St level crossing; • construction of a road bridge to provide a connection between Progress St (south of the railway line) and Fowler Road; and • upgrades to Fowler Road and the intersection between Fowler Road and South Gippsland Highway. <p>Issues of concern</p> <p>As you know, there is significant public concern about the Project which, if it were to proceed, would have a detrimental impact for landowners and businesses in the precinct.</p> <p>Examples of the grave concerns raised by stakeholders include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that the Fowler Road intersection with the South Gippsland Highway will become more congested and dangerous; and • the closure of Progress Street and inferior alternative access arrangements will increase travel times to and from Princes Highway, materially diminishing the capacity (and value) of land to service warehousing and logistics businesses; • concerns about the capacity of Fowler Road to accommodate the volume and size of vehicles of the size that will be diverted from the closure of Progress Street; and • the safety implications of additional traffic on Fowler Road, including increased risk of head-on collisions, sideswiping, pedestrians being run over, and bicycles being sideswiped. 	155	Completed	<p>Responsible Officer: Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects.</p> <p>Acknowledgment letter sent 31/07/2023 to the head petitioner.</p> <p>Further correspondence occurred on 03/08/2023 between Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects and the head petitioner.</p> <p>A meeting was scheduled for 01/09/2023 with the Local MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Level Crossings, Mayor Eden Foster, the Ward Councillor and Acting CEO Jody Bosman. Letters requesting the specific outcomes from this meeting expected to be sent by 13/09/2023.</p> <p>Update on 03/10/2023: The meeting with the Local MP, Parliamentary Secretary representative, Mayor, the Ward Councillor and Acting CEO took place. While some questions relating to the LXP's selection of options were clarified, several key concerns remained unaddressed.</p> <p>Letters were subsequently sent from the Mayor requesting that work towards construction be placed on hold while the Project Team adequately and transparently address several matters, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refreshed, consistent and transparent engagement with all stakeholders explaining the key rationale for eliminating all grade separation options and concluding to pursue the current option. This should also be published on the Project's Victoria Big Build webpage. • How Fowler Road will be upgraded to address the concerns raised, including the key design requirements to be achieved, how this will be demonstrated to the community and what opportunities the community will have to provide feedback. These issues include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Levels of congestion as well as unnecessary vehicle delays presently witnessed and potentially to be exacerbated while heavy vehicles manoeuvre to access businesses along its length

Date Received	Petition Text (Prayer)	No. of Petitioners	Status	Responsible Officer Response
	<p>We understand that these and other concerns are shared broadly by other property owners and operators in the precinct, as evident by a 765-strong petition opposing the Project which was tabled before Parliament on 22 June 2023. The petition called for the immediate suspension of the Project and for alternative design solutions for the removal of the rail crossing at Progress Street to be considered and implemented.</p> <p>What can Council and the elected Councillors do about it? It is imperative that Council take whatever steps are available to it to represent its constituents concerns and preserve the ambition behind the DNEIC – particularly given that Council is identified by Plan Melbourne as a 'key partner' for the future of the DNEIC.</p> <p>We recognize that the Project is declared under the <i>Major Transport Projects Facilitation Act 2009 (Vic) (MTPF Act)</i>, and that as a result, Council's ordinary regulatory decision making function has been displaced.</p> <p>Even so, Council remains a significant stakeholder and your constituents implore Council to use every opportunity available to it to advocate for their interests. Doing so would align with Council's role under the <i>Local Government Act 2020 (Act)</i> and the Greater Dandenong's Councillor Code of Conduct and Governance Rules (Rules), which require Councils to provide good governance for the benefit and wellbeing of its community.</p> <p>Council has a responsibility to represent all people that live, participate in, and invest within the municipality and should advocate for the interests of the local community to other communities and government.</p> <p>Opportunities for advocacy include direct engagement with the Level Crossing Removal Project team (being part of the Major Transport Infrastructure Authority), whom we understand has been liaising with Greater Dandenong's Council, and who will be providing an urgent briefing to Councillors imminently.</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) How the significant additional traffic generated by businesses along Nathan Road will be managed given the many driveways along Fowler Road and current issues with manoeuvres causing delays mentioned above c) Safe passage along Fowler Road for the large number of Australia Post bikes and tricycles in addition to commuter cyclists and pedestrians d) Accommodation of safe turning movements for very large heavy vehicles through the Fowler/South Gippsland Hwy intersection e) Adequate signal phase clearing of demand from Fowler Road at peak. <p>To date, no response has been received, and a further update will be reported on once the requests are responded to.</p> <p>Also, a report outlining the status of the Progress Street project, stakeholders concerns and update on the above-mentioned meeting as well as the Mayor's letters, was tabled for noting at Council's meeting on 25 September 2023, noted and carried unanimously.</p> <p>Council also noted there had been no response to the requests.</p> <p><i>Council will continue to communicate with representatives and provide updates as they become available.</i></p>

Date Received	Petition Text (Prayer)	No. of Petitioners	Status	Responsible Officer Response
	<p>It may also be appropriate for Council, in due course, to apply for review of the Minister for Planning's decision under clause 52.03 of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme, as is available to it under section 149(1)(a) of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> (Vic).</p> <p>As a first step, we respectfully appeal to Councillor Foster and Councillor Memeti to move the attached notice of motion at Annexure 1.</p> <p>What can Council's CEO do about it? Council's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), has a responsibility to support the Mayor and Councillors in the performance of their roles and for delivering Council's strategies and services via efficient and effective day-to-day management of operations. One element of this is ensure that issues of significance are placed before Council for its decision or information; another is to carry out any power, duty or function that is delegated to the CEO by Council or via a Local Law.</p> <p>Consistent with these obligations, we ask that Ms Weatherill include the attached petition (Annexure 2) on the agenda for the next Council meeting and ensure that any Council resolution that flows from that motion is implemented without undue delay.</p> <p>More generally, we implore that you, Ms Weatherill, within the constraints of your role and powers, advocate for your constituents and their concerns regarding the Project wherever possible via the following avenues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where you are involved with any meetings directly with the Project team, raise the concerns of your constituents and impress the amount of adversity to the Project. • When Project plans are received, ensure that they are properly reviewed, that their content is shared with stakeholders in the community, and that feedback is relayed firmly and promptly. 			

Date Received	Petition Text (Prayer)	No. of Petitioners	Status	Responsible Officer Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that representations from the community, including this letter, are brought to the Councillors attention to keep them fully informed of their constituents concerns and any developments with the Project. • Wherever possible, seek to promote public consultation and information sharing, to ensure that public awareness of Council's decisions and steps taken to implement such decisions is kept high, and that public concerns are kept front of mind for both Councillors and Council officers. • When receiving public questions prior to a Council meeting, facilitate their audience and even if those questions appear repetitive, advise the meeting of that fact to emphasise the community's ongoing and unresolved concerns. <p>Time is of the essence As I am sure you are all aware, there is now an acute sense of urgency in resolving the outstanding concerns of the community. This is because, despite being aware of the issues raised in this letter, the Project team continues to take steps to deliver the Project, including through awarding a contract and advising that works will commence in September 2023.</p> <p>This must stop to enable the legitimate issues raised by the community to be considered and resolved.</p> <p>Please help us to have a voice in this Project that will, as currently proposed, cause immense local pain for no local gain.</p> <p>Please let me know if you have any queries, or if I can provide any other assistance with this matter.</p>			



3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Members of the public were reminded that under section 4.5.8 of the Governance Rules, public questions must be limited to 300 words and only three questions will be considered at each meeting from each person.

Several questions were received from individuals that were over the question number limit. Three questions were answered at the Council meeting and the remaining questions are tabled in these minutes.

Question

Matthew Kirwan, Noble Park

Greater Dandenong's oldest surviving primary school, Dandenong Primary School is celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2024. How is Greater Dandenong Council supporting the event?

Response

Director Community Strengthening, Peta Gillies

Council officers met with the Principal in July 2023 regarding the Primary School's 150th Anniversary. Offers have been made to support the school with permit requirements for public event space, linking the school in with contractors and event infrastructure suppliers. A save the date has also been placed in Councillor diaries (4 May) in advance. School representatives have an established contact within Council to ensure prompt support as their planning advances towards May 2024. We will continue to work with the school for any support that we can provide.

Question

Elizabeth Grasso, Keysborough

The Council website has not had a progress report on the Sustainability Strategy added since 2018 and there are no progress reports on the Climate Emergency Strategy on the website at all. I have seen in Council minutes from the last financial year that some of this material has been produced. When can it be put on the Council website?

Response

Director City Planning, Design & Amenity, Jody Bosman

The Sustainability Strategy Annual Progress reports for the financial years 2019-20 and 2020-21 were embedded into the 5 year refresh of the Sustainability Strategy, and were tabled at the 12 December 2022 Council meeting. This is also available on the Sustainability Strategy page on the Council website. In terms of the next round of reporting, an external consultant is currently compiling the energy and water data for the most recent financial years. Once this data is provided, officers will commence progress reports for both the Sustainability and Climate Emergency Strategies.

Question

Elizabeth Grasso, Keysborough

In the last three years since the Climate Emergency Strategy was endorsed, which Council buildings have had solar panels installed and how many kilowatts of solar panels were installed?



Response

Director City Planning, Design & Amenity, Jody Bosman

In 2019, prior to the endorsement of the Climate Emergency Strategy, Council had no solar installed. Since this time, 697 kilowatts of solar have been installed across 18 buildings, including the Noble Park Aquatic Centre, Jan Wilson Community Centre, Thomas P Carroll Reserve Pavilion and many others.

Question

Elizabeth Grasso, Keysborough

There seems to be a lot of Council buildings including older community centres, kindergartens and sporting pavilions that do not have solar panels but have unimpeded access to the sun. This would be perfect for generating energy not only for the buildings consumption but to also offset Council emissions to help it achieve its 2025 emissions target. Why are they not having solar panels and batteries installed?

Response

Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects, Paul Kearsley

While the buildings mentioned are an important component of our journey to net zero emissions, Council has been prioritising the installation of solar panels on its largest electricity-consuming assets, such as the Bennet Street Operations Centre, to achieve net zero as rapidly as possible.

Council already sources 100% of its electricity from renewable sources through the Victorian Energy Collaboration Power Purchasing Agreement, reducing our emissions by over 85%.

Additionally, Council's Sustainable Buildings Policy mandates that solar must be included for all new projects or refurbishments of moderate to major scale, being projects of \$1 million or more, and as such solar is being installed on all Council developments that meet this criteria.

Some recent examples include the Springvale Community Hub, Ross Reserve Sports Pavilion, the proposed Keysborough South Community Hub and the proposed Dandenong Wellbeing Centre, Council has installed solar on 18 buildings since 2019.

With regard to batteries, while the cost of battery storage is currently prohibitive, Council officers are actively investigating state and federal government grant opportunities and making spatial provision in new buildings to ensure this technology can be installed at a later date.

The following question was also received but was not read out. A response is provided below.

Question

Elizabeth Grasso, Keysborough

When does the early community consultation for next year's budget commence? It is usually held about now, but I have seen no mention of it.

Response

Executive Manager Finance & IT, Michelle Hansen

The budget consultation will commence before the end of October 2023 and will be open for 28 days. It will be advertised on our website, social media, Council News publication, customer service centres and libraries, and the local paper.



Question

Pam Naylor, Noble Park

Has the Tree Protection Local Law been gazetted yet and if not, when do we expect that will occur?

Response

Director City Planning, Design & Amenity, Jody Bosman

The process of gaining the required legal certification of the Tree Protection on Private Land Local Law is in the final stages and remains on schedule to be officially gazetted by the end of October 2023. There is a legal requirement that we get certification before you can gazette and we are awaiting that certification. Assuming we get that certification in the next week or two we should be able to have it gazetted by the end of October 2023.

Question

Pam Naylor, Noble Park

I think in addition to a local law a Significant Tree Register would be worth establishing. It would engage the community in identifying the most significant trees that they see on private land and would help Council gain knowledge of them. Has that been considered and if not, what were the conclusions and why?

Response

Director City Planning, Design & Amenity, Jody Bosman

Some years ago the idea of establishing a Significant Tree Register was considered. A fundamental weakness in giving effect to such a register was protecting trees identified by the public as being significant, given that these trees are in the main on private land.

The Tree Protection on Private Land Local Law is able to give that protection, and by definition any tree with a trunk diameter ≥ 40 cm metres at 1.4m above ground is protected. It is expected that this protection would embrace trees that would also have ended up on a Significant Tree Register.

Question

Pam Naylor, Noble Park

In mid 2021 the justification that Council gave publicly for not putting a heritage overlay on the so called "jug house", that is the home at the corner of Corrigan Road and Heatherton Road, was that the Council would start work immediately on a heritage study to see systematically what additional houses were worthy of protection in the municipality. Two years on nothing has happened. Our history keeps on being destroyed building by building and a heritage study looking at what new buildings could be added does not progress. When will that assessment of new buildings that could be added begin?

Response

Director City Planning, Design & Amenity, Jody Bosman

Council has commenced a review of all of the sites that are currently listed in the Heritage Overlay to determine if they remain appropriate for heritage listing, or whether changes are required to their Heritage Overlay listing.



It is intended that this review will be completed this financial year and will be followed by a Planning Scheme Amendment to formally update the Heritage Overlay based on the outcomes of this review.

Following this, Council will consider whether to pursue identifying and potentially adding additional sites to the Heritage Overlay. In considering this, Council will need to take into account the significant time, resource and financial costs that would be associated with pursuing additional sites.

Question Clarification

Pam Naylor, Noble Park

You said that the first stage has started, who was notified of this and how do people know that it started?

Response

Director City Planning, Design & Amenity, Jody Bosman

The first part is an internal review of what is already on the overlay, we then have a look to see whether the criteria are relevant or not. It is not at the second stage which would be calling new properties.

Question

Phillip Lamaro, Dandenong

Council recently did works on McCrae Street in central Dandenong where the unsafe footpath was replaced and new garden beds was installed. This was completed over a month ago and the garden beds have still not been planted out.

When Council did the realignment of Mason Street, Council did the garden beds before the job was completed.

Can Council please explain why after a month these garden beds have not been planted and when this will happen?

Response

Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects, Paul Kearsley

The McCrae Street footpath works were conducted as part of Council's annual footpath maintenance program as opposed to Mason Street works which were a standalone project. Prior to start of works, various teams within Council were consulted including the Horticulture team and the Place Making team. As these works were deemed to be "reactive", it was decided to construct the garden beds for future planting and possible artworks and street furniture installation. These works are due to start this financial year and will progress as budgets and resources become available. I will also advise that planting schedule of trees and vegetation usually takes place in the autumn months.

Question follow up

Phillip Lamaro, Dandenong

Would it not all be included in the same budget? If you are doing the curbing and the footpath, would the planting budget not be in the same budget?



Response

Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects, Paul Kearsley

No it is not. It is a different project and has a different process.

Question

Phillip Lamaro, Dandenong

Last meeting I asked Council about the trees to be removed under Dandenong Council's decision to build the new Dandenong Hub on corner of Clow and Stuart Streets. Last meeting Council confirmed some trees will be removed but are apparently trying to save some. Some of these trees are older than everyone in this room, all of us will be deceased by the time any replacement trees planted will grow to this age or size.

Council owns land 200 metres away on Clow Street which is the same street as the current proposed site. This site with no trees on site so Greater Dandenong's canopy would not be reduced. This site has no plans or permits and Council has acknowledged it is land for future development.

Will Council and Councillors look at relocating this development to this site to stop trees being cut down in central Dandenong? If not, why?

Response

Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects, Paul Kearsley

Council, through the process of developing concept plans and consultation with the broader community, has undertaken an analysis of several options in terms of other sites that would be suitable for the building to be located. It was not just a choice of one location, several other locations were looked at. Council has recently passed a resolution on the preferred site and location and I am happy to provide that report to you. Council is now committed to a design and documentation process for this part of the location. However, tree retention is an ongoing issue and will continue to be looked at in the next design phase which will take us up to the budget process around March or April of 2024.

The following question was also received but was not read out. A response is provided below.

Question

Phillip Lamaro, Dandenong

Keneally Reserve in Dandenong has become a very popular and used park by residents and bike riders on the Dandenong creek trail since its creation a few years ago.

It already has multiple high density residential buildings within close proximity to this park with more to be constructed soon. Extensive walking tracks, bbq facilities and children's play equipment to name a few facilities already on this site.

It has becoming so popular that this site is in need of more facilities to cater for the growing usage of this park. This park is becoming urgently in need of another bin at the Hammond Road/walking track intersection, pedestrian crossing at Allan street, sealing of the south walking track and toilets.

- A. Does Council have plans to build toilets at this park, if not why? and if so when would Council plan to do this?
- B. as adding a bin is not needing budget financing would Council install a bin at the named location, and if not why not?



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- C. Does Council have plans to seal the south side walking track? If not why? and if so when would Council plan to do this?
 - D. Council has multiple times advised a pedestrian crossing is needed at this site but still residents do not have one, can Council give a date on when this will be happening?

Response

Director, Engineering & Major Projects, Paul Kearsley

- A. Council does have an overall public toilet approach entitled *Public Toilet Strategy 2020-30* which is available on the Council website. In the priority list for future sites the Dandenong Creek Trail is listed with a potential site nominated near Morwell Street. This toilet is considered a medium priority and would be subject to a future year's budget funding. As a result a firm time plan cannot be provided yet.
- B. Council officers will look to investigate areas along the Keneally Reserve path where additional bins may be installed along this area. It is imperative to acknowledge that certain sections along the path pose challenges regarding bin placement due to the necessity of ensuring unimpeded access for collection and emptying by our staff. We can also look to increase collection frequency in these designated areas during periods of heightened utilization, particularly in the run-up to the summer season. It is worth noting that, like any initiative, there are associated costs encompassing procurement, installation, and the continual upkeep and servicing of these bins.
- C. The sealing of the gravel path along the south side of the Dandenong Creek between Hammond Road and Morwell Avenue has been identified and prioritised within the Active Transport Infrastructure Program. This Program is responsible for prioritising and delivering projects across the entire municipality. Currently we do not have any plans for the south side of creek as we are waiting to see what occurs with the Webster Street level crossing removal and what changes occur along the Dandenong Creek as part of these works. We have previously advised Council will be advocating for improvements to pedestrian and cycling infrastructure along the Dandenong Creek as part of the Webster Street level crossing removal. We're informed the Victorian State Government's Level Crossing Removal Project will be undertaking consultation next year to obtain community views for this area. I encourage you to provide your feedback to the Project's consultation for consideration.
- D. A pedestrian crossing has also been identified and prioritised within the Active Transport Infrastructure Program for the Dandenong Creek Trail on the north side of the Allan Street Bridge over the creek. As per previous responses provided to you on this matter, we are still unable to provide a time frame for when this crossing will be delivered as it is subject to program budget availability.

Question

Judith Sise, Dandenong North

At the last Council meeting in answer to another resident's question about the lack of mandatory reusable cup options at the Springvale Community Hub café, I was astounded by the answer that "Sustainability initiatives will be considered as part of lease negotiations". Why is it that a Council that has declared a climate emergency and whose own Sustainability Strategy has a vision of Greater Dandenong being one of the most sustainable cities in Australia by 2030 is only 'considering'?



Response

Manager Governance, Lisa Roberts

As has been stated before, the current lease does not have any requirement as to how the operator serves their products but at every opportunity we try to assist or encourage them to utilise reusable cups. As a landlord, we cannot mandate nor interfere with how they run their business and we always keep in mind the operational costs for the operator when making any suggestions. As also stated previously, this lease is currently under negotiation for a second term, so while we have said we will consider different options we have to keep in mind we are negotiating with the current operator and the lease is already in place. If we changed operators, it would be a different ball game, however at the moment a lease is already in place.

Question Clarification

Judith Sise, Dandenong North

So you are saying if you are negotiating the lease with the current tenant, you cannot change any of the lease?

Response

Manager Governance, Lisa Roberts

No we cannot change an existing lease, only a new lease. We are negotiating a second term at the moment. We may not have a second term with that operator, if that happens then we would negotiate a new lease with a new operator and include environmental imperatives or conditions which are not in the current lease.

Question

Judith Sise, Dandenong North

What are the next steps following on from the "Heatwave Preparedness" forum held on Tuesday 19 September 2023 at the Drum Theatre, in particularly educating the community that heat waves are going to become more common and more intense as the years progress. They need to understand this not just to keep themselves safe but understand why it is important for government to go harder and faster on reducing emissions?

Response

Chief Executive Officer, Jacqui Weatherill

Following the Heatwave Exercise Event at The Drum Theatre on Tuesday 19 of September, I can confirm that Council has provided weekly information via email to all attendees to keep them up to date with progress. This includes us working with the various agencies to answer the many questions submitted by the audience at the event.

Council is also now planning to host a Community Forum as a follow up to our Heatwave event to work through practical ways we can prepare for this coming Summer. Dates are still being discussed but we will have more information on this very soon.

Question

Judith Sise, Dandenong North

When will the draft Greater Dandenong Climate Change Mobilisation Plan be exhibited for community feedback?



Response**Director City Planning, Design & Amenity, Jody Bosman**

The draft Climate Change Engagement and Mobilisation Plan is currently undergoing internal review by relevant Council business units. Following this review, the draft will be exhibited for public feedback. This is anticipated to occur prior to the end of the calendar year.

Question**Gaye Guest, Keysborough**

Many other councils have released public statements on the views of the recent major planning changes announced in the Housing Statement that will take Council planning powers away, open up large areas to high density and take away resident objection rights. Why has Greater Dandenong Council not put a public statement on their website yet and if they intend to do so what is the timeframe?

Response**Director City Planning, Design & Amenity, Jody Bosman**

Council has undertaken a review of the changes to the planning system announced by the State Government as part of the Housing Statement and is preparing a public statement in response.

It is currently anticipated that this will be available on Council's website by the end of this week.

Question**Gaye Guest, Keysborough**

In a heat wave event, how many of our council facilities/community spaces have a generator to use in a black out or solar panels to keep the facility cooled or with lights on? What council owned or run facilities would be able to function in a black out or load shedding event and for how long? Given council only have a couple of small generators in their possession at the depot what would these generators be used for in a heat wave event? The largest distributor of generators at the heat wave forum said they only have about 1000 generators and I think they are of various sizes and if a corporate event was on they would already be hired out. What would be the ultimate solution if this is the case? Does Council have a strategy in place for this scenario?

Response**Chief Executive Officer, Jacqui Weatherill**

Council has two facilities with generator back up capacity to run critical IT services, telecommunications, Immunisation refrigerators, some lighting and provide limited power at our Operations Centre and Civic Centre.

Council also maintains a large generator at Springvale to power all the systems (including air conditioning) for the Springvale City Hall and Supper room.

While the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Coordinator has accountability for developing the extreme heat emergency sub plan, we are mindful of the need to establish practical ways we can prepare for this coming summer.

As mentioned earlier, Council is also now planning to host a Community Forum as a follow up to our Heatwave event to work through practical ways we can work together to prepare for this coming Summer. Dates are still being discussed but we will have more information on this very soon.



Question

Bea Sloan, Dandenong

Will you establish a LGBTIQ Advisory Committee, including youth, to advise Council on programs to improve community understanding and inclusion of the LGBTIQ community?

Response

Director Community Strengthening, Peta Gillies

Greater Dandenong City Council is currently investigating a number of different options to increase community understanding and inclusion of LGBTIQ+ communities. As part of this scoping exercise, Greater Dandenong Council joined the Northern Councils' Rainbow Network as a guest member to better understand issues affecting LGBTIQ+ communities, and the work being undertaken by local councils. Members of the Northern Councils' Rainbow Network include the Yarra, Darebin and Merri-bek City Councils. The Network has been found to be an important and valuable source of knowledge, learnings and best practice for Council officers.

Council is also a member of the LGPro LGBTIQ+ Special Interest Group, which is a state-wide network made up of LGBTIQ+ officers from a range of different councils. The network has provided a great opportunity for councils to share their experiences and learnings in establishing LGBTIQ+ Reference Groups and Advisory Committees and will be considered by Council in its identification of how best to increase community awareness and inclusion of LGBTIQ+ communities.

More broadly, we work to ensure all of our programs and services are inclusive. For example, Youth and Family Services have had a project underway called #Proud2Be. The project outcome is a film designed and produced by young people aged 16-25.

More information:

[#Proud2Be | Youth \(greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/#Proud2Be)

The Libraries, Arts and Culture teams advocate for inclusivity across all programs. They have also advocated for specific programs and murals (for example running the Drag Trivia Night earlier this year and the mural on the external walls of Walker Street Gallery) to specifically celebrate and share stories from the LGBTQIA+ community.

Question

Bea Sloan, Dandenong

Young people all over the world are trying to get the current generation of adults to use their power to stop or at least slow down Climate Change. Will the Greater Dandenong Climate Change Mobilisation Plan directly involve Greater Dandenong youth in climate leadership roles, projects and training through new programs and other opportunities? As a young person (aged 12) it is hard to trust that adults will do enough for Climate Change - you have not done enough so far!



Response

Director City Planning, Design & Amenity, Jody Bosman

The draft Climate Change Engagement and Mobilisation Plan (CEMP) recognises the key role young people play in responding to climate change, with a dedicated theme focusing specifically on how Council can empower youth aged 24 years and under.

Council officers are considering the establishment of a youth environmental leadership program as a key action of the CEMP, to ensure our young people are at the centre of climate action in Greater Dandenong.

Council is aware of the interest young people have in climate change and is seeking to support this as much as possible. Recent examples of work in this space includes the June 2023 Climate Changers forum, which brought together over 60 young participants from five local schools, fostering leadership skills and providing a platform to discuss vital climate change actions.

Additionally, the FReeZA youth group were involved in the 2023 Sustainability Festival by designing and running their own environmental engagement activity, an initiative set to return in 2024. Council also collaborated with CERES Environment Park in 2022 to deliver an Environmental Leadership Summit for local primary schools. This Summit will be delivered again in May 2024.

Question

Emily Sloan, Dandenong

The Trans Day of Remembrance on 20 November is when our community honors the memory of transgender people whose lives have been lost in acts of anti-trans violence - our friends and our family. It is preceded by the Trans Awareness Week, (November 13th - 19th), which aims to help raise awareness of trans and gender diverse people, the issues they face, and the ways we can get involved as allies to improve lives and create a fairer and more equal world for everyone. Will Council fly the trans flag to mark Trans Day of Remembrance on 20 November 2023?

Response

Manager Governance, Lisa Roberts

We are able to take applications for the flying of community flags on our community flag poles in Harmony Square. The application to do so is on our website so I would urge you to make that application as soon as possible.

Question

Emily Sloan, Dandenong

With respect to the Dandenong Community Hub, Council resolved at a Council meeting in April that, "Using Option 2 as the base concept design, that a co-design approach be used to finalise the concept design prior to 30 October 2023, using feedback from the November 2022 consultation". We are now heading into mid-October. What are the dates of the co-design consultation sessions?

Response

Director, Engineering & Major Projects, Paul Kearsley

A community consultation session for the Dandenong Community Hub is planned to be held at 5:30pm Thursday 26 Oct 2023 at the Dandenong Civic Centre. Invitations to the community are currently being prepared.



Question**Matthew Kirwan, Noble Park**

The McDonalds at the corner of Eloner Drive and Princes Highway, Noble Park North recently was redeveloped and a number of trees and a lot of landscaping cleared. In the permit for the redevelopment were new trees and landscaping required? If not, why not and if it was required has enforcement action been undertaken as they do not seem to be complying?

Response**Director City Planning, Design & Amenity, Jody Bosman**

An amended planning permit to modify the car parking, access and drive thru area for this site at 392 Princes Hwy, Noble Park was approved in August 2023.

It is noted that a small number of trees were also required to be removed for this development, however these trees did not require a planning permit to remove.

While a permit was not required for their removal, additional planting has been shown on the endorsed plans in the middle of the site, which is supported by a permit condition requiring the landscaping to be completed within three months of the completion of the works.

Officers will attend the site in due course to ensure the landscaping is complete within the three month period as is set out in the condition on the permit.

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer tabled a listing of responses to questions taken on notice/requiring further action at the previous Council meeting. A copy of the responses is provided as an attachment.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE/REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
25/09/23 PQT1	Phillip Lamaro, Dandenong	<p>Green open space being used by residents, Dandenong</p> <p>Along the southern side of Dandenong Creek, from Hammond to Kirkham Road, Dandenong I have noticed some of the open green space has been fenced off by residents. These residents have fenced off the space for their own individual personal use. As per land value, this is over a million dollars of public land that has been fenced off from residents.</p> <p>Can Council explain that in an area with low green open public space, why it has allowed it to be reduced for individuals personal and financial benefit?</p>	Manager Governance		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23:</p> <p>Firstly, the question does not specify the subject land where the alleged occupation is taking place. The area outlined in the question is substantial. It is important in dealing with allegations of this nature that an address, a plan or photo is required to investigate.</p> <p>For this reason, I will take the question on notice and the appropriate Council officer will make contact with Mr Lamaro directly.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/23:</p> <p>Additional information regarding the specific occupations has been provided by Phillip Lamaro. Council will undertake several inspections along Dandenong Creek at the relevant occupation sites and when these are completed, will ascertain what agreements are in place.</p> <p>Progress and responses will be tabled at Council Meetings accordingly as is Council's practice.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 PQT2	Phillip Lamaro, Dandenong	<p>Dandenong Creek stormwater drain</p> <p>I would like to raise the issue of Dandenong Creek to Council. Currently Dandenong Creek from Clow Street to EastLink is a concrete storm water drain. It once was a natural ecosystem with fauna and flora but is now just a concrete drain. This area was and is an important</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23:</p> <p>This portion of the creek is a Melbourne Water responsibility but Council is working closely with Melbourne Water through the Integrated Water Management Forum. This forum would be the most appropriate mechanism for raising and promoting this issue and can be questioned at the next opportunity available.</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		<p>historical and emotional connection to Australia's First Nations people. This connection is so strong that over 20 million dollars was spent on improvements to it in the Bayswater area while Dandenong is being neglected.</p> <p>Dandenong residents deserve the same as Bayswater residents on having a rejuvenated natural creek. I have emailed Council before, I have emailed Melbourne Water, Gabrielle Williams my local minister and all three departments are advising me that it is not their area and I need to contact another. The Council says it is Melbourne water, Melbourne Water says it is Council's, Gabrielle Williams did not care enough to respond, only to finally say she is not the Minister for Water so nothing to do with her. Could Council members, including the Mayor, please send a letter to Melbourne Water and the Minister for Water on the neglect of Dandenong Creek and push an agenda to help improve this area?</p>			<p>Further response provided 25/09/23: It will be raised at the Integrated Water Management Forum and we will also write a letter to Melbourne Water. A copy of the letter will be provided to Mr Lamaro.</p> <p>FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED</p>
25/09/23 PQT5	Pam Naylor, Noble Park	<p>River red gums, Noble Park</p> <p>In relation to the river red gums under threat at 51A Douglas Street, Noble Park, it was mentioned at the last Council meeting that Council was seeking legal advice over whether two of the river red gums could be saved as they were partially on Council land. What is the status and outcome of</p>	Director City Planning, Design & Amenity	04/10/2023	<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: As mentioned at the last Council meeting, Council is seeking advice as the trees appear to be partially located on Council owned land. Council is currently awaiting this advice, and it is hoped that this will be received within the next week. Officers will further consider the situation once this advice is received.</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		<p>that legal advice?</p> <p>Further question How will you communicate that to the community?</p> <p>Further question So the trees will not be removed without us having this information?</p> <p>Clarification Cr Rhonda Garad It is my understanding from discussions at previous Council Meetings that the trees require a permit to be removed, can this be confirmed?</p>			<p>Further response provided 25/09/23: We can make a press release.</p> <p>Further response provided 25/09/23: It is my understanding that in the planning permit issued by the State Government that they are able to remove those trees, I will clarify this. Council is trying very hard to stop this from happening.</p> <p>Further response provided 04/10/23: Following the 25 September Council meeting, Council has now received the advice, which has confirmed that Council would need to provide its consent for the removal of any trees whose trunk is fully or partially on Council owned land. As such, Council officers are in the process of writing to the Department of Transport & Planning (DTP) and the applicant to advise that Council does not consent to the removal of any trees that are fully or partially on Council land. Officers are now also working to confirm which trees are partially or fully on Council land.</p> <p>In terms of the potential timing for the applicant to remove the trees (and putting aside the need for Council to consent to the removal of trees on its land), while a planning permit has been granted to remove the trees, the permit does require amended plans to be submitted to, and approved by Council prior to any works</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>occurring, including the removal of trees. These plans have not been submitted to Council to date, and as such the trees cannot be removed at this time. Council officers will also develop a press release to update the community on the status of this matter.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 PQT8	Ms Sloan, Dandenong	<p>Dandenong Community Hub When will you have community co-design sessions to finalise the Dandenong Community Hub design?</p> <p>Further question Do you have a date on when that would be?</p> <p>Clarification Cr Rhonda Garad Jody Bosman, Director City Planning, Design & Amenity has advised previously that the community information will not be visited again as it had been finalised. Now we are being given conflicting information. Can you please advise where this is sitting?</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: We do not have a start date, architects are currently working their way through all of the previous submissions and will be commencing the next stage of the consultative process as soon as that is complete.</p> <p>Further response provided 25/09/23: No, we do not have a date.</p> <p>Further response provided 09/10/23: A response will be provided at tonight's Council meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>



4 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 2

4.1 OTHER

4.1.1 Draft Minutes of Arts Advisory Board - 22 August 2023

Responsible Officer: Director Community Strengthening

Attachments: 1. Draft Arts Advisory Board Minutes 22 August 2023
[4.1.1.1 - 4 pages]

Executive Summary

1. At the Council meeting held 23 April 2018, Council resolved in part to *invite Advisory Committees and Reference Groups to submit meeting minutes for Council endorsement*. This resolution also allowed interested Councillors (and those that attend these Committees and Reference Groups) to speak to the meeting about items discussed at these meetings.
2. This report recommends that the Draft Minutes of the Arts Advisory Board meeting held on 22 August 2023 as provided in Attachment 1 to this report be noted by Council.



Background

3. Greater Dandenong Council is represented on a wide range of Committees, Reference Groups and Advisory Groups which frequently reflect the interests of individual Councillors in serving the broader community in their role. A full listing of these appointments is confirmed each November at Council's Meeting to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and is available via Council's website.
4. The resolution of Council made on 23 April 2018 provides for Minutes of meetings held by Advisory Committees or Reference Groups to be submitted to Council for information purposes and for noting. To ensure they are provided to Council in a timely manner, Minutes of these Advisory Committees or Reference Groups are submitted to Council typically in a draft form (in that they have not yet been adopted by the relevant Committee). If significant material changes occur when they are adopted by the Advisory Committee or Reference Group, then those particular Minutes would then be resubmitted to Council for noting.
5. As such, Draft Minutes are provided as Attachment 1 to this report.
6. There are no financial implications associated with the development and submission of this report.

Links to the Community Vision and Council Plan

7. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
 - Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.
 - Sustainable environment.
 - Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.
 - Mind, body and spirit.
 - Art and culture.
8. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan
9. 2021-25:
 - A socially connected, safe and healthy city.
 - A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts.
 - A city that supports entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes.
 - A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community.



Legislative and Policy Obligations

10. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:
- The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
 - The *Gender Equality Act 2020*.
 - *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006*.
 - Climate Change and Sustainability.

Recommendation

That Council notes the Draft Minutes of the meeting(s) for the Arts Advisory Board as provided in Attachment 1 to this report

MINUTE No.897

Moved by: Cr Angela Long

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That Council notes the Draft Minutes of the meeting(s) for the Arts Advisory Board as provided in Attachment 1 to this report.

CARRIED 10 / 0

Advisory Committee or Reference Group Name: *Arts Advisory Board Meeting*

Date of Meeting: *22 August 2023*

Time of Meeting: *6pm - 8pm*

Meeting Location: *Walker Street Gallery, Corner Walker and Robinson Street, Dandenong 3175*

Attendees:

Leng Te (Chair) (LT), Mish Eisen (ME), Roh Singh (RS), Emily Siddons (ES), Oz Malik (OM), Acting Manager Community Arts, Culture and Library Services (City of Greater Dandenong [CGD] via online), Coordinator Arts and Cultural Development (CGD)

Apologies:

Cr. Rhonda Garad (CGD), Acting Coordinator Drum Theatre (CGD)

Minutes:

Acting Business Support Officer, Community Arts, Culture and Library Services (CGD)

Item No.	Item	Action	Action By
1	<p>Acknowledgement of Country <i>"We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respects to their Elders past and present.</i></p> <p><i>We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters and we also pay our respects and acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their Elders present here today, in acknowledging their journey."</i></p>		
2	<p>Conflicts of Interest No conflicts of interest in relation to agenda.</p>		
3	<p>Arts Story LT- New agenda item for Board Members to share an arts-based story showcasing a personal connection to the power of the arts.</p> <p>LT shared when younger they travelled to America and were feeling homesick. They described the impact of live music and a particular song (shared with Board) and how the experience helped them feel seen. Next meeting, RS to share arts story.</p>	<p>'Arts Story' to be an ongoing agenda item.</p> <p>Prepare Arts Story to share at next meeting</p>	<p>Council Officer</p> <p>RS</p>
4	<p>Apologies, Staffing updates Apologies noted and no staffing updates discussed.</p>		
5	<p>Review of Minutes Arts Advisory Board (AAB) Meeting 13 June 2023. Moved: RS Seconded: ES</p>	<p>Tour of DNA and Creative Industry Space to remain as pending action until appropriate time for visit.</p>	<p>Council Officers</p>
6	<p>Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy Discussion: Priority 3: Elevate and expand the impact and representation of arts, culture and heritage</p>		

<p>CGD – Update was given on some ways CGD is progressing with this priority.</p> <p><u>Public Art Policy</u> Draft Public Art Policy has been well supported across council at all levels. As part of broader policy review across CGD, all policy updates have been paused. Whilst Policy is on hold, team working are working on Public Art Standard Operating Procedures.</p> <p><u>Public Space Activation</u> Muderra Way: traffic calming initiative with artwork embedded in asphalt and complementary work on railway pillars. Traffic calming installation scheduled for September. Pillars expected installation in December.</p> <p><u>Creative RISE</u> Creative RISE: series of programs to support our creative community to network, build skills, and to connect and grow their creative practice. Cultural Sketch: where arts community can come together to share experiences and network over informal sketching.</p> <p><u>Arts Tour Bus</u> Initiated in collaboration with Cardinia Cultural Centre and Burringa Cultural Centre. Project offers individuals the opportunity to visit arts venues in the south-eastern region, addressing limited transport options and public transport linkages. Also fostered new audiences through joint marketing campaign with partner venues.</p> <p>Arts team congratulated in connecting municipalities (need identified from Community Connections Working Group).</p> <p><u>At Home Gallery Kit</u> 'Take home' activity kits funded by VicHealth Jumpstart Grant. Originally planned for DNA but reimagined for use prior to DNA completion. Each kit contains activity cards, blank paper, crayons and paint. 2,000 kits created for distribution from council's cultural facilities & events.</p> <p><u>Partnerships</u> Arts and Cultural Development team has an ongoing partnership with Bunurong Land Council (BLCAC) and have been applauded by BLCAC for their involvement and approach across various projects. Excerpt of email from <i>Sangam</i> shared – highlighting impact that CGD support (through use of Walker St Gallery) has offered them and local artists to develop works for state, national and international avenues.</p> <p><u>Exhibitions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>WILAM BIIK</i> (25 July – Friday 8 September) - Focuses on the Home Country of First Nations artists from South East Australia. • <i>SHE of Mind and Body</i> (7 February - 31 March) - Depicted the multilayered and complicated aspects of being a Woman today. Included international writing submissions for writing component. 		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 by 5 (18 April – Friday 7 July) - Celebrated diversity within the arts community, proving that small things can have a big impact. Included entrants from across Australia. 		
<p>7</p>	<p>AAB Terms of Reference Update CGD – Explained that the existing AAB Terms of Reference need to be updated within the 2023/2024 Financial year.</p> <p>Board members asked to comment on the following considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Changing the name of Arts Advisory Board to Arts Advisory Committee.</i> <p>Board members believe that title ‘Board’ is an attractive perception which they are proud to be a part of. The title ‘Committee’ is perceived as being work-based and not as prestigious.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Changes to the existing fee structure (to acknowledge workload of working group chairs)</i> <p>Board members appreciate that they are remunerated for their expertise as part of the Advisory Board. There was consensus for fee parity for all ‘Chairperson’ (of AAB and working groups) due to the amount of work involved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Consideration of staggering appointment process</i> <p>Board members agreed that ‘continuity’ is ideal and staggering member appointments reduces risk of having to restart with a whole new board every 3 years. Noting that consideration as to logistics is to be further investigated – particularly with timing and working group representatives.</p>	<p>Officers to consider feedback when updating Terms of Reference</p>	<p>Council Officers</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Working Group Chair Reports</p> <p><u>Drum Theatre Working Group</u> Final report: Before Coordinator of Drum Theatre went on leave, they emailed members explaining that the group would be superseded by Creative Infrastructure Working Group. This report will no longer be on AAB agenda.</p> <p><u>Public Art Working Group</u> ME- Provided an update of key Public Art initiatives (based on minutes circulated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muderra Way Dandenong Creek Art Trail Hanging by a Thread (at Drum Theatre). <p>Noted work and initiative of CGD’s Public Art Projects Lead</p> <p><u>Community Connection Working Group</u> OM - Needing to recruit a new member due to resignation. Noted next meeting occurring in 2 weeks.</p> <p>Recognition of CGD’s Arts and Cultural Development Officer in supporting direction of working group.</p>		

	<p>Provided update from last meeting (based on minutes circulated):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noble Park Revitalisation Projects • International delegates visiting Drum Theatre [and Walker St Gallery] <p>Suggestion of connecting with SECAN and The Factory in Casey.</p> <p><u>Creative Infrastructure Working Group</u></p> <p>CGD and ES met to discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newly created group and process to recruit members • Terms of Reference (require refining) • Skills identified as needed: Marketing/promotions/development; Capital Infrastructure (creative); Programming - arts, festival/events. <p>First meeting will discuss key priorities and actions for the next 12 months.</p>	<p>Advertise for members to join the Community Connection Working Group and Creative Infrastructure Working Group.</p>	<p>Council Officers, OM and ES</p>
9	<p>DNA and PEP/Creative Industry Space projects update</p> <p><u>DNA</u> Council has ownership of site, and clean-up occurring. Project Plan offers expected completion late 2024.</p> <p><u>Creative Industry Space</u> 'Williams Ross Architects' architects appointed and 'Big-Space' as co-design facilitator. Both organisations highly experienced and skilled. Co-design process in preparation, stakeholder list being finalised.</p>		
10	<p>Service Updates & Discussion</p> <p><u>Upcoming events</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26 August - <i>WILAM BIIK</i> Curator talk • 7 October – Creative RISE Workshop: <i>Creative Project Planning & the Funding Landscape</i> (partnering with Burrinja Cultural Centre) <p>Noted that AAB are on our email list and will receive emails as part of our regular email campaign.</p>		
11	<p>Sector Updates</p> <p>No items to discuss.</p>		
12	<p>Other Business</p> <p>No items to discuss.</p>		
13	<p>Next Meeting: 28 November 2023 Venue: Heritage Hill</p>		
Meeting closed 8pm			



4.1.2 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance

Attachments: 1. Correspondence Received 18-29 September 2023
[4.1.2.1 - 2 pages]

Executive Summary

1. Subsequent to past Council resolutions in relation to the listing of registered incoming correspondence addressed to the Mayor and Councillors, Attachment 1 to this report provides a list of this correspondence for the period 18-29 September 2023.

Recommendation

That the listed items for the period 18-29 September 2023 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

MINUTE No.898

Moved by: Cr Richard Lim OAM

Seconded by: Cr Loi Truong

That the listed items for the period 18-29 September 2023 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

CARRIED 10 / 0

Objective

CONNECTED. COLLABORATIVE. COMMUNITY.

Correspondences addressed to the Mayor and Councillors received between 18/09/23 & 29/09/23 - for officer action - total = 0

Correspondence Name	Correspondence Dated	Date Record Created	Objective ID	User Currently Assigned
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NB: Users assigned may have changed by the time of the Council Meeting. Correct at time of report production only.

Objective

CONNECTED. COLLABORATIVE. COMMUNITY.

Correspondences addressed to the Mayor and Councillors received between 18/09/23 & 29/09/23 - for information only - total = 2

Correspondence Name	Correspondence Dated	Date Record Created	Objective ID	User Currently Assigned
An invitation for Cr Richard Lim to attend a fundraising event for the Springvale Activity Learning Centre in Osborne Avenue, Springvale.	16-Sep-23	18-Sep-23	A10182113	Mayor & Councillors
An email to the Mayor from the Mayor of the City of Boroondara regarding the Inner South Metropolitan Mayors' Forum's concerns with potential planning reform changes flagged by the State Government.	21-Sep-23	21-Sep-23	A10195335	Mayor & Councillors

NB: Users assigned may have changed by the time of the Council Meeting. Correct at time of report production only.



5 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.



6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

Comment

Cr Sophie Tan

I would like to congratulate you Mayor Eden Foster on your appointment as the Labor candidate for Mulgrave in the upcoming by-election. Thank you for all your work as Mayor.

I attended the Pchum Ben festival, the celebration of the Ancestors' Day with the Cambodian Association of Victoria. The 38th Annual General Meeting was held on the weekend with over 100 people in attendance. The Pchum Ben religious festival runs for 15 days and is one of the most important festivals of the year in Cambodia. The Cambodian community honor their ancestors during this festival. It is a celebration of past generations and is a time to pray and offer food to the Monks and temple to offer to the souls who have passed away and release the bad karma.

I would like to congratulate the Cambodian Association of Victoria on its 38th anniversary, which is a long, long, long time. Thank you to the executive staff and volunteers and to the President Living Treasure, former Councillor and Mayor Youhorn Chea. The Association has done great work within the community supporting gambling, family violence and community care including Aged Care.

Question

Cr Sophie Tan

I have received a question from a Noble Park resident regarding the cost-of-living crises and beggars outside Coles supermarket in Noble Park. This makes it difficult for disability access to the supermarket. I have raised this matter before and would like an update?

Response

Peta Gillies, Director Community Strengthening

No update on this matter further to what was provided last week. Officers have visited the site and not witnessed that issue but will continue to monitor the situation.

Question

Cr Sophie Tan

I have a question regarding traffic and parking issues in Noble Park. Cars park on both sides of the streets and road making it difficult for cars to navigate. This issue is prominent in Frank Street, Noble Street, Buckley Street and Leonard Avenue. May I have an update from the Transport Department?



Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects.

The reversing and manoeuvring of any vehicle on a road is subject to state legislation. Drivers need to drive capably, carefully and mindfully. Council do not have regulations regarding trucks and vehicles reversing into streets. The responsibility is with the driver of the vehicle to adhere to all laws including parking. Council enforces parking laws however regarding trucks manoeuvring, roads are designed to cater for appropriate truck sizes for delivery vehicles. If residents are concerned about road structure and size in correlation to the size of trucks officers are happy to investigate.

Comment

Cr Rhonda Garad

Mayor Foster, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude to you for your exceptional leadership. Throughout your tenure, you have consistently represented the Council and the City of Greater Dandenong with the utmost dedication and professionalism. Your unwavering commitment to our community has been deeply valued, and I wish you every success in your future endeavours.

Question

Cr Rhonda Garad

My first question tonight is regarding the water issue at the dog park. Yesterday, the water at the dog fountain in the dog park in Keysborough South turned white resulting in great concern from residents.

- a) Has the water now been turned off? The council was notified yesterday.
- b) What is the cause?
- c) Was this water potentially harmful and what measures are in place to respond quickly to situations like this to prevent harm to the dogs attending the park?
- d) When will this be fixed?
- e) We were told that their process was underway to put in a separate water meter in the dog parks to prevent future issues, of which there have been many recently, and I would like to know the status of that work.

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects

I will take those questions on notice. I have a meeting scheduled tomorrow and will raise those matters then.

Comment

Cr Rhonda Garad

It is a concern to me that you are not aware of this issue given the potential for harm.

Question

Cr Rhonda Garad

I have been made aware by residents that the waterway in Keysborough South from Church Street to Westwood Boulevard is overgrown and needs to be cleared. Can Council please send a letter to Melbourne Water and request that they undertake this work?

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects

Yes, Council is happy to remind Melbourne Water of their obligations.

**Question****Cr Rhonda Garad**

My last issue is a very concerning one. I received a very concerning phone call today from a representative from the Sikh Temple in Keysborough and I was deeply disturbed with what I heard. Some months ago, residents of Perry Road contacted me concerned they had not been consulted regarding slip roads being provided to them to allow access to their properties. I passed this on to the appropriate officer and was reassured that that consultation had taken place and that the situation was well managed.

Recently, I was contacted by the local MP, Tim Richardson advising representatives from the Sikh Temple had contacted him because they have had no contact with Council since 2019. When I went back to Council to ask for further clarification, I was told there had been two years of consultation with the temple, and that, in fact, the temple had commissioned their own traffic management assessment, and that assessment had determined there was no requirement for a slip road access into the temple. This is incorrect. There has been no contact between the Council and the Temple since 2019.

Road works are commencing as we speak and the Temple will not have a slip road to allow safe access into the temple and hundreds of people attend the Temple. This is an 80 km/hr speed zone and the expectation is those entering the Temple can make a hard right turn off a busy road next to an industrial zone with large vehicles traveling at speed.

This is unacceptable. It is unsafe. In fact it is so unsafe the contractor visited the Temple and said, this is unsafe. That is the only contact the Temple has had. The contractor advised Council that it was unsafe however Council advised it was fine. Multiple people have begged the Council to make sure there is safe access into the temple.

On multiple occasions Council has refused to change their position, refused to put in a slip, road access, and has provided information that was not correct. This is extremely concerning.

- a) Can Council explain the vast discrepancy between the accounts of Council and the Temple representatives?
- b) Has Council provided misleading or inaccurate details of this matter?
- c) Will Council immediately halt works and engage with Perry Road residents?

It is more than just the Temple that are affected to ensure they have appropriate and safe access to their properties.

Response**Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects**

I will take the questions on notice. Recognising a number of significant issues have been raised, I will endeavour to raise that first thing tomorrow morning with relevant staff and provide an interim response prior to it being usually foreshadowed through the minutes of another Council meeting.

Comment**Cr Rhonda Garad**

That response that there had been two-year in-depth consultation was given on camera, in the chamber. If that is incorrect or false information, it is extremely serious. I would also point out the urgency of this situation, it is grave. Work was meant to start in September and is due to start any day. When that work starts and there is no slip road installed this situation is unfixable. Council must act immediately to stop roadwork until this very serious situation is resolved.



Comment

Cr Angela Long

These are some of the events that I have attended since my last formal meeting.

On Friday 29 September 2023, I attended the National Police Remembrance Day - End of Day Reflection at Springville Cemetery.

On Wednesday 4 October 2023, I attended the Women in Business Network Session at the Dandenong Civic Centre.

I would like to thank you Mayor Eden Foster, for your leadership this year. You have fulfilled your role as Mayor with passion and dedication. You have been selected as a candidate for the by-election for the seat of Mulgrave. I wish you great success in the by-election.

Comment

Cr Lana Formoso, Deputy Mayor

Mayor Eden Foster, I would also like to thank you for being such an incredible Mayor here at Greater Dandenong City Council. It has been an honour to serve as your deputy. Thank you for all the work that you have done for our community. I believe you will be an excellent candidate for the Mulgrave District by-election. I wish you all the very best success, you would be an excellent addition to Parliament.

Cr Lana Formoso, Deputy Mayor tabled the events she attended. They are listed below.

On Wednesday 27 September 2023, I attended the SSI (Settlement Services International) Opening of the Dandenong office. I am so pleased to finally have an SSI office in our community as they perform such exceptional work dedicated to human and social services to diverse communities, they will be a huge asset to our community.

On Friday 29 September 2023, I attended the Italian Seniors Club at Windsor Avenue in Springvale and spoke about MyRoom as they raised funds for MyRoom. I attended this as a parent and not in my capacity as Councillor.

On Sunday 1 October 2023, I attended the Moon festival hosted by the Cambodian Chinese Friendship Association of Victoria.

On Wednesday 4 October 2023, I officiated the Citizenship ceremonies at Springvale City Hall.

On Thursday 5 October 2023, I attended the Springvale Neighbourhood House 40th Birthday celebration.

On Friday 6 October 2023, I attended Thomas Carroll Reserve – East Oval Upgrade and Keysborough Tennis lights opening.

**Comment****Cr Lana Formoso, Deputy Mayor**

The My Room Children's Cancer charity for the AFL Cup Eve Telethon raised \$3,156,000 last week. My family and I were there to support this incredible charity. We are so grateful they raised such a large amount of money. Every dollar helps all the families that are affected by childhood cancer. That was a really great outcome. I would like to extend a big thank you to all the volunteers and ambassadors of the charity and I wish them all the very best success in future telethons.

Sadly during the last week we lost one of our SES volunteers David Colgan, who passed away too soon. He was one of our most frequent responders to call outs. He worked tirelessly behind the scenes and it was a real honour and pleasure to work aside him as an incredible volunteer in our community. He was kind, humble, caring and selfless. It is a great loss for not only our Greater Dandenong unit, but also for our entire community. I extend my deepest condolences to his family and his partner and everyone at our unit who is really struggling with this. I ask Council to organize some flowers to be sent to his family on behalf of Council.

Comment**Cr Richard Lim OAM**

I would like to congratulate you Mayor Eden Foster for working together as a team. You have now become a candidate for Mulgrave and for my vote. I wish you all the best for your future and I believe that you are going to be elected very easily.

On Wednesday 27 September 2023, I attended the National Day Celebrations with Acting Consul General of China, many MPs and VIP's.

On Friday 29 September 2023, I attended the Springvale Italian Senior Citizens Club Fundraising for Kids with Cancer with Deputy Mayor Lana Formoso. In the afternoon I attended the National Police Remembrance Day - End of Day Reflection at Springvale Cemetery with Mayor Eden Foster, Councillor Angela Long and Councillor Rhonda Garad.

On Sunday 1 October 2023, I attended the Childrens' Lantern Festival at Springvale Multicultural Cultural Place. I hope Council can support those activities.

On Monday 2 October 2023, I had a meeting with Kevin Van Boxtel (Manager Business and Revitalisation) and Greer Davis (Place Making Officer) regarding the Springvale Revitalisation Action Plan.

On Thursday 5 October 2023 I attended the Springvale Community Hub Committee Meeting. I also attended the Springvale Neighbourhood House 40th Birthday Celebration with Deputy Mayor Lana Formoso.

On Saturday 7 October 2023 I attended the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival hosted by the Golden Flower Chinese Friendship Association. It was an excellent festival.

On Sunday 8 October 2023 I attended the 2023 Mid-Autumn Festival Gala and Monash Senior Week hosted by the Melbourne Spring Arts Multicultural Seniors Association.

I would like to thank the Directorate of City Planning Design & Amenity, especially Director Jody Bosman. You have thanks from the Bright Moon Temple for your effort and help along the way.



A second thanks from BBQ-K in Springvale. They will open earlier than scheduled because of the help your department has provided. It is an amazing restaurant and we should support our local economy.

Question

Cr Tim Dark

I have a question in relation to the development of the old Keysborough Park site in Loxwood Avenue. This site started construction some time ago. A significant amount of earthwork has been done, which then led to a retaining wall being installed. Subsequent to that, flooding occurred in the park and the site has come to a complete sandstill.

Some residents asked me over the weekend about the development. Is it still going, has it completely come to an end? Rubbish is blowing around the site and dirt when the wind picks up. Can we please get an update from the relevant director, to contact the developer or the builder to find out exactly what is occurring with the site? It has been around four months since the site has come to a complete standstill.

Response

Jody Bosman, Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

I will take that question on notice. We will make inquiries and then circulate the updated information to all Councillors.

Question

Cr Tim Dark

My next question is one that Councillor Garad has mentioned in the past. It is in relation to a Keysborough Community Safety Forum with police. I have exchanged correspondence with Councillor Garad discussing the correspondence we often receive from residents on issues with people entering private property and sites committing all sorts of crime. Is there a provision to hold a Keysborough Safety Forum for Keysborough residents soon? I know there are many issues in the new parts of Keysborough.

Response

Peta Gillies, Director Community Strengthening

Absolutely we can investigate. We are also working very closely with Victoria Police. If you do receive any complaints, please send through any of that information that you receive. We are currently looking internally about resourcing to put even more focus on safety for all areas of our community.

Comment

Cr Rhonda Garad

We are planning a community event in early December so we can combine it with this at Tatterson Pavilion.

Question

Cr Tim Dark

A resident contacted me about Dandenong Railway station and crime occurring in the vicinity. I believe it has become quite a hot spot recently for crime. Can Council officers liaise with police about that?

This question was taken on notice.



Question

Cr Tim Dark

My next question is in relation to the Faoro Court Reserve and Accra Street Reserve in Keysborough. Residents have stated they are outdated with a few mature trees but no adequate seating or landscaping upgrades.

Are there any provisions for planting or garden beds to make these sites look a little more updated?

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects

I think between Jody Bosman's (Director City Planning, Design & Amenity) area and mine we could seek some feedback as to this possibility. We will take that question on notice.

Question

Cr Tim Dark

I noticed real estate advertising popping up on nature strips and I have never seen so many in my life. They have been left on nature strips throughout my ward. I drive through the Keysborough South ward on my way to work every morning and this morning the same boards have been in the same position for about five days now advertising a local agency.

Can officers investigate both the new and old part of Keysborough and any other wards which are potentially affected? Can non-compliance and breaches of the local laws with these signs be investigated?

Response

Jody Bosman, Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

I share your frustration about these signs that are left out. We will investigate and conduct a review of our local laws, that we take them off and turn them into scrap metal somewhere.

Comment

Cr Tim Dark

One of the biggest events that I have been to ever in my time on Council, was the Karadjordje Cup that was held down at the Serbian Sports Centre last weekend. Over the three days more than 7000 people attended the facility. There were people from the Serbian clubs across Australia, from Perth, Adelaide, Brisbane, Western Sydney. It was a massive turnout and some well-known singers flew out from Serbia to sing. I think the Holiday-Inn was at full capacity as well as some other local hotels. It was very exciting to see. On the last day they completely ran out of food because there was so much demand. It is really good to see that the City of Greater Dandenong can accommodate and hold events like this and celebrate their multicultural citizens.

I would like to wish Mayor Eden Foster well in your next endeavour as you progress in the by-election.

Comment

Cr Bob Milkovic

I would like to commend our parks and tree planting crew. They have done a fantastic job in the reserves and parks including a number of trees that have been planted along Gladstone Road and Summers Drive, Dandenong North.

I think residents responded really well. It has been bare for a long time and it is great to see an increase in sustainability and tree canopy coverage. With the wet weather some parks were mown



less frequently. Nonetheless, everything is under control.

As Councillor Dark mentioned, I attended the Karadjordje Cup which this year was the biggest cup in its history. This was the 34th and the biggest in history with an attendance of more than 7000 people. All the accommodation in Dandenong and close by was fully booked.

The amount of money that has gone into the local area, from visitors across Australia is astounding. It was just fantastic to see so many of my fellow Serbians. There were many other nations there enjoying three days of music, celebration, food and soccer. Congratulations to the Serbian White Eagles from Springvale on winning this cup. Next year It will be hosted in Perth.

I wish Mayor Eden Foster the very best of luck and hope you can fulfill duty in Mulgrave should you get elected as you have done as the Mayor of this City.

Cr Eden Foster, Mayor, tabled the events she attended. They are listed below.

On Tuesday 26 September 2023, I attended the Springvale Benevolent Society Annual General Meeting.

On Wednesday 27 September 2023, I attended launch of the Launch of SSI's new Dandenong office.

On Thursday 28 September 2023, I attended several events;

- the MAV Members Briefing - Victorian Government Housing Statement;
- the Youth Fest 2023 (CGD Youth Services event);
- the Noble Park-Dingley & Springvale Rotary Club Fundraising night - Local Schools Library Program; and
- the International Pashtun Culture Day.

On Friday 29 September 2023, I attended the National Police Remembrance Day - End of Day Reflection.

On Sunday 1 October 2023, I attended the Vigil and First Anniversary of the attack on Kaaj Education Centre hosted by the Victorian Hazara community in commemoration of the victims of this tragic attack and to stand in solidarity with the Hazara.

On Friday 6 October 2023, I attended several events:

- District Primary Schools Soccer Tournament Presentation;
 - Civic Reception in recognition of the Lions Clubs of District 201v5;
 - Official Opening of the Thomas Carroll Reserve – East Oval Upgrade; and
 - Official Opening of the Keysborough Tennis facility lighting upgrade.
-



Comment

Cr Eden Foster

I want to just reiterate a big thank you to Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer, the executive team and Council staff, and also the community. The community have made this role a very easy and enjoyable role. I am grateful to our wonderful community for the privilege of being a Councillor and Mayor of City of the Greater Dandenong.

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer tabled a listing of responses to questions taken on notice/requiring further action at the previous Council meeting. A copy of the responses is provided as an attachment.

COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE/REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
25/09/23 CQT1	Cr Bob Milkovic	<p>Uneven footpath, Dandenong One of my residents has reported an uneven footpath at 167 Princes Highway, on the corner of Sutherland Road and Princes Highway Service Road, Dandenong. A Merit was raised a few months ago but there has been no action taken. Could this please be investigated?</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects	06/10/2023	<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: Question taken on notice.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/23: A Council officer originally inspected the footpath at 167 Princes Highway, Dandenong, back in January 2023. At the time of inspection it was identified that a utility contractor had completed a temporary reinstatement with asphalt but failed to return to replace the section of footpath with new concrete. The Council officer also identified a nearby section of footpath that had been damaged by the nature strip tree which was 'made safe' with asphalt to remove any trip hazard for pedestrians. Both asphalt repairs were programmed for renewal with new concrete by the end of the calendar year as part of our annual footpath renewal program. The close proximity of the street tree to the footpath and nearby high pressure gas line have resulted in some minor delays with the pre-planning for these works. I have been advised that the tree will now be removed over the next fortnight as it is in poor condition and the roots cannot be sufficiently trimmed to allow for the new footpath. Following this, the concrete works have been programmed for completion by the end of October 2023.</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					COMPLETED
25/09/23 CQT2	Cr Tim Dark	<p>Frederick Wachter Reserve, Keysborough The Frederick Wachter Reserve Playground, Keysborough is finally open. Over the weekend we had phenomenal weather with lots of people at the reserve which made it difficult to find a carpark. I have had very good feedback from residents about the playground.</p> <p>There have been requests for additional bins at the site near the playground as currently there are only two (2) in that area. If they get full there is nowhere else for people to put their waste. Are we able to have more bins installed?</p> <p>The bridge in the wetland area has nowhere for residents to sit. Residents have requested a seat be installed in the middle, on the side, away from the walkway, so that people can sit, watch ducks and have a stop point between walking around?</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects	06/10/2023	<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: Question taken on notice.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/23: The rubbish bins near the playground in Frederick Wachter Reserve are currently emptied 6 times per week Monday to Saturday inclusive. The need for an additional bin at this location (closer to the playground) has already been identified and programmed for installation by the end of October 2023. The Cleansing team will also conduct an audit over the next 4 weeks to monitor the volume of material collected from these bins as we empty them to determine whether additional new bins are required or the frequency of collection needs to be increased. The request for additional seating on the bridge at the wetland has been referred on to Council's Open Space Planner for consideration within the context of the overall master plan for the Reserve and you will be advised of the outcome in due course.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 CQT3	Cr Tim Dark	<p>Increased street sweeping, Keysborough I have previously raised an issue about a tree dropping gumnuts and leaf matter on the ground, creating a trip hazard in Keysborough. The residents have spoken to Council's arborist a</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: Question taken on notice.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/23: A Council Arborist inspected the nature strip tree in front of 22 Sheffield Way late July and again in September 2023.</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		<p>couple of times and have reached out to me because the resident had a fall when walking down the street using a walker. A further request was made to the Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects with the arborist following up. The resident has advised that instead of taking a proactive approach and picking the leaf matter up, a referral was made to Aged Care Services to increase support for the resident. I received an email from an officer confirming the same.</p> <p>The residents are asking that if the tree cannot be cut down, whether there is opportunity for regular street sweeping given the amount of leaf matter that is clogging up the footpath.</p>			<p>At the time of both inspections the nature strip tree was found to be in good health and structure. Minimal leaf litter and fruit fall was observed on the footpath, nature strip and kerb and channel at time of both inspections. A Council Officer contacted the resident on Friday 22 September 2023 to further understand their circumstances and ongoing concerns regarding the nature strip tree. The resident was advised, whilst the tree didn't meet the criteria for removal, in order to address their concerns of leaf litter, a proactive inspection would be undertaken with the view to undertake sensitive pruning to minimise the amount of leaf litter and fruit fall. Pruning works have been scheduled and will be completed within the next 20 working days.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 CQT4	Cr Tim Dark	<p>Increased traffic signage, Keysborough</p> <p>A resident has concerns with traffic running through Luanda Street, Keysborough. It runs parallel to Perry Road but does not have an entrance onto Perry Road. This resident has observed a lot of cars coming up and down the road with people trying to get on to Perry Road without realising that they cannot get through.</p> <p>They have asked if there is a possibility of putting a sign, closer to Cabinda</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects	03/10/2023	<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: Question taken on notice.</p> <p>Further response provided 03/10/23: A response was provided to the customer on 27 September 2023, with a copy to yourself. The response identified a 'No Through Road' sign, as per the customer's suggestion, is not an appropriate solution because Luanda Street does indeed connect through from one street to another. However, to assist with identifying the extent of the problem, traffic volume data will be collected, which will help to determine if any further actions may be necessary.</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		drive, saying 'no thoroughfare' or 'no access to Perry Road' to stop the cars from driving through?			<p>The traffic data will likely be available in late October 2023 or early November 2023 and we will share an update once the review is complete.</p> <p>Again, thank you for raising this matter and I trust the above assists.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 CQT5	Cr Jim Memeti	<p>Street pole, Dandenong I had a phone call from one of my residents living in Langhorne Street, Dandenong. He advised me that in front of 89 Langhorne Street a new pole has been erected to replace an old one, it used to have a streetlight but now it does not. Can officers please investigate and if needed, install a new light?</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: Question taken on notice.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/23: A Council officer inspected this site and found an existing utility pole with an LED street light attached to it outside 89 Langhorne Street, Dandenong. They were unable to find a newly installed utility pole anywhere near that address. Council officers would be more than happy to follow up directly with the resident to resolve the issue if you are able to provide their contact details.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 CQT6	Cr Jim Memeti	<p>Playground, Dandenong There is a playground on Vivien Street, Dandenong where toddlers frequently play. I have had a request from parents saying that the cars travel quite fast along the road and sometimes the kids will run out onto the street. There is currently a fence there, but the toddlers can walk underneath it.</p> <p>Could we please look at alternative fencing or installing speed humps or</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: Question taken on notice.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/23: The George Andrews (Vivien Street) playground was assessed earlier this week using Council's Playground Proximity risk assessment tool (jointly developed by Parks and the Risk Department) in response to the resident's concerns. The assessment tool determined the playground to be a 'medium' level risk.</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		speed counters along the road to slow the traffic down?			<p>Mitigation measures recommended to discourage or slow the movement toward the hazard for 'medium' level areas could include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide a barrier between playground equipment and major hazard OR screen hazard from playground equipment. Barrier/screen type may include dense vegetation, mounding, partial decorative fencing, landscaping, reserve pedestrian path. 2. Signage warning of the hazards and information indicating importance of parental/carer supervision at all times. <p>The site assessment conducted earlier this week found that Council is meeting its obligations to risk management in this situation – there are barriers in place between the playground and major hazard/road (partial decorative fence & reserve pedestrian path) and there is also a sign (at all playgrounds) reminding parents/guardians that supervision is their responsibility. Nevertheless, Council officers would still be happy to meet with the resident on site to better understand the nature of their concerns to see if there was anything further that could be done to address these.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 CQT7	Cr Jim Memeti	Speed hump audit I have noticed within our municipality that the plastic and concrete speed humps have been worn down or damaged. Do we do an audit on our speed humps?	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: Question taken on notice.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/23: Council Asset Planning team completed an audit of Local Area Traffic Management</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>devices (LATM's) throughout the municipality in 2021 and is currently in the process of developing an asset management plan and proactive renewal program to manage these assets. It is intended that the audit will be updated once every 4 years. In the meantime, LATM's are maintained on a reactive basis and only repaired or replaced when they become a hazard to road users or reach end of life and are no longer functioning as intended. If there are any particular locations you would like us to investigate please let me know so I can follow up with the Transport and Asset Planning teams.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 CQT8	Cr Lana Formoso	<p>Barry J Powell Reserve, Noble Park I have been working hard to have the Barry J Powell Reserve, Noble Park Master Plan fulfilled in stages. It has been a long process and with our budget the way it is, it will take some time. Over the past year, as we started with Stage One, we turned off all the barbecues and the water supply to the park and have put temporary fencing around this area. As it has been a year now and no further stages have commenced, why are the barbecues and water still not accessible? Can this please be rectified as soon as possible?</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: Question taken on notice.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/23: The power supply for the BBQ's originally came from the old tennis pavilion that was removed last year as part of Stage 1 Works delivered by the capital projects team. There have been some very long delays with United Energy (UE) to re-establish power to the BBQ's (incl. tennis court lighting & provision for future car park) due to the process and approvals required with a New Power Supply Request. I have now been advised that power to the BBQ's was connected and tested earlier this week and access for the public will occur next week when the temporary fencing will be removed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
25/09/23 CQT9	Cr Lana Formoso	<p>Mowing schedule</p> <p>I have raised this issue previously and have again noticed that the parks in my ward have not been mowed recently. Can you please advise the schedule, send me a copy and advise if there have been any delays impacting this?</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23:</p> <p>I met with the mowing crew last week. They advised that this is the time of year when we have our fastest growing season. This could be a reason for the delay, but I will follow that up and provide the details back to you.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/23:</p> <p>In general Council's mowing program sees the grass cut in reserves across Greater Dandenong every four weeks. The Parks team have experienced recent delays to program delivery due to supply chain issues for servicing plant and resourcing constraints due to shortages within the labour market. The Parks team are currently working through these issues with our Fleet team and Contractors to ensure the program is delivered consistently across the growing season and the presentation of our open space meets the expectations of our community.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 CQT10	Cr Sophie Tan	<p>Safety platform, Bloomfield Road, Noble Park</p> <p>The safety platform installation along Bloomfield Road, Noble Park have been completed. There is one near the roundabout at Bloomfield and Yarraman Road that has been badly damaged, has this been addressed? If not, why not?</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23:</p> <p>The project has not been completed. We have not signed off on the final contract, so there is an opportunity to have defects rectified as part of that process.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/23:</p> <p>Council officers have inspected the roundabout at the intersection of Bloomfield and Yarraman Roads, Noble Park, and were unable to find any damage to this infrastructure.</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>We do note there is a long asphalt patch (from recent drainage works) in the road immediately adjacent to the roundabout and that a small section of the kerbing to the roundabout has now been repaired with asphalt rather than concrete. While this may look a little unsightly it is still serviceable and functioning as intended and does not present any hazard to road users. The roundabout is approaching end of asset life and has been referred to the Asset Planning and Transport teams for assessment against current standards and consideration for inclusion in future CIP works asset renewal programs.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 CQT11	Cr Sophie Tan	<p>Project update Can I please have an update on the Leonard Avenue and Buckley Street, Noble Park Streetscape Project?</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: Question taken on notice.</p> <p>Further response provided 09/10/23: As an update on the Leonard Avenue streetscape project I am pleased inform you that all civil works have now been completed.</p> <p>We are awaiting delivery and installation of street furniture including street lights and are expecting those to be installed by the end of October 2023.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 CQT12	Cr Sophie Tan	<p>Project update Can I please have an update on the Railway Parade, Noble Park Streetscape Project?</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: The project has reached practical completion and is in use by the community. If there are any further updates I will provide those details.</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>Further response provided 09/10/23: The civil works for the Railway Parade streetscape, including landscaping works have been completed. There is a separate related project to deliver an art component in the Railway Parade shopping strip and preliminary works for this design are underway.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 CQT13	Cr Sophie Tan	<p>Soft plastics recycling program The soft plastics recycling program has been launched, however when I visited Noble Park Aquatic Centre over the weekend, I could not see an orange bin. When will the program commence?</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: Question taken on notice.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/23: At the start of September 2023, City of Greater Dandenong launched a trial soft plastics recycling program and has established several convenient drop-off points for soft plastics, making it easier for residents to participate in recycling efforts. You can find these drop-off locations at the following places:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dandenong Customer Service Centre - Level 2, 225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong 2. Dandenong Community Building - 39 Clow Street, Dandenong 3. Springvale Customer Service Centre - Springvale Community Hub, 5 Hillcrest Grove, Springvale 4. Noble Park Aquatic Centre - 9 Memorial Drive, Noble Park 5. Jan Wilson Community Centre - Halton Road, Noble Park North 6. Springers Leisure Centre - Tattersson Park, 400 Cheltenham Road, Keysborough

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>A Council officer completed an audit earlier this week and confirmed the orange bins are visible in the foyer at each of the above locations. By providing these accessible drop-off points, we aim to encourage and facilitate our community's active participation in recycling soft plastics, contributing to a more sustainable and environmentally conscious future.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
25/09/23 CQT15	Cr Rhonda Garad	<p>Dog park water fountains, Keysborough</p> <p>Over the weekend, both water fountains at the Keysborough dog parks ceased functioning and remain inoperative today. What is the root cause of this issue, and in anticipation of the upcoming hotter months, how swiftly can we implement a response plan considering the potential risks of heat stress for the dogs?</p> <p>I would appreciate a response from the officer in writing in terms of when this happens in the future, what is the time frame for response that we can expect. It seems that three (3) days is the current time frame, just wondering if that is appropriate given that this is a safety risk.</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: Plumbing contractors are investigating, but we do not have a cause yet. I will report back as soon as we find out.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/23: In general Council Officers respond to and undertake inspections of defective open space assets such as drinking taps within 2 working days of receiving a customer's request in Merit. Depending on the outcome of the inspection and what may be required, plumbing works will generally be undertaken within 2 working days subject to contractor and parts availability. Unfortunately, in this instance, notification was received via e-mail late on Friday afternoon. Council Officers arranged an inspection of the drinking fountains within the dog off lead area in Tattersson Park on Monday morning. Upon inspection the water was found to be disconnected and diverted to an adjacent construction site. The water was then restored to the drinking taps on the Wednesday.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
25/09/23 CQT18	Cr Rhonda Garad	<p>Bus shelters, Keysborough Are you advising that all of our bus shelters will be transferred to and then be the responsibility of the State Government? Do we have any capacity right now to put any in ourselves? Trees are great, but they are not going to grow in time for this summer for the risk to be reduced. I think that we need to go hard on the advocacy to get shelters built.</p>	Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects	03/10/2023	<p>Initial response provided 25/09/23: Council can prepare a report with some options and scenarios around how we might improve the situation.</p> <p>Further response provided 03/10/23: Background The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) has a bus shelter program. This program includes the provision of new shelters and ongoing maintenance. It was previously funded via an advertising arrangement. The contract has recently been tendered and council officers are currently unaware if any changes have arisen as part of this. Councils are able to sign onto this agreement for DTP to provide bus shelters within their municipality.</p> <p>Our Council signed a 20year agreement with AdShel, now oOh! Media, for the installation and maintenance of 150 bus shelters, half of which included advertising. This agreement includes advertising exclusivity on bus shelters within our municipality. As a result, this conflicts with DTP's funding model and as such the Department will not install new shelters in Greater Dandenong.</p> <p>Council did manage to negotiate with DTP for 6 shelters to be installed, 5 of which have been completed and the final location identified is awaiting installation. Council also signed a memorandum of understanding to gift the shelters under this contract to DTP at its conclusion and sign onto the DTP shelter program.</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>Council has explored options to offer opportunity to install additional shelters, however oOh! Media has no appetite to provide more advertising shelters. Council has also explored cancelling the contract, however there would be a cost to Council of millions of dollars in compensation.</p> <p>Council also has approximately 60 additional bus shelters managed outside the oOh! Media contract. As the 60 older style shelters do not meet the DTP shelter standard, they will not be gifted to DTP. At this time there is unfortunately no funding program for bus shelters - including the maintenance of these older shelters, and many of these shelters are approaching the end of their life.</p> <p>Once Council is signed on to the DTP program, it is anticipated we will be provided an allocation of new shelters each year which will be installed at DTP priority locations. It is anticipated some of these shelters will replace some of the existing shelters where there is higher patronage as they reach end of life.</p> <p>Other Heat Minimising Options Shelters are only one option to address the heat issues faced by bus patrons and can only be provided at limited locations and shade effectiveness will be dependent on time of day. There are other options which can potentially assist bus patrons reduce the impact of heat events regardless of which stop they are using. These include reducing wait times at bus stops and support services.</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>Reducing wait times at bus stops can be achieved by increasing bus frequencies and/or improving real-time information, so bus users can plan when they leave home so they do not arrive too early at the stop.</p> <p>Support services include providing advice to assist public transport users in planning their travel effectively to minimise the impacts of the heat to them and ensuring they know what assistance services may be available for their individual situation.</p> <p>There is also the opportunity for PTV to work with bus service operators to ensure they are prepared to support passengers who may be experiencing heat distress and provide services which may reduce the chance of distress occurring.</p> <p>For the upcoming summer, Council advocacy to reduce heat impacts for bus patrons is best focused on these interventions which have the ability to benefit the broadest number of bus patrons and can be implemented in the short-term. It's our intent to send off an advocacy appeal in this regard to our local MP who now has the Public Transport portfolio.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPELTED</p>



7 URGENT BUSINESS

7.1 URGENT BUSINESS

7.1.1 Urgent Business - Leave of Absence

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance

Preamble

1. The Mayor, Councillor (Cr) Eden Foster has been selected as the Labor Party's preferred candidate to contest the by-election for the Victorian Government's electoral seat of Mulgrave.
2. Cr Foster requests a leave of absence commencing 10 October 2023 until the by-election day (which is yet to be confirmed).
3. During this leave of absence, Cr Foster will not collect any Councillor allowance and will be returning any Council equipment to ensure she runs her state election campaign independent of Council.
4. This report is submitted in conjunction with Council's Governance Rules which state that any Councillor may request a leave of absence in writing submitted to the Chief Executive Officer and state the dates they require the leave and the reason for which it is sought.
5. Further, under section 35(4) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council must grant any reasonable request for leave.

Motion 1

That an item of Urgent Business be heard in relation to a Leave of Absence for Mayor Eden Foster to allow her to run a state election campaign for the Victorian seat of Mulgrave.

Motion 2

That Council:

1. **grants a Leave of Absence to Mayor Eden Foster for the period 10 October 2023 to the date of the by-election day (yet to be confirmed);**
2. **notes Cr Eden Foster will not be receiving a Councillor allowance not be utilising any Council resources during the leave of absence; and**
3. **notes Mayor Eden Foster's apology for all Council Meetings, Councillor Briefing Sessions, Pre-Council Meetings and Council events scheduled to occur throughout the leave of absence.**



MINUTE No.899

Moved by: Cr Angela Long

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That an item of Urgent Business be heard in relation to a Leave of Absence for Mayor Eden Foster to allow her to run a state election campaign for the Victorian seat of Mulgrave.

CARRIED 10 / 0

MINUTE No.900

Moved by: Cr Lana Formoso

Seconded by: Cr Angela Long

That Council:

- 1. grants a Leave of Absence to Mayor Eden Foster for the period 10 October 2023 to the date of the by-election day (yet to be confirmed);**
- 2. notes Cr Eden Foster will not be receiving a Councillor allowance not be utilising any Council resources during the leave of absence; and**
- 3. notes Mayor Eden Foster's apology for all Council Meetings, Councillor Briefing Sessions, Pre-Council Meetings and Council events scheduled to occur throughout the leave of absence.**

CARRIED 10/10



8 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

The Meeting closed at 8.29pm.

Signature