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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DECLARE A SPECIAL RATE FAIRFIELD VILLAGE BUSINESS DISTRICT (Precinct)

In accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989* (Act), it is hereby given that Darebin City Council at its meeting on **18 March 2019** resolved to give notice of the intention to declare and levy a special rate under Section 163 of the Act.

The special rate is for the purpose of defraying expenses to be incurred by Council in providing funds to the incorporated body operating as the Fairfield Traders Association (FTA), which funds, subject to the approval of Council, are to be used for the purposes of promotional, marketing, business development, contracted support, and other incidental expenses as agreed to from time to time between Council and FTA all of which are associated with the encouragement of commerce, retail and professional activity and employment in the Precinct.

In performing functions and exercising powers to encouragement of commerce and retail activity in and around the area for which it is proposed the Special Rate being **1 July 2019 to 30 June 2024**, will be declared, the Council intends to levy and spend an amount of **\$66,000** in the first year of the Scheme, raising in total an amount of **\$330,000** over the Scheme. Any increases in Special Rate amounts pursuant to increases in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) will, however, be added to the payments of the Special Rate in the second, third, fourth, and fifth years of the Scheme.

The proposed Special Rate will be based on geographic criteria, having regard to the location (as set out below and also shown on the plan) and the capital improved value (CIV) of those rateable properties in the Precinct that are used, or reasonably capable of being used, for commercial, retail or professional purposes and further, the classification of those properties as receiving a "primary" or a "secondary" special benefit.

The Council considers that each rateable property and each business included in the Scheme area that is required to pay the Special Rate will receive a special benefit because the viability of the Precinct as a retail, commercial and professional area, and the value and the use, occupation and enjoyment of the properties will be maintained or enhanced through increased economic activity.

For the period of the Scheme, the proposed Special Rate will be assessed on the following rateable properties (which properties are specified as being the area and the land for which the Special Rate will be declared) as follows:

Properties enjoying a "primary" special benefit will be the subject of a special rate of 0.00066645 cents in the dollar of the CIV of the property including:

Street name	Street number (inclusive)
Station Street	74 to 152; 85 to 157

Properties enjoying a "secondary" special benefit will be the subject of a special rate of 0.00049984 cents in the dollar of the CIV of the property including:

Street name	Street number (inclusive)
Railway Place	3 to 29
Wingrove Street	256 to 288
Station Street	68 to 152 (second floor) ; 75 to 157 (second floor)
Station Street	68 to 72; 75 to 83; and 99a

The proposed Special Rate will be levied by the Council sending a notice of levy annually to the persons required to pay the Special Rate, which will require that the Special Rate be paid in four instalments, to be paid by the dates fixed by the Council in the notice and in accordance with section 167(3) of the Act. Council will consider cases of financial and other hardship and may reconsider other payment options for the Special Rate.

Copies of the proposed declaration of Special Rate and a plan of the Scheme area are available to inspect during normal business hours at Darebin City Council Offices, 274 Gower Street Preston or on Council's website www.darebin.vic.gov.au for a period of at least 28 days after the publication of this notice.

Any person may make a written submission to the Council under sections 163A and 223 of the Act. In addition, any person who will be required to pay the proposed Special Rate, whether an owner or an occupier of a property included in the Scheme, has a right to object to the proposed declaration and may also make a written objection to the Council under section 163B of the Act.

Any person who has made a written submission may also request that they be heard in support of their written submission. Submissions should be addressed to: Economic Development Coordinator, PO Box 91 Preston, 3073 or wddinning@darebin.vic.gov.au.

Council will consider and, if requested, hear support for all written submissions received before 5pm 29 April 2019 at a Hearing of Submissions Committee. Submitters will be advised in writing of the date and time of the meeting.

It is proposed that Council will consider this matter at its Ordinary Meeting of 11 June 2019. Further information on this Scheme may be obtained from Wendy Dinning Economic Development Coordinator on 8470 8888.

Sue Wilkinson
Chief Executive Officer