



MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON

MONDAY, 16 FEBRUARY 2009

RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC ON THURSDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2009

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**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE
DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD AT
THE DAREBIN CIVIC CENTRE,
350 HIGH ST, PRESTON ON MONDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2009**

THE MEETING OPENED AT 7.01 P.M.

1. PRESENT

Councillors

Cr. Diana Asmar (Mayor)
Cr. Stanley Chiang
Cr. Vince Fontana
Cr. Gaetano Greco
Cr. Nick Katsis
Cr. Tim Laurence
Cr. Ben Morgan
Cr. Trent McCarthy
Cr. Steven Tsitas

Council Officers

Michael Ulbrick – Chief Executive Officer
Jan Black – General Manager Communities and Culture
Geoff Glynn – General Manager Community Assets and Leisure
Kevin Breen – General Manager City Development
Jeff Saker – General Manager City Services
Bruce Dobson – General Manager Corporate Services
Libby Hynes – General Manager Environment and Amenity
Ray McQuillen – Manager Customer and Civic Services
Ron Downes – Council Business Coordinator

2. APOLOGIES

Nil.

VICTORIAN BUSHFIRES

The Mayor, Cr. Asmar, indicated that, as this is the first official Council meeting since the tragic bushfires that began on Saturday 7 February 2009, she wished to observe a minute's silence to remember the many people whose lives were lost, their families, their friends and the communities who have been devastated by the fires.

Councillors, Council Officers and members of the public gallery stood and observed a minute's silence.

The Mayor, Cr. Asmar, then addressed the meeting on Darebin's response to the bushfire crisis as follows:

"As community leaders and as a local government, Darebin has had a role to play in a number of ways over the last week:

- We have been working directly to offer appropriate support to our neighbouring Northern Councils, and through the Municipal Association of Victoria*
- Council's Emergency Management Team has been led by Bruce Dobson, supported by Nik Filips and Alison Duncan*
- This has resulted in staff from collections services, tree removal, counselling and media working with these local Councils to provide assistance*
- We have provided the Northcote Town Hall for free to a community group whose event proceeds were going to Red Cross*
- We are continuing to work with local community groups to assist them to respond to the event*
- Condolence books are available at Council venues and are here tonight, and I invite you all to sign them*
- Darebin staff are hosting their own fundraising event through the staff social club*
- And, in the coming weeks, the Darebin Community and Kite Festival will provide a venue for community fundraising through the Red Cross and will feature a short remembrance event.*
- Tonight Council will also consider providing a \$50,000 donation to the Red Cross Bushfire Appeal, on behalf of the wider community.*

It's important to remember this will be a very long process of recovery, and the needs of the people who have been affected will change with time.

Darebin is committed to continuing to respond over the longer term and to helping these communities rebuild."

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. V. Fontana
SECONDED: Cr. S. Chiang

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 2 February 2009 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

CARRIED

5. REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

MINUTE NO. 47

5.1 REPORT OF CR. BEN MORGAN

Cr. Morgan reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Meetings with local residents on planning issues.
- Discussions with residents regarding proposed improvements to G.H. Mott Reserve.

5.2 REPORT OF CR. GAETANO GRECO

Cr. Greco reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Darebin Interfaith Council meeting.
- Meeting with a number of Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Council members and representatives from the Fitzroy Stars Football Club.
- Northern Migrant Resource Centre planning day.
- Koorie Night Market.

5.3 REPORT OF CR. TRENT MCCARTHY

Cr. McCarthy reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Meeting with various residents and traders.
- Darebin Festival Advisory Committee meeting.
- Council Planning Workshop.
- Koorie Night Market.

5.4 REPORT OF CR. STANLEY CHIANG

Cr. Chiang reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Council Planning Workshop.
- Chinese community activities in providing assistance to Victorian bushfire victims.

5.5 REPORT OF CR. NICK KATSI

Cr. Katsis reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Meetings with local residents on building and environmental issues.
- Council Planning Workshop.

5.6 REPORT OF CR. VINCE FONTANA

Cr. Fontana reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Preston Business Advisory Committee meeting.
- Council Planning Workshop.
- Meeting with representatives from the Northern Bullants Football Club.

5.7 REPORT OF CR. TIM LAURENCE

Cr. Laurence reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Council Planning Workshop.
- Meetings with local residents.
- Metropolitan Waste Management Group meeting.

5.8 REPORT OF CR. STEVEN TSITAS

Cr. Tsitas reported on his attendance at the following functions/activities:

- Meetings with a number of residents.

5.9 REPORT OF THE MAYOR, CR. DIANA ASMAR

The Mayor, Cr. Asmar, reported on her attendance at the following functions/activities:

- International Women's Day Committee meeting.
- Launch of Northcote Junior Football Club.
- Koorie Night Market.
- Darebin's Bushfire Response.
- Council Planning Workshop.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

MINUTE NO. 48

The Mayor, Cr. Asmar, invited questions from members of the public gallery.

The following question was submitted:

- Janette Daher of Thornbury asked a question about lighting in Clyde Street Thornbury. The question was responded to by the Mayor, Cr. Asmar, who indicated that a written reply would be forwarded.

After Public Question Time had concluded, seven further questions were submitted in writing.

7. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS**7.1 FINANCIAL REPORT – 6 MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008****MINUTE NO. 49****AUTHOR:** Group Coordinator Accounting, Payroll and Purchasing – Michael O’Riordan**MANAGER:** General Manager Corporate Services – Bruce Dobson**BUDGET****IMPLICATIONS:** Year to date operating surplus of \$37.8 million and capital works expenditure of \$11.4 million. Forecast full year operating surplus of \$4.2 million and capital works expenditure of \$30.0 million.**SUMMARY:**

A comprehensive mid-year financial review has been undertaken for the six months ended 31 December 2008 to assess the financial performance of Council year-to-date (YTD) and the forecast financial position as at 30 June 2009. The outcome of the review indicates that Council has achieved a YTD operating surplus of \$37.8 million and capital works expenditure of \$11.4 million. The forecast actual results for the year ending 30 June 2009 are an operating surplus of \$4.2 million and capital works expenditure of \$30.0 million. All material variations have been explained in the report.

CONSULTATION:

Managers and Coordinators.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. V. Fontana**SECONDED:** Cr. S. Chiang

THAT the contents of the “Financial Report for the six months ended 31 December 2008” included as **Appendix A** to this report be received and the year-to-date and full-year forecast actual and budget operating and capital results be noted.

CARRIED

REPORT**BACKGROUND**

Under the Local Government Act 1989, at least every three months the Chief Executive Officer is required to present to the Council a statement comparing the budgeted with the actual revenues and expenses for the financial year to date. In complying with the Act, the attached report (see **Appendix A**) compares the actual and budgeted operating revenues and expenses and the actual and budgeted capital revenues and expenses for the six months ended 31 December 2008. It also compares the actual and budgeted movements in the Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement for that period.

In addition, a detailed review of the estimated financial results for the year ending 30 June 2009 has been performed as part of Council's mid-year review process. The outcomes of this review are included within the report as the forecast financial results.

CORE ISSUES*Operating Performance*

The Operating Performance for the six months ended 31 December 2008 is an operating surplus before capital revenue and other items of \$36.3 million, which is \$2.2 million ahead of budget. The main items contributing to this favorable variance are statutory fees and fines, contributions, operating and capital grants, other revenue, employee benefits, bad and doubtful debts, depreciation and other expenses. After capital and other items, the operating surplus is \$37.8 million, which is \$2.2 million ahead of budget. The forecast Operating Performance for the year ending 30 June 2009 is an operating surplus of \$4.2 million, which is \$1.4 million more than budget.

Capital Performance

The Capital Performance for the six months ended 31 December 2008 shows that a total of \$11.4 million has been expended on the capital works program, which is \$2.0 million behind the budget. The variance is due mainly to timing differences on the purchase of plant and equipment, open space and building works projects, offset partly by earlier expenditure on roads projects. The forecast total to be expended on capital works for the year ending 30 June 2009 is \$30.0 million, which is \$0.1 million more than budget. A total of \$1.9 million is forecast to be carried forward into the 2009/2010 year for capital works expected to be incomplete as at 30 June 2009.

Financial Position

The Financial Position as at 31 December 2008 shows a cash balance of \$22.3 million which is \$3.0 million ahead of budget. The variance is due mainly to timing differences in the receipt of user fees, payments to suppliers and employees, GST amounts and payments for property, plant and equipment. The net current asset position is \$43.8 million which is \$4.9 million more than budget. The variance is due mainly to the higher cash and trade receivables and lower trade and other payables position compared with budget. The net asset position is \$823.4 million, which is \$2.7 million ahead of budget. The forecast Financial Position as at 30 June 2009 shows a cash position of \$17.3 million and net current assets of \$3.2 million.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Financial Report for the six months ended 31 December 2008 shows that Council's YTD operating result is a surplus of \$37.8 million and \$11.4 million has been expended on capital works. The forecast actual results for year ending 30 June 2009 are an operating surplus of \$4.2 million and capital works expenditure of \$30.0 million.

FUTURE ACTIONS

A further financial report will be presented to Council for the 8 months ending 28 February 2009.

7.2 DAREBIN RESPONSE TO BUSHFIRE CRISIS**MINUTE NO. 50****AUTHOR:** General Manager Corporate Services – Bruce Dobson**MANAGER:** Chief Executive Officer – Michael Ulbrick**BUDGET****IMPLICATIONS:** \$50,000 donation to the Red Cross – State Government Bushfire Appeal Fund**SUMMARY:**

Victoria has been devastated by bushfire and local governments across Victoria are moving to offer financial aid and other support in the form of staff, expertise and equipment to the affected municipalities. This report proposes that Council makes a direct contribution of \$50,000 to the Red Cross – State Government Bushfire Appeal Fund to assist those in need to rebuild their homes and their lives. Additional support to other municipalities through staff, expertise and equipment is also being offered.

CONSULTATION:

Municipal Association of Victoria
Victorian Local Governance Association

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**MOVED:** Cr. V. Fontana**SECONDED:** Cr. S. Chiang

THAT Council resolves to make a cash donation of \$50,000 to the Red Cross – State Government Bushfire Appeal Fund and provides other support as outlined in this report.

CARRIED**REPORT****BACKGROUND**

Extreme weather events on 7 February 2009 resulted in temperatures over 40 degrees and sparked bushfires that have impacted countless communities through Victoria. The fires have claimed 181 lives so far, and emergency response crews are still working to identify any further loss of life. This is a tragedy that has affected Darebin Council staff, our community and our neighbours, as well as our fellow Victorians.

Council activated its Emergency Management Group on Saturday 7 February and has been responding to nearby affected municipalities as requested with staff assistance and expertise.

CORE ISSUES

The individuals, families and communities affected by these devastating bushfires are in need of financial assistance to support them to respond and recover. A Red Cross – State Government Bushfire Appeal Fund has been set up to manage incoming donations through appropriate processes and with high levels of accountability and scrutiny. It is recommended that Darebin City Council makes a direct donation of \$50,000 into this Fund to support the impacted communities.

The task of identifying what needs are most pressing for these communities will be an ongoing one. At the current point in time Council has commenced the support of other municipalities through provision of staff in the areas of identified need.

Council may also have a role to play in the future to support the Darebin community in fundraising efforts, to work on recovery processes and to support emergency response groups, peak bodies and other municipalities to identify and respond to emerging needs in affected communities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A budget allocation of \$50,000 is proposed as a cash donation to the Red Cross – State Government Bushfire Appeal Fund.

FUTURE ACTIONS

The Darebin Emergency Management Group will continue to meet regularly and to work with emergency response groups, peak bodies and other municipalities to identify and respond to emerging needs.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Nil.

7.3 NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CAUSE A GENERAL REVALUATION**MINUTE NO. 51****AUTHOR:** City Valuer – David Archer**MANAGER:** General Manager Corporate Services – Bruce Dobson**BUDGET****IMPLICATIONS:** Within Budget**SUMMARY:**

This report recommends that Council resolve to cause a General Revaluation to be made of all rateable property in the City of Darebin at levels of value as at 1 January 2010. The report also presents a Statutory Declaration of Impartiality and Competence by the officer responsible for the revaluation.

CONSULTATION:

Valuer General Victoria
Valuation of Land Act 1960

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. T. Laurence**SECONDED:** Cr. V. Fontana**THAT:**

- (1) Council resolve to cause a General Revaluation to be made of all rateable property in the City of Darebin at levels of value as at 1 January 2010, with the valuation to be returned no later than 30 June 2010 and Mr. David Nicholas Archer, A.A.P.I. C/- 274 Gower Street, Preston, to be the appointed valuer.
- (2) The General Revaluation be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*
- (3) Notice of this resolution be given to the Valuer-General Victoria and to every other rating authority interested in the General Revaluation as required by section 6 (1) of the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*.
- (4) Council note that a “Statutory Declaration of Impartiality and Competence” has been made by the valuer appointed by Council for the return of the 2010 General Revaluation and Supplementary Valuations made to the 2010 General Revaluation.

CARRIED

REPORT

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*, Council is required to undertake bi-annual valuations of all property within its municipal district. The next revaluation is to be undertaken in respect of the 2010 year.

The Valuer-General Victoria has released the Valuation Best Practice 2010 specification guidelines for the next revaluation to be assessed as at 1 January 2010.

CORE ISSUES

Pursuant to Section 6 of the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*, Council needs to resolve to make a revaluation of all rateable property within the Darebin City Council. This resolution must then be conveyed to the Valuer-General Victoria and every other rating authority that may have an interest in the revaluation within one month of the resolution being made.

The 2010 General Revaluation will be returned at levels of value as at 1 January 2010 and will be returned to Council no later than 30 June 2010.

Pursuant to Clause 13DH of the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*, prior to Council returning the valuation, the person appointed to make the valuation must make a Statutory Declaration that the valuation and return together with Supplementary Valuations will be impartial and true to the best of that person's judgement and will be made by that person or under that person's supervision. The City Valuer, Mr. David Archer, has made this declaration - see copy attached (**Appendix A**).

The Discussion Paper for proposed changes to the responsibility for the rating valuations considered by Council on 2 February 2009 will not have an impact on the 2010 revaluation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2010 General Revaluation is expected to be completed within budget.

FUTURE ACTIONS

A further report will be presented to Council prior to 30 June 2010 to formally return the General Revaluation and for Council to adopt the valuation for rating purposes.

7.4 AUDIT COMMITTEE ALLOWANCES**MINUTE NO. 52****AUTHOR: General Manager Corporate Services - Bruce Dobson****MANAGER: Chief Executive Officer - Michael Ulbrick****BUDGET****IMPLICATIONS: Total external members allowances of \$20,000****SUMMARY:**

The Audit Committee is an Advisory Committee appointed by the Council pursuant to section 139 of the Local Government Act 1989 to assist Council in fulfilling its requirements relating to internal control mechanisms and external reporting requirements. The Committee comprises two Councillors and three external members, one of whom is currently the Chairperson.

The external members are paid an annual fee for their service and contribution to the Committee, which has been unchanged since November 2005. This report recommends an increase in the annual fee paid following a benchmarking exercise being undertaken reviewing the allowances paid to external members across a range of metropolitan local governments.

CONSULTATION:

Executive Management Team
Manager Customer and Civic Services

RECOMMENDATION**THAT:**

- (1) The fee paid to external members of the Audit Committee be increased from \$4,000 to \$6,000 per annum and the fee paid to an external chairperson be increased from \$6,000 to \$8,000 per annum, effective from 1 January 2009.
- (2) The fees be reviewed in the future every two years, with the next review to take place as at 1 January 2011.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**MOVED: Cr. V. Fontana****SECONDED: Cr. G. Greco****THAT:**

- (1) The current fee structure is adequate and within benchmarked ranges for external members.

- (2) The fees be reviewed in the future every two years with the next review to take place as at 1 January 2011.

CARRIED

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Audit Committee is an Advisory Committee appointed by Council pursuant to section 139 of the Local Government Act 1989 to assist Council in fulfilling its requirements relating to internal control mechanisms and external reporting requirements. The Committee was re-established by Council at its meeting on 10 December 2008 and meets four times per year.

Membership of the Committee comprises two Councillors, Cr Vince Fontana and Cr Gaetano Greco, and three external members, Ms Merran Kelsall, Mr Colin Parker and Mr Albert Zago.

In accordance with section 139(7) of the Local Government Act 1989, the external members are paid an annual fee, currently set at \$4,000 for an external member and \$6,000 for an external chair. The fees have been unchanged since November 2005.

CORE ISSUES

The external members on the Audit Committee require a high level of expertise and commitment to fulfil their role. It is important that the annual fee levels are set at an appropriate level and with consideration of external benchmarks in order for the Committee to attract and retain high calibre individuals. The Audit Committee plays an important role in Council's overall governance framework.

Council considered matters relating to the Audit Committee at its meeting on 17 December 2007 and noted that a report on fees for members of the Audit Committee would be submitted to Council once the recommendations of the Local Government Panel reviewing Councillor allowance levels were known. This Panel made recommendations regarding Councillor allowances which were reflected in legislation and applied effective from December 2008.

In accordance with the 17 December 2007 Council report, the level of allowances paid to external members of the Audit Committee have now been reviewed. A benchmarking exercise has been performed to consider the level of allowances paid to external Audit Committee members in 15 Victorian metropolitan local governments. The results showed that, based on four Committee meetings per year, allowances for external members range from \$3,500 to \$6,500, with the average being \$5,200. The allowances for an external chair range from \$4,000 to \$9,600, with the average being \$6,700.

Based on the review undertaken, the high level of expertise contributed by the external Committee members and the allowance levels being unchanged since November 2005, it is recommended that the annual fee for external members be increased from \$4,000 to \$6,000. It is further recommended that the annual fee paid to an external chair of the Committee be increased from \$6,000 to \$8,000 per annum.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposed increases will result in total Audit Committee external member allowances increasing from \$14,000 to \$20,000 per annum.

FUTURE ACTIONS

Implement the revised fees to external Audit Committee members effective from 1 January 2009.
Perform the next review of Audit Committee members allowances at 1 January 2011.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Minutes of the Council meeting held on 17 December 2007
Minutes of the Council meeting held on 10 December 2008

7.5 COMMUNITY GRANTS - ANNUAL GRANTS PROGRAM**MINUTE NO. 53**

AUTHOR: Senior Policy Officer - Sharyn Scott
Manager Family Youth and Community Support - Dean Griggs

MANAGER: General Manager Communities and Culture - Jan Black

BUDGET

IMPLICATIONS: Within existing budgetary allocations

SUMMARY:

The Darebin Community Grants Scheme dedicates resources in the form of cash and facility access to community organisations to work with Council to strengthen our community. This report presents the newly elected Council with a principle based policy and clear model on which to structure the Community Grants Scheme – annual grants program.

CONSULTATION:

Council Officers
Community engagement on changes to the Annual Grants Program

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

- (1) Council adopt the Darebin Community Grants Policy and Model for the annual grants program 2009 attached as **Appendix A** to this report.
- (2) Council establish the Community Grants Committee as an Advisory Committee of the Council for the 2008/2009 Council year with the purpose, membership, scope of activity and delegated authority as detailed in the Committee Charter attached as **Appendix B** to this report.
- (3) A Community Engagement Plan which describes how Council will engage with and give support to community organisations regarding the changes to the 2009/2010 annual grant round be provided to Councillors at the Briefing Session on 23 February 2009.
- (4) Council receive a comprehensive Community Grants Scheme Evaluation Report following the 2009/2010 annual grant round.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. G. Greco
SECONDED: Cr. V. Fontana

THAT:

- (1) Council notes the Darebin Grants Policy and Model for the annual grants program 2009 review report attached as **Appendix A** to this report.
- (2) The review process be extended to allow for further research into appropriate options with adequate community and internal stakeholder engagement.
- (3) Council be presented with a new comprehensive report by 30 June 2009 in relation to proposed changes to the 2010 annual grants program.
- (4) Existing Community Grant Scheme arrangements remain for the current 2009/2010 annual grant round.

CARRIED

REPORT**BACKGROUND**

The Community Grants Scheme is recognised as one of the most significant community building activities undertaken by Council. The program is a key vehicle for Council to achieve its goals and priorities. As such Council is committed to ensuring that the program remains an efficient and effective grant program for the benefit of the local community.

There are a number of drivers for the review. These include:

- The opportunity to provide the new Council with a fresh approach to the program
- Significant transactional costs to administer the program
- Increasing pressure on the grants pool of funds
- The need to strengthen the evaluation and feedback component of the program to ensure groups are accountable for the funds received through the program.
- Need to shift the focus of the model to respond to community identified need rather than limiting applications to specific categories
- The desire to formalise a community development approach to working with applicants.

The aim of this review was to 'improve the Community Grants Scheme to ensure that it contributes to community building in the context of good governance'. This work clarifies the key objectives of the Community Grants Scheme within a clearly developed policy and structural framework that will guide the implementation of the program into the future.

Community Grants Scheme Review approach

The approach adopted by this review of the Community Grants Scheme was threefold:

1. Consider identified issues of our current Community Grants Scheme.

- Document analysis to assess how clearly the program accords with Council's vision
- Analyse the efficiency and effectiveness of the delivery of the current program
- Bring together and analyse the program review issues identified to date.

2. Review the literature about community grants

- Identify elements of good practice in designing and delivering community grants
- Specific research on key community grants scheme questions.

3. Consult with and seek direction from those involved with Community Grants Scheme

- Structured interviews with stakeholders including Council, key community organisations and Council officers
- Guide consultation to seek recommendations for future community grants scheme process.

CORE ISSUES**Objectives of the Darebin Community Grants Scheme – annual grants program**

1. To strengthen local communities by valuing community identified need and supporting local responses:
 - By involvement of community in planning, management and the provision of services
 - By supporting opportunities to demonstrate social inclusion that builds sustainable communities
 - By encouraging and supporting the participation of culturally and linguistically diverse people, people with disabilities and those of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent.
2. To contribute to funding community organisations and projects that promote a range of opportunities:
 - Council acknowledges that community organisations can have significant resource pressures
 - As community organisations are often best placed within community to act for community benefit
 - By supporting emerging community organisations to become established within our community.
3. To engage community organisations to partner with Council to work on significant Council strategies:
 - By valuing the strength of networks within our community and encouraging partnerships between community organisations and with Council

- By sharing broader resources of research and community information to inform local responses
- Community organisations add local innovation and multiply Council's efforts on key strategies.

The Darebin Community Grants Scheme Proposed Model

The Darebin Community Grants Scheme proposed model is divided into two distinct programs. An annual grants program and a 3 year grants program.

A significant percentage of grants are allocated to neighbourhood houses, community information centres and to bands and orchestras to augment recurrent funding for core services that address service gaps in the Darebin community. These programs are funded on a 3 year cyclic basis with specific agreements that detail targeting and service deliverables, along with clear evaluation processes and measurement of program outcomes.

The annual grants program is divided into a range of grants to support projects, operations of community organisations and to promote community access to facilities. Eligibility, criteria and priorities for funding have been designed to support Council's community grants objectives of supporting social inclusion and diversity, local responses to community identified needs and the value of local partnerships and networks.

Core changes to the model

1. Defined grant maximum amounts
2. Remove current categories from the program and allow community groups to identify need
3. Separate the Community Grants Scheme into distinct funding programs (Annual Grants and 3 year Recurrent Grants)
5. Appointment of Community Grants Committee as a Standing Committee of the Council to align with current legislation
6. Major project grants requiring clear partnership between Council and community organisations
7. Alignment of grants program to Council goals
8. Annual evaluation of grants program.

Governing the Community Grants Scheme – annual grants program

Council strives for good governance throughout all Council functions. The decision making process of the community grants scheme aims to achieve fair and accountable outcomes for applicants and Council. The following resources are involved in the administration of the program:

Darebin Community Grants Officer

(dedicated position to coordinate the Community Grants Scheme)

- Eligibility screening according to clearly articulated eligibility criteria.

Darebin Community Grants Assessment Team

(Council Officers who coordinate related Council strategies)

- Assessment of applications according to clearly articulated funding criteria and priorities
- Measurement of applications against selection criteria according to clearly articulated scoring system

- This team works to finalise the recommended grants to be awarded and makes presentation to Community Grants Standing Committee.

Community Grants Committee

It is proposed that the Community Grants Committee be appointed as a Standing Committee of the Council as this:

1. Will reflect its composition of Councillors only
2. Will provide an appropriate level of formality, accountability and transparency to Committee proceedings
3. Be consistent with the new legislative requirements for accountable decision making through formal committees or assemblies of Councillors
 - A draft Committee Charter is attached – see **Appendix B**.
 - Standing Committee proceedings are minuted and a report on the Committee meetings and activities will be included in Council's annual report.
 - The Committee will have no delegated authority and will therefore make recommendations to Darebin City Council.

Darebin City Council

- Will consider a report on meetings of the Community Grants Committee.
- Will consider the recommendations of the Community Grants Committee

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Community Grants Scheme operates within existing Council budgetary allocations. The 2009/2010 Community Grants Funding Round budget will be determined with the adoption of the Council Budget in June/July 2009.

FUTURE ACTIONS

Future review components:

- 3 year recurrent funding program policy
- Exploring capital stream process.

Review and Evaluation

A comprehensive Community Grants Scheme Evaluation Report will follow the 2009/2010 annual grant round in light of the development of a new Council Plan and the introduction of these changes to the Community Grants Scheme policy and model.

Ongoing review and evaluation of the Community Grants Scheme is essential for the program to remain relevant for Council and community organisations. The following review processes are recommended:

- Annual review and evaluation coordinated by the Community Grants Officer at the completion of each funding round that considers feedback from community organisations, the Community Grants Assessment Team and the Community Grants Committee.

- Assessment by the Community Grants Officer of applications to the Community Grants Scheme that seeks information as to the accessibility to the program by a range of community organisations for a range of community strengthening initiatives.
- Review and evaluation report to be made to the Community Grants Committee.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Appendix A: Darebin Community Grants Proposed Policy and Model – annual grants program

Appendix B: Community Grants Committee Charter

**7.6 RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMITS FOR RESIDENTS IN
RETAIL AREAS****MINUTE NO. 54****AUTHOR: Senior Transport Officer - Katie Dickson****MANAGER: Manager Transport Management and Planning - Daniel
Kollmorgen****BUDGET
IMPLICATIONS: Nil.****SUMMARY:**

At its meeting on 2 February 2009, Council resolved:

“That a report be submitted to the next Council meeting on implementing additional residential parking permits for residents that live in retail strips under special circumstances.”

This report provides information on the application of the residential parking permit scheme to residents living in retail strips (‘shop-top’ units). It details the reasons behind the development of ‘Zone A’ permit restrictions which apply to ‘shop-top’ residents, before considering the implications of reviewing the parking permit scheme.

CONSULTATION:

Nil.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receive and note this report relating to residential parking permits for residents in retail areas.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. T. Laurence
SECONDED: Cr. S. Tsitas

THAT the report be noted.

CARRIED

REPORT**BACKGROUND**

In some areas of Darebin, particularly around activity centres, parking demand far exceeds supply. Parking restrictions are put in place to prevent people from parking all day in retail shopping strips and residential streets. The Local Government Act 1989 stipulates that Councils are able to provide residents with permits to park on-street, where parking restrictions exist, and can do so to provide an equitable allocation of the limited parking supply to residents and balance their demands with those of visitors and businesses in the municipality.

In Darebin, the current Residential Parking Permit Scheme was adopted in 2005 following a comprehensive review of the previous scheme adopted in 1999. Prior to then, the former Cities of Northcote and Preston had different parking permit schemes. Throughout the history of the parking permit schemes, there has been a consistent differentiation made between different areas of the municipality which are affected by varying parking demands. From 1999 onwards, a 'Zone A' permit scheme was created for residents living in 'shop-top' units, particularly in High Street, Plenty Road, Gilbert Road and Bell Street. A Zone A permit entitles a shop-top resident to one permit to park in the immediate surrounding streets; the resident is eligible for this permit only if they own a vehicle and there is no off-street parking within the property boundary.

The review in 2004 of the residential parking permit scheme heralded changes to various aspects of the previous scheme. These changes were primarily directed at the standardisation of permit eligibility for residents, outside of the activity centres and created one 'zone' for these areas. In contrast, it was recommended that the Zone A permit scheme be maintained in its previous form, as it was believed to be working well. In December 2004, Council extended the scheme by resolving that residents in new developments would not be eligible for parking permits in activity centres or residential areas.

The conditions of the Zone A permit were created to provide a balance between the competing demands of residents, businesses and visitors in and around major shopping strips. Parking demand in these areas is always very high, with parking supply often limited. Providing for necessary loading bays, disabled parking bays and bus bays further reduces parking availability to residents and visitors/shoppers. Parking restrictions around shopping areas are often limited to 1 or 2 hour stays in order to allow a healthy turnover of vehicles in accessing the shops. This also limits the ability of traders and employees to 'use up' the available parking all day.

CORE ISSUES

One of the primary virtues of the existing Residential Parking Permit Scheme is its simplicity and consistency of policy. There are very few variations allowed within the scheme and as such, the scheme is considered easy to follow and largely fair to all residents, regardless of residential location or household income. 'Ad hoc' decision-making on permit eligibility would only serve to undermine the quality and fair application of the policy.

The Darebin Transport Strategy, adopted by Council in 2007 promotes active transport within activity centres; most shopping strips in Darebin are well serviced by public transport, particularly High Street, with trams, train and bus services all within easy walking distance. Parking restrictions are known to contribute toward the greater use of these public transport services and provide shop-top residents, and shopping strip visitors with alternative means of travelling to and from the area.

In normal (Zone B) residential streets, if a property has off-street parking, the household is only eligible for one on-street parking permit. The same principle applies to 'Zone A' residents, such as that should off-street parking exist within the property boundary, permit eligibility is reduced by one, thus preventing the resident from applying for a permit under current Zone A conditions.

There are circumstances in shopping strips where the property has been sub-divided and/or sub-leased/let to two tenants – a ground floor shop tenant and shop-top residential tenant. However, the parking permit scheme cannot make distinction about how a property (and any accompanying off-street parking space) is leased out, as the scheme is based solely on property boundaries. The decision of the property freeholder to lease an off-street parking space to one tenant or another is a commercial decision and is therefore not taken into account in the current parking permit scheme.

There are no provisions within the current Residential Parking Scheme to allow for special circumstances or any other variation on the issue of parking permits. Therefore, to allow sub-tenants of a shopping-strip property to obtain a Zone A permit (despite off-street parking existing within the property boundary), a change to the current Parking Permit Scheme would be required. If the change were made to the scheme, the number of residential Zone A permits issued would increase. This would add to the parking demand in neighbouring streets and shopping strips. Those affected would include neighbouring residents (living in the nearby side streets), more importantly local businesses, their visitors and customers. This would in turn impact on the economic viability of the shopping strip, to the extent that short term parking plays in maintaining a healthy turnover in customers.

The results of the two previous Parking Scheme reviews (1999 and 2004) indicate that increasing 'Zone A' permit eligibility would create anxiety from both surrounding residents and businesses in retail strips. The consistency of the existing scheme would be undermined, making the Resident Parking Policy Scheme more difficult to apply and enforce. On the whole, the residential parking permit scheme has been operating well over the past 4 years in terms of efficiency, consistency of application and most importantly understanding and acceptance by residents.

Should Council want to undertake a review of 'Zone A' Residential Parking Permit Scheme to increase permit for residents in retail areas, a formal review would be required to understand the implications of the change. The review would require extensive consultation with stakeholders and would take approximately six months to complete.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Should Council wish to review 'Zone A' permit eligibility within the Residential Parking Permit Scheme, then funding from the 2009/2010 budget of \$40,000 would be requested.

FUTURE ACTIONS

Nil.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Darebin Transport Strategy (2007)

City of Darebin, Resident Parking Permit Scheme 1999 (A O'Brien)

Review of Darebin Resident Parking Permit Scheme 2004 (Sinclair Knight Mertz)

Council Report 7 June 2004 – Parking Permit Review

Council Report 20 December 2004 – Amendment of Parking Permit Policy

7.7 HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES AT H. H. LESLIE RESERVE RESERVOIR**MINUTE NO. 55****AUTHOR:** Manager Amenity and Enforcement - Michael Kennedy**MANAGER:** General Manager Environment and Amenity - Libby Hynes**BUDGET
IMPLICATIONS:** Nil**SUMMARY:**

This report outlines action taken in response to a matter raised by Council relating to maintenance of HH Leslie Reserve in Reservoir. In particular reference was made to dog waste being observed in the park.

This report outlines site investigations undertaken by Council Officers and also a course of action to ensure this concern is managed into the future.

CONSULTATION:

Animal Management Unit
Parks Maintenance

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**MOVED:** Cr. V. Fontana**SECONDED:** Cr. S. Tsitas

THAT Council receive and note the findings of investigations into health and safety issues at H. H. Leslie Reserve Reservoir outlined in this report.

CARRIED**REPORT****BACKGROUND**

At its meeting on 15 September 2008 Council resolved that *Council Officers investigate alleged health and safety issues at Leslie Reserve located at the corner of Invermay Street and St Vigeons Road Reservoir and submit a report to Council.*

In particular, concern was raised relating to dog waste being observed in the park which had not been cleared up by the owners of the animals.

Council has an Animal Management Strategy which sets out a number of requirements for animal owners when exercising their animals outside of their property. Some of the requirements which would apply to a person exercising their dog in H. H. Leslie Reserve include:

1. The dog would need to be on-lead at all times. Open Space within Darebin is an on-lead area unless otherwise posted; this reserve is therefore an on-lead park;
2. The dog would need to be kept at least 5 metres clear of any children's play equipment; and
3. Dog walkers must carry a bag to pick up and dispose of animal waste.

A number of site inspections of this park have been undertaken by Council's Animal Management Officers which have included twice weekly patrols of the park since September 2008, a total of 32 patrols.



CORE ISSUES

During the frequent patrols of this park Council's Animal Control Officers observed only 1 dog in the park being walked off the lead while the vast majority of dogs which were observed in the park and surrounds were being exercised on lead. It should be noted that the Officers' reflections were that this park is rarely visited by dog walkers and if it is, they are generally only passing through.

Officers, as they do in all patrolled parks, discussed the responsibility with the owners of the dogs as well as providing them with a dog bag dispenser which contains 30 dog bags and can be placed on the lead.

During this time Officers were able to speak to a number of dog owners as well as other users of the park. The following table outlines some of the issues raised by users of this park.

Observation	Number of comments
Dogs should not be allowed in the park	1
Not picking up dog waste in the park should be illegal	1
Positive of the park and its management	5
General park maintenance issues	9

While discussing these matters with users of the park, some comments were also raised around the general maintenance of the park such as picking up rubbish and clearing of grass. These concerns have been passed to the relevant areas of Council for action.

During these patrols Officers were asked to walk through the park themselves to identify any faeces issues which may arise, however these patrols did not reveal any such issue.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Animal Management Unit purchases dog bag dispensers and refill cartridges which attach to a dog lead. Officers provide these to dog walkers free of charge when discussing their responsibilities. This expense is included in the current operating budget and costs approximately \$500 annually.

FUTURE ACTIONS

Council's Animal Management Officers will continue to patrol H. H. Leslie Reserve in line with other regular park patrols as well as respond to any concerns raised by the community.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Animal Management Strategy, City of Darebin, 2008

Risks of Zoonoses from Dogs on sporting fields, Michael Hayward BVs CMAVA, May 2004, Australian Veterinary Association

7.8 REVIEW OF THE ROAD MANAGEMENT PLAN**MINUTE NO. 56****AUTHOR:** Manager Roads Infrastructure Maintenance - Vincent King**MANAGER:** General Manager City Services - Jeff Saker**BUDGET****IMPLICATIONS:** This review may result in revised service standards that may require additional inspections and maintenance. This will be referred to the 2009/2010 and future budget processes for consideration.**SUMMARY:**

The Road Management Act 2004 (the Act) was passed by the Victorian Parliament in 2004. The purpose of the Act is to establish a coordinated management system for public roads that will promote safe and efficient State and Municipal public road networks. The Act also promotes the responsible use of road reserves for other legitimate purposes, such as the provision of utility services. The Council has made a Road Management Plan in accordance with the Act.

The Council, in its role as a road authority, is required by section 54(5) of the Act to conduct a review of its Road Management Plan at prescribed intervals. The Road Management (General) Regulations 2005 requires that Council complete its review prior to 30 June 2009.

This report requests that in accordance with the Act, Council approves the commencement of the review of its Road Management Plan.

CONSULTATION:

General Manager City Services
General Manager Community Assets and Leisure
Manager Capital Works
Manager Asset Strategy
Engineering Consultants

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. T. McCarthy**SECONDED:** Cr. B. Morgan**THAT:**

- (1) Council, acting in accordance with the requirements of section 54(5) of the Road Management Act 2004 and Division 1, Part 3, of the Road Management (General) Regulations 2005 in relation to the review of its Road Management Plan resolves that the process to conduct a review of its Road Management Plan be commenced.

- (2) In accordance with section 54 of the Road Management Act 2004, public notice requesting submissions on the reviewed plan will be published in the Victoria Government Gazette and The Age newspaper allowing 28 days for submissions.
- (3) Following the review and completion of the advertising process, a written report will be presented to Council that summarises the findings and conclusions of the review.

CARRIED

REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Road Management Act 2004 (the Act) was passed by the Victorian Parliament in 2004. The purpose of the Act is to establish a coordinated management system for public roads that will promote safe and efficient State and Municipal public road networks. The Act also promotes the responsible use of road reserves for other legitimate purposes, such as the provision of utility services. The Council has made a Road Management Plan in accordance with the Act. A copy of Council's current Road Management Plan is attached – see **Appendix A**.

The purpose of the Plan is to:

- Provide a safe and efficient road network for use by all members of the public;
- Establish good road asset management practices focused on delivering optimal outcomes while having regard to affordability, available resources, and the policies, priorities and strategies of Council;
- Set out the policies and procedures adopted by Council to achieve its road maintenance standards; and
- Describe the inspection frequencies and condition standards adopted by Council for various traffic conditions.

Road Management Plans must be prepared in accordance with the following documents:

- Code of Practice for Road Management Plans – Published in the Victoria Government Gazette, No. s201, 16 September 2004. This Code provides guidance for road authorities in the making of a Road Management Plan for the inspection, maintenance and repair of Public Roads; and
- Road Management (General) Regulations 2005 – These regulations, in part, set out the requirements of road authorities in reviewing a Road Management Plan.

Prior to a High Court of Australia case in 2001 (Brodie vs. Singleton Shire Council and Ghantous vs. Hawkesbury City Council) it was accepted that road authorities owed users of the road a limited duty of care. A road authority was liable for conducting works in a manner that wrongfully causes injury, but was not liable for a failing to act. For example, if a pot hole existed in the road, and the Council did not know of its existence, then it was not liable for any injury the pot hole might cause. In this case, Council could rely on the defence that it did not know of the pot hole (called non-feasance).

The High Court reconsidered this long-standing immunity for non-feasance and held that highway authorities should no longer be afforded immunity. Rather, the liability of highway authorities should be determined according to the general principles of negligence. Therefore, not knowing of the defect is no longer a defence.

The High Court decision changed the common law to make road authorities more accountable.

The Transport (Highway Rule) Act 2002 reinstated the law of 'non-feasance' until 1 January, 2005. This provided a transition period for Councils to prepare for the removal of their non-feasance defence.

The introduction of the Act provided a policy defence for road authorities who chose to adopt a Road Management Plan. The Road Management Plan provides a vehicle for Councils to manage their liability, by articulating its inspection regimes and its response times to different defect types. Once Council establishes its Road Management Plan, it sets out how Council will use its resources to responsibly manage the road network.

Council must then adhere to its stated standards. If an injury is caused by a road defect, then Council's defence is that it developed a reasonable and responsible Road Management Plan, and that it implemented it.

The key requirements of the Road Management Plan are:

- That it sets out a reasonable framework for management of the road network (this would have reference to industry standards, community expectations, and reasonable resource levels); and
- That Council adheres to its Plan, and can provide evidence of this if required.

The Council, in its role as a road authority, is required by section 54(5) of the Act to conduct a review of its Road Management Plan at prescribed intervals. The Road Management (General) Regulations 2005 requires that Council complete its review prior to 30 June 2009. Any future Road Management Plan reviews will need to take place within six months after each general election or by the next 30 June, whichever is later.

Contents of a Road Management Plan

The Road Management Plan includes the following:

- A standard in relation to the inspection, maintenance and repair - The Plan sets out Standards in relation to the condition to be achieved in the maintenance and repair of the roadways and pathways and other road infrastructure.
- The prioritisation of inspection, maintenance and repair of roadways, pathways, road infrastructure and road related infrastructure;
- Listing of Road Infrastructure in a Road Management Plan or in an Asset Register;
- Standards for Inspection - The Plan sets out Inspection Standards that enable Council to achieve the standards of maintenance and repair for different parts of the road reserve and different types of road infrastructure; and
- A Maintenance System for Inspection, Maintenance and Repair - The Plan includes details of the management system that Council proposes to implement in the discharge of its duty to inspect, maintain and repair Public Roads.

CORE ISSUES

- To meet Council's statutory duty it must resolve to commence a review of its existing Road Management Plan within six (6) months of being elected.
- The review will ensure that the Council is exercising its road management functions to provide a safe and efficient road network for use by all members of the public.
- In conducting a review of its Road Management Plan, Council must ensure that the standards in relation to, and the priorities to be given to, the inspection, maintenance and repair of roads and the classes of roads to which the Plan applies are appropriate.

- When Council, as the road authority, conducts a review of its Road Management Plan, it must publish a notice in the Victoria Government Gazette, in a daily newspaper generally circulating in the municipality and in compliance with section 82A of the Local Government Act 1989.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This review may result in revised service standards that may require additional inspections and maintenance. This will be referred to the 2009/2010 and future budget processes for consideration.

FUTURE ACTIONS

- In accordance with statutory requirements, Council resolves to commence and conduct the review of the Road Management Plan
- An internal review of the Road Management Plan will be conducted seeking input from a number of stakeholders
- In accordance with the section 54 of the Road Management Act 2004, public notice requesting submissions on the reviewed plan will be published in the Victoria Government Gazette and The Age newspaper allowing 28 days for submissions.
- After the review and advertising has been completed, a written report will be presented to Council that summarises the findings and conclusions of the review. This report will be available for inspection by the general public.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Road Management Act 2004
- Road Asset Management Plan, 2007
- Defect and Safety Inspection Manual

8. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS**9.1 PROPOSED DAREBIN ENERGY AND WATER PROGRAM****MINUTE NO. 57**

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. T. McCarthy

SECONDED: Cr. N. Katsis

THAT Council Officers provide a report within six weeks outlining possible options and costings to scope the development and delivery of a broad-scale energy and water program for Darebin households and businesses.

The program may include:

- Energy auditing and energy efficiency measures
- Solar hot water units and photovoltaic panels
- Water tanks and water saving technologies.

In line with Council's renewed commitment to equity and social inclusion, the program should incorporate innovative financing arrangements that allow any household or business to pay off their investment over a number of years, in line with the savings they make on their energy and water bills. Furthermore, the program should seek to address and overcome the key barriers (eg. upfront cost, lack of information) to adoption of renewable energy and water saving measures by households and businesses, thereby encouraging the broadest possible participation across the municipality.

In preparing the initial report on options and costings to scope such a program, Officers will liaise with Yarra City Council, Moreland Energy Foundation and other organisations currently exploring similar programs to see what opportunities exist for collaboration and cost saving.

CARRIED

9.2

NORTHCOTE BOWL REDEVELOPMENT

MINUTE NO. 58

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. T. McCarthy
SECONDED: Cr. V. Fontana

THAT Council opposes the State Government's recent move to "call-in" the planning permit application to redevelop the Northcote Bowl site with 96 apartments. Council notes that this planning application has not been "gridlocked", as purported in a media release issued by the Premier on Wednesday 4 February 2009, and that Council has not been afforded the opportunity to make its final determination in relation to this matter.

Council reaffirms its commitment to encouraging local jobs and increasing local housing stock, particularly sustainable social housing. Council also reaffirms its commitment to ensuring that residents and traders concerns are taken into account in the consideration of all planning matters.

Accordingly, Council will host and promote a community meeting on the Northcote Bowl Redevelopment within the next month, providing residents and traders with the opportunity to communicate their concerns about this planning application with Ward Councillors and Council Officers, who will then forward these concerns to the Minister for Planning, for consideration in relation to this significant planning matter.

Council will write to the Premier, Minister for Planning, and local State Members, informing them of Council's position and inviting them (or their representatives) to attend the community meeting.

CARRIED

9.3

**PRODUCTIVE USE OF VACANT SHOPFRONTS AND
OTHER COMMERCIAL SPACES****MINUTE NO. 59****COUNCIL RESOLUTION****MOVED: Cr. T. McCarthy****SECONDED: Cr. T. Laurence**

THAT Council Officers provide a report within two months regarding a new initiative to encourage productive use of vacant shopfronts and other commercial spaces, through negotiated arrangements with real estate agents and commercial property managers. Productive use might include short term occupancy on a rent-free basis by local artists and arts groups, as has recently been initiated in the City of Newcastle, through the work of the Renew Newcastle organisation, and has previously occurred in other municipalities.

CARRIED

9.4

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INCLUSION AND
DIVERSITY IMPACT STATEMENTS – COUNCIL REPORTS****MINUTE NO. 60****COUNCIL RESOLUTION****MOVED: Cr. G. Greco****SECONDED: Cr. T. Laurence**

THAT in line with Darebin's commitment to social inclusion and environmental sustainability, Council Officers provide a report within 8 weeks on how to incorporate a meaningful Environmental and Social Inclusion and Diversity impact statement for all reports that come to Council for decision or deliberation.

CARRIED

9.5

REVIEW OF COUNCIL RATING SYSTEM

MINUTE NO. 61

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. G. Greco
SECONDED: Cr. T. Laurence

THAT Council Officers begin a comprehensive rate review of Darebin's rating system over the next 6 to 8 months specifically looking at possible rate differential options that can increase the efficiency and equity of our current rating system.

These differential options should include, but not be limited to, the following differential options:

- Large-scale commercial differential
- Small-scale commercial differential
- Residential commercial differential
- Gaming industry differential
- Large-scale retail differential
- Small-scale retail differential

The objective of the review should be to consider both the long-term benefits of various differentials and the administrative resources needed to support them.

CARRIED

9.6

COUNCIL INCOME REVIEW

MINUTE NO. 62

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. T. Laurence
SECONDED: Cr. N. Katsis

THAT Council Officers begin a high level review of Darebin's medium and long term income options over the next 6 to 8 months.

These income options should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- A restructured developer levy
- Planning department fees and charges
- New fees on large undeveloped 'bomb sites'
- New federal funding initiatives

- New state funding initiatives
- Funding from private trusts
- Commercial waste services
- Car parking levies on sites with private vehicle car parking
- Parking meters in current high traffic areas and planned high density areas.

The object of the review should be to consider both the long-term benefits of various incomes streams with an objective of increasing the efficiency, stability and equity of Council’s non-rate income streams. The review should also consider the resources and investment costs required to establish or increase these incomes streams.

This income review should be conducted in tandem with the rates review. Officers should report back to Council on the resources required for this income review in two weeks.

CARRIED

9.7 PENSIONER REBATE

MINUTE NO. 63

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. T. Laurence
SECONDED: Cr. G. Greco

THAT in line with Darebin Council’s renewed commitment to equity and social inclusion this Council resolves to introduce a \$50 pensioner rebate for residential ratepayers receiving the full Commonwealth Age pension in the 2009-rating year.

To facilitate this Council Officers will report back to Council in two weeks with an implementation plan for the \$50 pensioner rebate for this year.

Furthermore, this Council resolves to work towards lifting this pensioner rebate up to \$100 in future budgets as other rate and income reforms are put in place.

CARRIED

A DIVISION WAS CALLED FOR ON THE MOTION

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Cr. T. Laurence	Cr. S. Tsitas
Cr. V. Fontana	Cr. B. Morgan
Cr. N. Katsis	Cr. S. Chiang
The Mayor, Cr. D. Asmar	
Cr. T. McCarthy	
Cr. G. Greco	

The Mayor, Cr. Asmar, declared the Motion to be carried.

10. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

CLOSE OF MEETING

MOVED: Cr. V. Fontana
SECONDED: Cr. T. McCarthy

THAT in accordance with section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989, Council resolves to close the meeting to members of the public to consider the following item which relates to a contractual matter:

10.1 Award of Tender for Supply and Delivery of Bulk Fuels.

CARRIED

The meeting was closed to members of the public at 8.52pm.

The Council considered and resolved on Report Item 10.1 (Award of Tender for Supply and Delivery of Bulk Fuels) which had been circulated to Councillors on Thursday 12 February 2009 with the Council Agenda Paper.

RE-OPENING OF MEETING

MOVED: Cr. S. Chiang
SECONDED: Cr. S. Tsitas

THAT the meeting be re-opened to the members of the public.

CARRIED

The meeting was re-opened to members of the public at 8.57pm.

CONFIDENTIAL**10.1 AWARD OF TENDER FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF BULK FUELS****MINUTE NO. 64****AUTHOR: Coordinator Procurement and Contracting - David Cecala****MANAGER: General Manager City Services - Jeff Saker****BUDGET****IMPLICATIONS: Within 2008/2009 budget allocation****SUMMARY:**

Council has in the past purchased bulk fuel for its heavy plant and equipment from the Shell Petroleum Company. Diesel and Unleaded fuels are delivered and stored in underground tanks for refuelling at Council's Depot in Reservoir. These fuels are required to support the delivery of Council services for the municipality. The contract for this supply expired in November 2008.

In September 2008, Darebin together with 47 other Victorian Local Governments appointed Strategic Purchasing as its contracting agent to aggregate supplies and conduct a public tender for the supply and delivery of bulk fuels.

This report outlines the tender outcomes and recommendation to enter into a Master Agreement with Strategic Purchasing for the supply and delivery of bulk fuels by Caltex Petroleum to the City of Darebin for a period of 3 years ending November 2011.

CONSULTATION:

Strategic Purchasing
General Manager Corporate Services
General Manager Environment and Amenity
Coordinator Fleet Services

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Council Resolution be made available to the public but the report remain confidential.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. S. Chiang
SECONDED: Cr. N. Katsis

THAT the following Council Resolution:

“That:

- (1) *Council resolves to enter into a standing offer Master Agreement with Strategic Purchasing for the supply and delivery of bulk diesel and unleaded fuels to Council’s Depot for a period of 3 years ending 30 November 2011.*
- (2) *Council nominate Caltex Petroleum as the preferred supplier under the Master Agreement.*
- (3) *Council delegate authority for the signing of relevant Agreements to the General Manager City Services.”*

be made available to the public but the report remain confidential.

CARRIED

11. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 8.58pm.