

**Darebin Disability Advisory Committee (DDAC)
and
Active and Healthy Ageing Board (AHAB)
Monday 16 April 2018
Meeting Minutes**

Present

Councillors and Co-Chairs:

Cr Julie Williams
Cr Suzanne Newton

DDAC Community Representatives:

Vince Pirrottina, Helen Caligiuri

AHAB Community Representatives:

Geoff Richards, Nic Nichoalou, Draga Kostandinova

Council staff:

Cathy Henderson, General Manager Community
Shadi Hanna, Manager Aged and Disability
Gillian Damonze, Coordinator Community Participation and Development
Katherine Kiley, Senior Team Leader Access and Inclusion
Nicola Johnson, Community Development Officer
Zoe Howard, Metro Access Officer

Guest speakers:

Sophie Jordan, Strategic Planner
Joerg Langeloh, Senior Strategic Planner
Jennifer McIntyre, Safe Travel officer
Marcus Bennett, Transport Planner

1 Present and Apologies

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, acknowledged the traditional owners of the land and apologies were noted.

Apologies: Matthew Zammit (community representative), George Jiang (carer), Kathy Kondekas (Melbourne Polytechnic Work Education), Ray Jordan (community representative), Edward Manuel (community representative), Jo Banks (carer), Judith McLean (carer), Gail Abbott (Encompass House), Marika Bozinova, Win Stanton, Mary Castellani, Audrey Grace, Anne Learmonth, Lyn Austin, Robin Vote, Amanda Scott, Fred Psaropolous.

2 Round table check-in (*This is an opportunity for members to add items to the agenda, prioritise agenda items, report back on events, updates or issues that may have come up since the last meeting and table any other issues*).

- Vince added Disability parking permits to be discussed at general business.

3 Oakover Village Housing Diversity Report (Please see attached presentation)

Sophie Jordan, Strategic Planner provided an update on the Public Housing Renewal Program, Forthcoming Housing work, and a Draft precinct overview of Oakover Village including the Housing Diversity Report.

Public Housing Renewal Program:

Planning controls at Walker Street Estate have been approved by the Minister for planning, who is responsible for future planning decisions at the estate. Council is supporting the re-location of residents at Walker Street over an 18 month period. Construction has commenced at two developments in Stokes/Penola Streets, which will provide 68 dwellings. The Responding to Housing Stress: A Local Action Plan is due for review and updating and further consultation will be undertaken with DDAC and AHAB.

Oakover Village Housing Diversity Report:

Seven hectares of former industrial land at St Georges Road and Oakover Road Preston has been rezoned from industrial land to residential and commercial development. A Preliminary Draft *Housing Diversity Report* was presented, which will later be peer reviewed. The report outlines plans to ensure housing meets a diversity of needs for a range of households. It is expected that landowners will also prepare their own reports.

The Preliminary recommendations of this report include:

- A minimum target of 20% of new dwellings should be affordable housing (10% social housing and 10% sub-market housing, equating to 238 social housing dwellings and 238 sub-market dwellings).
- A minimum Liveable Housing Target for all privately delivered housing of 50% Silver and 25% Gold performance levels. Sophie explained the core design elements in the three 'performance levels'

DDAC and AHAB provided the following feedback:

- Expressed concern regarding potential flooding at the sight
- Need to consider reinforcement in ceilings to accommodate for hoist transfers, particularly in bathrooms and bedrooms.
- Consideration should be given to both the amount and the placement of power points to accommodate for individuals with needs for electrical equipment such as ventilator units, and to ensure that power will not be overloaded by equipment.
- Will entry ways to the lifts be accessible at each level?
- Will there be differences in the cost of housing between each level?
- Will a higher Liveable Housing Performance Level increase the cost of the dwelling?
- Using security swipe cards at multiple entry points is often difficult and unsafe for individuals using a wheelchair, mobility aids or single handed use.
- Are there provisions to allow for access to natural light within the houses for individuals who may spend lengths of time at home?
- Will there be provisions for open space and outdoor activities in the precinct?

- Do the minimum targets for affordable housing account for the displacement of residents at Walker Street?
- How many storeys have been approved?
- Will residents on lower floors have access to solar panels on the roof or will they be disadvantaged?
- Solar panels could be placed on walls or on balconies for residents living on lower floors.

Cr Julie Williams provided the following feedback:

- Consideration for accessible internal doors and corridors should also be given to emergency services and parents with children in prams needing to access properties.

Sophie provided the following feedback:

- An infrastructure report will be completed to explore flooding concerns on the site
- The liveable housing guidelines don't address access to natural light specifically but there are other clauses that address this.
- A number of pedestrian links as well as a reserve and gardens are addressed in the precinct overview.
- Open space provision and recreation facilities to be explored in development plan, as well as parking provision.
- Developments will be between 6-12 storeys.
- An environmental sustainability strategy will investigate access to solar panels.

ACTIONS:

- Housing Diversity Report to be reviewed internally.
- Sophie to investigate recommendations for ceiling reinforcements, placement and number of power points and lift accessibility.

4 Annual Budget

Shadi Hanna presented the proposed 2018 -2019 budget and encouraged attendees and the broader community to provide feedback via [‘Your Say’](#) by 11th May 2018.

Shadi explained that the proposed budget aimed to achieve a balance between cost, value and quality and that the budget maintains Council's current service levels without needing to apply for an exemption to the Victorian Government's 2.25% rate cap.

Shadi outlined the proposed allocations for sustainability, community, public infrastructure and strategy, and planning initiatives.

Katherine Kiley provided an overview of disability inclusive initiatives in the budget including:

- A new passenger lift will be fitted at the Darebin International Sports Centre
- Plans to look at the passenger lift at the Darebin North East Community Hub
- A review of the accessible pathways at J.E Moore Park
- Accessibility at neighbourhood houses
- The Creative Culture team have planned a number of accessible events across the year including Auslan interpreted performances, relaxed performances (low sensory), and audio described performances.
- Funding has been provided for three accessible parking bays located in areas close to multiple services and amenities
- Funding for footpath and pathway upgrades

DDAC and AHAB provided the following feedback:

- Noted that the cost of meals on wheels service has increased and suggested to look at household income when charging for services
- There is concern in the broader community regarding wait time for home care packages and whether Darebin council also has a waitlist for services?
- Enquired whether council will provide services for NDIS participants if their NDIS plan does not cover a particular service?
- Ongoing safety concerns about the shared walking/cycling paths along St Georges road
- Clarity is needed as to what path should be used by wheelchair and mobility scooter users on shared paths

Shadi provided the following feedback:

- The cost of services is based on household income, which is in line with the guidelines of the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) and Home and Community Care Program for Younger People (HACC PYP)
- There is currently no waiting list to access Darebin services
- Providing HACC PYP for NDIS participants is still being explored. There is currently a directive that HACC PYP can provide short term services for NDIS participants if they experience a change in circumstances on the basis of a new health condition unrelated to their disability, however it is unclear whether this will continue.
- The gutter and window cleaning subsidy program could be extended to eligible under 65 year old clients
- Gillian Damonze provided feedback that discussions regarding the shared pathways will be had with the relevant departments once the budget is produced

ACTION:

- Community members can ask questions or make a submission regarding the budget at Darebin's ["Your Say"](#) page.

5 Northland Urban Renewal Precinct (NURP) and TW Blake Park Concept Plan

Joerg Langeloh provided an overview of the draft working vision for NURP and TW Blake Park Concept plan, which is currently in its early stages. Joerg welcomed community engagement and feedback.

Transport to the area will be considered to ensure there is connection between public streets, the precinct and Northland.

DDAC and AHAB provided the following feedback:

- Consideration should be given to the amount of shade on the pathways between Northland and the precinct
- There is a general lack of footpaths in the area surrounding Northland shopping centre
- Concerns that development near the creek will set a precedent for future populations wanting to encroach on open spaces and the creek
- Actions could be taken to increase safety and accessibility to the areas around the creek, which would also help to define the area
- Plans should include equal access to design and consider people with a disability across the life stage.

ACTION:

- Community members can provide feedback regarding Northland Urban Renewal Precinct at Darebin's ["Your Say"](#) page.

6 Safe Travel Strategy & Walking Strategy

Jennifer McIntyre presented an update on the Council's second Safe Travel Strategy, which continues work to reduce the risk of injuries on Darebin roads and paths with a focus on vulnerable road users.

The previous Safe Travel Strategy saw a reduction in fatal crashes, injuries and deaths of vulnerable road users.

Marcus Bennett presented on the 2018 – 2028 Walking strategy, which is a new strategy aimed at providing the infrastructure, amenities and education to encourage walking as a safe and attractive mode of transport.

Objectives include to improve the walking network, improve safety and equity of access to walking, and increase the community's awareness of opportunities and benefits of walking.

A Principle Pedestrian Network has been mapped, which identifies primary, secondary and 'other' walking routes, which will help to identify and prioritise the location of works.

DDAC and AHAB provided the following feedback:

- Traffic islands can be a trip hazard and are not always wheelchair accessible.
- Wheelchair users often go around traffic islands as the crossings are too steep.
- Repair patches on footpaths are often poorly repaired by new developments or utility workers – people should be more accountable for making this work safe
- Shared paths often lose their definition and turn into bike paths

7 General Business

- Zoe Howard introduced herself as the new Metro Access Officer. Zoe was previously working as an Intake and Assessment Officer in the Aged and Disability's Assessment team. Zoe will be acting in the Metro Access role until 30th June 2018.

Items raised in Round table check-in:

- Vince raised that disability parking permits have recently been changed from cardboard to paper, which break easily and need to be replaced every few months. Individuals have been advised to laminate this paper, which is unreasonable.

ACTION:

- Katie to follow up on the disability parking permits to ensure they are made from a more durable material.

8 Meeting feedback – everyone

No feedback provided.