



MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON

MONDAY, 7 JUNE 2010

RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC ON THURSDAY 10 JUNE 2010

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**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE
DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD AT DAREBIN CIVIC CENTRE,
350 HIGH ST, PRESTON ON MONDAY 7 JUNE 2010**

THE MEETING OPENED AT 7.03 P.M.

1. PRESENT

Councillors

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

Council Officers

Rasiah Dev – Chief Executive Officer
Bruce Dobson – Director Corporate Services
Geoff Glynn – Director Infrastructure
Jan Black – Director Communities and Culture
Michael Kennedy – Acting Director Development and Amenity
Libby Hynes – Executive Manager Environmental Sustainability
Jeff Saker – Executive Manager Infrastructure Performance
Nick Mazzarella – Manager Major Projects and Transport
Pradeep Agrawal – Manager Information Services
Sally Curran – Manager Corporate Governance
Ron Downes – Council Business Coordinator

2. APOLOGIES

Nil.

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr. Asmar disclosed conflicts of interest in Report Nos. 8.2 (Budget Referrals 2010/2011) and 8.11 (Northcote Activity Centre Streetscape Masterplan) see Pages 11 and 50.

Cr. Chiang disclosed a conflict of interest in Report No. 8.2 (Budget Referrals 2010/2011) – see Page 11.

Cr. Katsis disclosed a conflict of interest in Report No. 8.2 (Budget Referrals 2010/2011) – see Page 11.

Cr. Tsitas disclosed conflicts of interest in Report Nos. 8.2 (Budget Referrals 2010/2011), 8.11 (Northcote Activity Centre Streetscape Masterplan) and 8.12 (Right of Way (Road) Discontinuance adjoining 31 Jessie Street, Northcote) - see Pages 11, 50 and 58.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

THAT the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 17 May 2010 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

CARRIED

5. REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

MINUTE NO. 200

5.1 REPORT OF CR. STEVEN TSITAS

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

- Council Briefing Session.
- Local constituent matters.

5.2 REPORT OF CR. TIM LAURENCE

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

- Mediation meeting with residents regarding a unit development proposal in Northcote.
- Visit to Darebin by the President of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) Justice Iain Ross who presented VCAT's 'Transforming VCAT' Discussion Paper.
- Leisure Strategy Project Steering Group meeting.
- Visioning session at Reservoir Civic Centre regarding the Reservoir Structure Plan.
- Consultation with Keon Park Stars Junior Football Club representatives regarding improvements at Donath Reserve.
- Meeting with Reservoir traders regarding improvements along Edwardes Street.
- Meeting regarding Bell Centre development proposals.
- Planning Committee meeting.
- Resident, trader and planning related matters.

5.3 REPORT OF CR. DIANA ASMAR

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

- Council Briefing Session.
- Audit Committee meeting.
- Planning Committee meeting.
- Darebin Disability Advisory Committee meeting.
- Community Grants Committee meeting.
- Leisure Strategy Project Steering Group meeting.
- Visit to Darebin by the President of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) Justice Iain Ross who presented VCAT's 'Transforming VCAT' Discussion Paper.
- International Women's Day Committee meeting.
- Women's Advisory Committee meeting.

- Official opening of the Clyde Street Community Hall.
- Meeting with Northcote traders regarding the High Vibes event.
- Meeting with Darebin Police Inspector, Tess Walsh.
- Meetings with residents regarding various issues.

5.4 REPORT OF CR. NICK KATSIS

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

- Planning Committee meeting.
- Community Grants Committee meeting.
- Official Opening of the Clyde Street Community Hall.
- Council Briefing Session.
- Northland Structure Plan Steering Committee meeting.
- 'Return to Anatolia' Conference at Brunswick Town Hall titled 'Through Australian Eyes'.
- Leisure Strategy Project Steering Group meeting.
- Local resident issues.

5.5 REPORT OF CR. STANLEY CHIANG

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

- Led a private delegation to Shanghai China for the Shanghai Expo 2010, also attended by the Victorian Premier, the Hon. John Brumby.
- Award ceremony – Young Chinese ^{Painting} ~~Party~~ competition. →
- Visioning session at Reservoir Civic Centre regarding the Reservoir Structure Plan.

Council on 21 June 2010 amended the Minutes of 7 June 2010 in respect of the Report of Cr. Stanley Chiang.

5.6 REPORT OF CR. TRENT MCCARTHY

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

- Community Grants Committee meeting.
- Launch of Darebin Intercultural Centre Project.
- 'Lock Me Up or Bail Me Out' Whitelion Forum.
- Darebin Parklands Association Workshop regarding a possible new Environment Centre.
- Meeting with residents of Bridge and Union Streets Northcote regarding a proposed development at 38 Merri Parade Northcote.
- United Nations Association of Australian World Environment Day Awards 2010 Presentation Dinner where Darebin Council had won a major Award.
- Opening of Exhibition by Kerry Maher at Bundoora Homestead.
- Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action meeting.

- Launch of the 'Give our streets the green light' campaign led by the Municipal Association of Victoria.
- Leisure Strategy Project Steering Group meeting.
- Various resident, trader and community group issues.

Cr. McCarthy also drew Council's attention to the sad passing of prominent Northcote resident, Helen Brown.

5.7 REPORT OF CR. GAETANO GRECO

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

- Overseas Study Tour on behalf of the Municipal Association of Victoria to examine municipal-wide wireless internet access.
- Leisure Strategy Project Steering Group meeting.

5.8 REPORT OF CR. BEN MORGAN

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

- Council Briefing Session.
- Community Grants Committee meeting.
- Local constituent matters.

5.9 REPORT OF THE MAYOR, CR. VINCE FONTANA

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

- Welcomed students from Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE to a local Council workshop.
- Northern Bullants Business Breakfast Network meeting.
- Chaired the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee meeting.
- Launched the Darebin Intercultural Centre Project.
- Meeting with Urbis representatives regarding a planning matter involving 'Woolworths'.
- Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Council meeting.
- A memorial service for Northcote Police Officers, Fiona Robinson and Mark Bateman.
- Official Opening of the Clyde Street Community Hall.
- Chaired the Network of Italian Mayors and Councillors meeting.
- Ibleo Social Club function.
- 'Hellenic Stegi' Friendly Elderly Citizens Club luncheon.
- Hosted a meeting with senior staff from Melbourne Times.
- Chaired the 'Friends of Baucau' meeting.
- Northcote Business Association meeting.

- Launched the Darebin Business Breakfast at Rydges.
- Northland Structure Plan Steering Committee meeting.
- Guest of the 'Piazza Italia' celebration at the Abruzzo Club.
- Launched the Men's Shed Bike Linx Project.
- Toured the Darebin Community Health Centre in Blake Street Reservoir.
- Launched hearing screening for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) children at Thornbury Primary School.
- 'Italian National Day' celebrations at St. Kilda Town Hall.
- Northern Business Achievement Awards Breakfast at Rydges.
- United Nations Association of Australia World Environment Day Awards 2010 Presentation Dinner where Council won the Department of Innovation, Industry and Regional Development *Meeting the Greenhouse Challenge Award* for "Darebin's Climate Change Action".
- Committee meeting of the West Preston Lakeside Football Club.
- Meeting with representatives of the Victorian Roller Derby League.
- A Greek and Cypriot Multicultural event at the Preston Shire Hall.
- Preston Business Advisory Committee meeting.
- Visit to Darebin by the President of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) Justice Iain Ross who presented VCAT's 'Transforming VCAT' Discussion Paper.
- Leisure Strategy Project Steering Group meeting.

The Mayor, Cr. Fontana, drew Council's attention to the presence in the public gallery of City of Manningham Councillor Stephen Mayne.

The Mayor also was pleased to inform Council that Darebin Council had won the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia Innovative Practice/Service Delivery Award for its Climate Change and Peak Oil Adaptation Plan.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

MINUTE NO. 201

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

The following questions were submitted:

- Geoffrey Toll of Preston asked a question about Preston East Primary School. The Mayor, Cr. Fontana, indicated that a written response would be forwarded.
- Bruce Jager of Preston asked a question about offensive billboard advertising in the City. The Mayor, Cr. Fontana, indicated that a written response would be forwarded.

After Public Question Time had concluded, one further question was submitted in writing.

7. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

7.1 COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMITTEE

MINUTE NO. 202

The Community Grants Committee is an Advisory Committee appointed to assist Council with the implementation of the Community Grants Scheme.

A meeting of the Community Grants Committee was held on 18 May 2010. A summary report of the meeting is attached as **Appendix A** to this report. The minutes of the meeting, incorporating the reports considered by the Committee, have been circulated to Councillors.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

THAT the Report of the Community Grants Committee meeting held on 18 May 2010 be received and the Committee Recommendations be adopted.

CARRIED

7.2 AUDIT COMMITTEE**MINUTE NO. 203**

The Audit Committee is an Advisory Committee appointed, pursuant to section 139 of the Local Government Act 1989, to assist Council in fulfilling its responsibilities relating to internal control mechanisms and external reporting requirements.

A meeting of the Audit Committee was held on 24 May 2010. A summary report of the meeting is attached as **Appendix A** to this report. The minutes of the meeting, incorporating the reports considered by the Committee, have been circulated to Councillors.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. D. Asmar
SECONDED: Cr. G. Greco

THAT the Report of the Audit Committee meeting held on 24 May 2010 be received and the Committee Recommendations be adopted.

CARRIED

8. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

8.1 APPOINTMENT OF ACTING MAYOR

MINUTE NO. 204

AUTHOR: Acting Manager Corporate Governance – Ray McQuillen

DIRECTOR: Director Corporate Services – Bruce Dobson

SUMMARY:

The Mayor, Cr Vince Fontana has been granted leave of absence from Council for the period 14 June to 2 July 2010 inclusive.

This report recommends that Council appoints a Councillor to be the Acting Mayor for the period of absence of Cr Fontana.

CONSULTATION:

Mayor, Cr Fontana
Chief Executive Officer

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Councillor be appointed to be the Acting Mayor for the period of the absence of the Mayor from 14 June to 2 July 2010.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. D. Asmar
SECONDED: Cr. T. McCarthy

THAT Councillor Tim Laurence be appointed to be the Acting Mayor for the period of the absence of the Mayor from 14 June to 2 July 2010.

CARRIED

REPORT

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Mayor, Cr Vince Fontana has been granted leave of absence from Council for the period 14 June to 2 July 2010 inclusive.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Section 73 (3) of the Local Government Act 1989 provides that 'if there is a vacancy in the office of Mayor or the Mayor is absent, incapable of acting or refusing to act, the Council must appoint one of the Councillors to be the acting Mayor'.

An Acting Mayor may perform any function or exercise any power conferred on the Mayor.

The Act provides that if a Councillor is appointed to act as Mayor for a continuous period exceeding 50 days, the Acting Mayor may be paid a Mayoral allowance for the period that he or she is acting as Mayor.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental Sustainability

There are no environmental sustainability policy implications arising from this report.

Social Inclusion and Diversity

There are no social inclusion and diversity policy implications arising from this report.

Other

The Local Government Act 1989 requires the Council to appoint an Acting Mayor when the Mayor of the Day is absent.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FUTURE ACTIONS

The Acting Mayor to preside at municipal proceedings during the period.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Local Government Act 1989

Cr. Asmar disclosed a conflict of interest in the following report classifying the type of interest as an indirect interest by close association and describing the nature of the interest as that she has an uncle who resides in Elm Street Northcote affected by the Tram Route 86 project. She left the meeting prior to consideration of the matter – 7.44pm.

Cr. Chiang disclosed a conflict of interest in this matter classifying the type of interest as a direct interest and describing the nature of the interest as that he owns and operates a medical clinic in the area affected by the Tram Route 86 project. He left the meeting prior to consideration of the matter – 7.44pm.

Cr. Katsis disclosed a conflict of interest in this matter classifying the type of interest as an indirect interest by close association and describing the nature of the interest as that he has an uncle who owns property in the area affected by the Tram Route 86 project. He left the meeting prior to consideration of the matter – 7.44pm.

Cr. Tsitas disclosed a conflict of interest in this matter classifying the type of interest as an indirect interest by close association and describing the nature of the interest as that he has a relative who owns property and operates businesses in the area affected by the Tram Route 86 project. He left the meeting prior to consideration of the matter – 7.44pm.

8.2 BUDGET REFERRALS 2010/2011

MINUTE NO. 205

AUTHOR: Acting Manager Corporate Governance – Ray McQuillen

DIRECTOR: Director Corporate Services – Bruce Dobson

SUMMARY:

Funding for the Tram Route 86 project is included in the Proposed Budget 2010/2011 and four Councillors have previously disclosed conflicts of interest in relation to that matter.

Any items proposed for inclusion in the Budget in which a Councillor discloses a conflict of interest are to be dealt with by separate resolution under this 'Budget Referrals' process.

Once all disclosures have been made and the items which are the subject of any disclosure are determined by the Council, all Councillors are able to vote on the Proposed Budget 2010/2011.

CONSULTATION:

Mayor, Cr Fontana
Chief Executive Officer
Maddocks Lawyers

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. T. McCarthy
SECONDED: Cr. T. Laurence

THAT funding of \$1,200,000 (comprising \$1,050,000 Council cost and \$150,000 external contribution) for 'Urban design improvements – Route 86 Project' be approved for inclusion in the Proposed Budget 2010/2011.

CARRIED

REPORT**INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

In developing the 2010/2011 Proposed Budget an extensive range of activities have been considered for funding. Councillors who have a conflict of interest in any items to be considered are required to disclose the type and nature of the interest.

The Local Government Act 1989 provides that if a Budget to be approved by a Council includes funding for a matter in which a Councillor has a conflict of interest, the Councillor is taken not to have a conflict of interest for the purposes of approving the Budget if the Council approved the matter and the proposed funding previously and the Councillor disclosed the nature of the conflict at the time the funding was approved by the Council.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

At the meeting the Mayor will invite Councillors to disclose any items contained in the Proposed Budget 2010/2011 in which they have a conflict of interest.

Any items proposed for inclusion in the Budget in which a Councillor discloses a conflict of interest are to be dealt with by separate resolution under this 'Budget Referrals' process.

Once all disclosures have been made and the items which are the subject of any disclosure are determined by the Council, all Councillors are able to vote on the Proposed Budget 2010/2011.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS**Environmental Sustainability**

There are no environmental sustainability policy implications arising from this report.

Social Inclusion and Diversity

There are no social inclusion and diversity policy implications arising from this report.

Other

This report has been prepared to address section 79C(2) of the Local Government Act 1989, in relation to approval of a Council Budget.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FUTURE ACTIONS

Council to consider the Proposed Budget 2010/2011.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Local Government Act 1989

Crs Asmar, Chiang, Katsis and Tsitas returned to the meeting – 7.46pm

8.3 STRATEGIC RESOURCE PLAN 2010-2014**MINUTE NO. 206****AUTHOR: Chief Financial Officer – Kerrie Jordan****DIRECTOR: Director Corporate Services – Bruce Dobson****SUMMARY:**

The Local Government Act (“the Act”) 1989 requires that Councils review and adopt a Strategic Resource Plan not later than 30 June each year. The Strategic Resource Plan outlines the resources required to achieve the strategic objectives articulated in the Council Plan and its format and contents are governed by section 126 of the Act.

The Act further requires that the Strategic Resource Plan be included in the Council Plan adopted by Council under section 125 of the Act. This same section provides that, subject to certain provisions, a Council may make any adjustment it considers necessary to the Council Plan.

This report presents the Strategic Resource Plan 2010-2014 and recommends that Council adopt it both as its Strategic Resource Plan 2010-2014 and as part of its Council Plan 2009-2013.

CONSULTATION:

Director Corporate Services
Manager Business Improvement
Manager Corporate Governance

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**MOVED: Cr. S. Tsitas****SECONDED: Cr. G. Greco****THAT:**

- (1) Council adopt the Strategic Resource Plan 2010-2014 (**Appendix A**) as its Strategic Resource Plan for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2014.
- (2) Council adjust the Council Plan 2009-2013 by replacing the Strategic Resource Plan 2009-2013 with the Strategic Resource Plan 2010-2014 (**Appendix A**).
- (3) Council notify the Minister for Local Government of the adjustment to the Council Plan within 30 days, as required by section 125(10) of the Local Government Act 1989.
- (4) Council make the adjusted Council Plan (including the Strategic Resource Plan) available to the public at its Customer Service Centres and on its website.

CARRIED

REPORT

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

On 6 April 2010, Council noted a report presenting the outcomes of its review of Our People, Our Place, Our Future – City of Darebin Council Plan 2009-2013 and confirmed that the document did not require any adjustment. In that report, it was identified that a review of the Strategic Resource Plan (part of the Council Plan) would be required in May 2010, both to reflect changes to Council's financial position and to retain a four year outlook in its financial planning.

That review has been carried out in conjunction with the development of the City of Darebin 2010/2011 Proposed Budget, and has resulted in a new Strategic Resource Plan, for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2014.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

The attached Strategic Resource Plan 2010-2014 (**Appendix A**) is derived from the Annual Budget discussions and contains in respect of the next four financial years:

- The standard statements describing the required financial resources in the form and containing the information required by the Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004.
- Statements describing the required non-financial resources, including human resources.

The Strategic Resource Plan assists Council in adopting a budget within a longer term prudent financial framework. The key objective of the Strategic Resource Plan is financial sustainability in the medium to long term, whilst still achieving the Council's strategic objectives as specified in the Council Plan. The Strategic Resource Plan has been updated through a rigorous process, using the current financial position as a base and factoring in assumptions regarding future increases in income and expenditure for each program and service provided by Council.

The table below provides a summary of the key financial objectives which underpin the Strategic Resource Plan and the outcomes of the Strategic Resource Plan in response to each of these objectives.

Strategic Resource Plan objective	Strategic Resource Plan outcomes
Maintain the scope and standard of ongoing services provided to the Darebin community and be flexible to address changing community needs with innovative services and facilities.	Service levels have been maintained throughout the four year period and a number of new initiatives have been included within the 2010/2011 year.

Strategic Resource Plan objective	Strategic Resource Plan outcomes
Focus on renewing community assets such as roads, footpaths, open space and buildings to ensure they are maintained at an appropriate standard to meet required service levels.	Capital Works funding over the four year period totals \$114.1 million and exceeds asset depreciation in each year. The proportion of renewal expenditure is increasing across the plan period. Capital works and renewal expenditure are higher in 2010/2011 due to the impact of capital works carried forward from the previous financial year.
Ensure that Council generates sufficient ongoing income to fund its services and capital works commitments over the longer term.	Operating surpluses have been achieved in each year of the Strategic Resource Plan.
Ensure Council holds sufficient cash and other assets in order to meet payment obligations to suppliers and employees.	Cash and investments are forecast to increase slightly from \$20.2 million in 2010/2011 to \$22.3 million by 2013/2014.

It is recommended Council replace the existing the Strategic Resource Plan with the attached Strategic Resource Plan 2010-2014 (**Appendix A**). If this change is made, the City of Darebin Council Plan 2009-2013 will be made up of the following two documents:

- Our People, Our Place Our Future - City of Darebin Council Plan 2009-2013
- Strategic Resource Plan 2010-2014.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental Sustainability

The proposed changes to the Strategic Resource Plan do not reflect a change in Council's policy objectives, nor do they substantially alter the funding available for Council's environmental programs and initiatives.

Social Inclusion and Diversity

The proposed changes to the Strategic Resource Plan do not reflect a change in Council's policy objectives, nor do they substantially alter the funding available for Council's programs and initiatives designed to foster social inclusion and diversity.

Other

The proposed changes to the Strategic Resource Plan do not reflect a change in Council's policy objectives. Rather, they reflect changes to Council's financial position and are required to retain a four year outlook in financial planning.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Given the Strategic Resource Plan is published and distributed electronically in conjunction with Council's Annual Budget, the costs associated with the proposed adjustment are relatively minor.

FUTURE ACTIONS

- The Minister for Local Government will be notified of Council's adjustment to the Council Plan within 30 days of the Council resolution.
- The new Strategic Resource Plan and amended Council Plan will be made available to the public on Council's website and at its Customer Service Centres.
- If the public exhibition and consultation process associated with Council's Annual Budget necessitates further changes to the Strategic Resource Plan, these changes will be presented to Council in July 2010.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Strategic Resource Plan 2010-2014 (**Appendix A**)
- Our People, Our Place, Our Future - Council Plan 2009-2013

8.4 2010/2011 PROPOSED BUDGET**MINUTE NO. 207****AUTHOR: Chief Financial Officer – Kerrie Jordan****DIRECTOR: Director Corporate Services – Bruce Dobson****SUMMARY:**

The Council must prepare a Budget for each financial year. The Budget is to contain the information specified in the *Local Government Act 1989* ("the Act") and all details required by the *Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004* ("the Regulations"). As soon as practicable after the Council has prepared a Budget it must give Public Notice. Any person has the right to make a submission under section 223 of the Act on any proposal contained in the Budget.

Following the completion of the statutory obligations including consideration of submissions, Council may adopt the Budget.

This report presents the 2010/2011 Proposed Budget and recommends that public notice be given in accordance with the Act.

CONSULTATION:

Councillors
Chief Executive Officer
Directors
Managers and Coordinators

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**MOVED: Cr. D. Asmar****SECONDED: Cr. N. Katsis****THAT:**

- (1) Public Notice be given in accordance with sections 129 and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* of Council's intention to adopt, at a Special Meeting of Council proposed to be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 14 July 2010, the proposed 2010/2011 Budget (**Appendix A**) presented to this meeting.
- (2) Public Notice be given in accordance with sections 169 and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* of Council's intention to grant, at a Special Meeting of Council proposed to be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 14 July 2010, a rate rebate to pensioners in the 2010/2011 year in the amount of \$50 to each owner of rateable land who is an 'eligible recipient' within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004*.

- (3) Any person who makes a written submission in relation to the proposed 2010/2011 Budget or in relation to the granting of a rate rebate to pensioners and requests to be heard in support of the written submission, be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at a meeting to be held in the Council Chamber, Darebin Civic Centre, 350 High Street Preston at 7:00pm on Thursday 8 July 2010.

CARRIED

REPORT

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Council must prepare a Budget for each financial year. The Council must ensure that the Budget contains the information specified in the *Local Government Act 1989* ("the Act") and all details required by the *Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004* ("the Regulations"). As soon as practicable after the Council has prepared a Budget it must give Public Notice. Any person has the right to make a submission under section 223 of the Act on any proposal contained in the Budget. Following the completion of the statutory obligations, Council may adopt the Budget.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Rates and pensioner rebate

It is proposed that rates on property assessments be increased by an average of 4.5% for the 2010/2011 year, and that a Council-funded rate rebate of \$50 be provided to residential pensioner ratepayers in addition to the State Government pensioner rates concession. The pensioner rate rebate was first introduced in the 2009/2010 year and is to assist in the proper development of the municipal district, in accordance with section 169 of the Act.

Council is proposing in the 2010/2011 year to introduce differential rates on vacant properties. These rates have been set at 1.5 times the rates for non-vacant residential and business properties respectively. Council's objective in setting these rates is to promote responsible land management through appropriate maintenance and development of the land, and Council considers the differential rates will contribute to the equitable and efficient performance of its functions.

Total rates and charges raised will be \$83.92 million, including supplementary rates on new developments and the service charge for the optional green waste service. The level of rates raised allows Council to maintain service levels, introduce a number of new initiatives and deliver a significant capital works program.

Key budget influences

There have been a number of significant factors impacting on the 2010/2011 budget. The Victorian State Government recently announced an increase in tipping charges for general waste disposal to land fill from \$9 a tonne to \$30 a tonne from 1 July 2010 resulting in an operating budget impact of an additional \$0.60 million in tipping charges. Additional expenditure of \$0.30 million has been included in the budget to ensure council continues to provide a safe environment for our community by pruning of trees around power lines.

Other key influences include the rising costs of utilities and further expected increases in waste disposal costs in future years. These and other factors have been allowed for within the budget projections.

Operating result

The expected operating result for the 2010/2011 year is a surplus of \$5.96 million, which is a decrease of \$0.34 million from 2009/2010. The underlying result, which excludes the impact of capital grants and one-off items, is a surplus of \$0.08 million in 2010/2011. The projected operating result for the 2009/2010 year is a surplus of \$6.30 million and the projected underlying result is a surplus of \$2.21 million. The 2009/2010 projection has benefited from higher contributions and interest income.

Provision of services

The net cost of services delivered to the community for the 2010/2011 year is expected to be \$64.38 million which is an increase of \$3.59 million or 5.9% over 2009/2010. The increase is impacted by \$0.72 million of operating grants received in 2009/2010 in advance of the 2010/2011 year. For the 2010/2011 year, service levels have been maintained and a number of new activities and initiatives are proposed. The projected net cost for the 2009/2010 year is \$60.78 million.

Cash and investments

Cash and investments is expected to decrease by \$8.83 million during the 2010/2011 year to \$20.22 million as at 30 June 2011. This is due mainly to \$7.60 million of incomplete capital works carried forward from the 2009/2010 year. The reduction in cash and investments is consistent with Council's Strategic Resource Plan. Cash and investments is projected to be \$29.06 million at 30 June 2010.

Capital works

The capital works program for the 2010/2011 year is expected to be \$38.20 million of which \$7.60 million relates to projects which will be carried forward from the 2009/2010 year. The carried forward component is fully funded from the 2009/2010 budget. The capital expenditure program has been set and prioritised based on a rigorous process of consultation that has enabled Council to assess needs and develop sound business cases for each project. Capital works is projected to be \$25.99 million for the 2009/2010 year.

Council will allocate new funding of \$30.69 million to capital works projects in 2010/11, including:

- \$8.40 million on roads and drains including reconstructions, maintenance, footpaths, laneways and traffic management projects
- \$6.54 million on open space projects including playground equipment upgrades, playing surface upgrades, street trees, bike paths, streetscapes and parks
- \$9.20 million on buildings including completion of the Lancaster Gate Community Centre, Batman Park community hall and kindergarten and major maintenance works. The budget also provides for a major redevelopment of Reservoir Library for which Council has sought external grant funding
- \$6.09 million on plant and equipment including information technology, library materials and the scheduled replacement of Council fleet
- \$0.35 million on feasibility studies and key strategies to explore future capital works opportunities.

Net assets and working capital

Net assets (net worth) will increase by \$5.96 million to \$922.75 million and working capital will reduce by \$9.47 million to \$5.23 million as at 30 June 2011. The budget provides that Council will maintain a positive working capital ratio, an accepted measure of the ability to meet short term payment obligations to suppliers and employees. Total net worth is forecast to be \$916.79 million as at 30 June 2010.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The 2010/2011 Proposed Budget has been prepared to give financial effect in the coming year to the objectives set out in the Council Plan 2009-2013 and Strategic Resource Plan.

Environmental sustainability

The 2010/2011 Proposed Budget continues Council's funding of environmental operations in a range of areas including waste collection and recycling services, street cleaning, litter collection, park and sporting field maintenance and improvements in the context of drought, water-saving and energy efficiency measures.

Funding has also been included to enhance Council's active work with the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Specific programs for which new funding has been allocated include Sustainable Homes and Communities and Sustainable Food and Growing Food programs.

Social inclusion and diversity

The proposed Council Plan 2009-2013 contains a number of policy directions specifically designed to reflect Council's commitment to social inclusion and diversity, and the proposed Budget has been prepared in this context. Social inclusion, fairness and equity have been key principles in Council determining how to raise income and allocate expenditure to fund the many services it delivers and infrastructure it maintains and upgrades. The inclusion of new funding to implement the key recommendations arising from the recent review of Council's communications for culturally and linguistically diverse communities and integration of this work to develop overall standards of community engagement is one example within the budget of Council's commitment to these principles. Council has also proposed to continue provision of a \$50 rate rebate to over 12,000 eligible Darebin pensioners.

Other

The proposed budget is prepared in the context of key principles in the Council's Strategic Resource Plan that underpin long term financial planning. These principles are:

- Maintenance of the scope and standard of ongoing services provided to the Darebin community and a flexibility to address changing community needs with innovative services and facilities.
- A focus on renewing community assets such as roads, footpaths, open space and buildings to ensure they are maintained at an appropriate standard to meet required service levels.
- Generation of sufficient ongoing income to fund Council services and capital works commitments over the longer term.

- Holding of sufficient cash and other assets in order to meet Council's payment obligations to suppliers and employees.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

All matters raised in this report which have financial and resource implications have been reflected in the 2010/2011 Proposed Budget.

FUTURE ACTIONS

Two community information sessions will be held in the Darebin Council Chamber, 350 High Street Preston at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 23 June and at 2.00pm on Thursday 24 June 2010 to explain the content of the proposed Budget and the overall context in which the Budget is framed.

The closing date for submissions in relation to the Budget is Wednesday 7 July 2010. The Hearing of Submissions Committee will meet at 7:00pm on Thursday 8 July 2010 in the Darebin Council Chamber, 350 High Street Preston to hear any submitters who, in their written submission, request to be heard in support of their submission in relation to the Budget.

The proposed Budget will be considered for adoption by Council at a Special Meeting of the Council at 7.00pm on 14 July 2010 in the Darebin Council Chamber, 350 High Street Preston after considering any written submissions received and verbal presentations heard by the Hearing of Submissions Committee.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- 2010/2011 Proposed Budget (**Appendix A**)
- Council Plan 2009-2013

8.5 REVIEW OF THE CURRENT DELEGATION TO THE PLANNING COMMITTEE THAT IS TRIGGERED BY 5 OBJECTIONS**MINUTE NO. 208****AUTHOR: Director Development and Amenity – Michael Ballock****DIRECTOR: Director Development and Amenity – Michael Ballock****SUMMARY:**

At its meeting on 19 April 2010 Council resolved the following under 'General Business' (Item 9.8, Minute No 163):

“That Council officers prepare a report that reviews the current delegation to the Planning Committee that is triggered by 5 objections and outline the ramifications of all planning permit applications with 3 objections being referred to the Planning Committee.”

This report has been prepared in response to the resolution of 19 April 2010 and discusses the impact of different delegation thresholds.

CONSULTATION:

Other local governments as listed in the report.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT this report regarding delegation of authority to the Planning Committee be received and noted.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**MOVED: Cr. S. Laurence****SECONDED: Cr. D. Asmar****THAT:**

- (1) This report regarding delegation of authority to the Planning Committee be received and noted.
- (2) Council undertake a Councillor Planning Workshop with external experts and Council officers to explore ways to improve current delegation arrangements in planning

CARRIED

REPORT

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

At its Special Meeting on 7 December 2009 the Council established a number of Special Committees pursuant to section 86 of the Local Government Act 1989. One of these was the Planning Committee. The same resolution appointed members to the Planning Committee, appointed the Chairperson, listed meeting dates, and adopted the Planning Committee Charter (attached as **Appendix A**) which outlined the scope of activity of the Planning Committee. Amongst the criteria used to identify applications to be considered by the Planning Committee is one nominating any application receiving five or more objections.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

The following table displays the number of permit applications for the period 2007 to 2009.

Year	Total applications		Major applications		Applications with objections		3+ objections		5+ objections		10+ objections		20+ objections	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
2007	1283		912		198	22%	88	44.4%	60	30.3%	31	15.6%	11	5.5%
2008	1230		950		224	24%	81	36.1%	47	20.9%	21	9.38%	11	4.9%
2009	1211		898		228	25%	93	40.7%	52	22.8%	27	11.8%	10	4.3%
Ave	1241		920		217	24%	87	40.3%	53	24.4%	26	12.1%	11	4.9%

On average 24% of applications (217) receive objections to the granting of a permit. Of this total 40% (87) receive three or more objections and 24% (53) receive five or more objections. Based on these averages, the three objection criterion would result in a 64% (34) increase in the workload of the Planning Committee.

The Planning Committee has 21 meetings scheduled for the 2010 year. Because of work flow not all of these meetings are held. For example in 2009, four meetings of the Planning Committee were cancelled because there were no applications to consider.

Nevertheless, assuming that all 21 Planning Committee meetings are held in 2010, then with a three objection criterion, the Committee would deal with an average of over four applications per meeting and with a five objection criterion an average of over two applications per meeting. Based on the average number of applications with objections, the following table shows the expected average number of applications that each Planning Committee meeting would consider with different number of objections triggers.

No of objections	Average per meeting
3	4.2
5	2.5
10	1.2
20	0.5

In effect a three objection trigger would not quite double the Planning Committee's workload.

For each application considered by the Planning Committee the officer dealing with the file organises and conducts a consultative meeting. In addition, reports prepared for the consideration by the Planning Committee are more comprehensive and more detailed than those prepared for consideration under delegation for two reasons. Firstly, applications considered by the Planning Committee are usually larger and more complicated proposals. Secondly, because the report is intended for public information as well as the Committee's consideration, it includes a detailed explanation and consideration of the relevant planning controls and guidelines.

On average, an application referred to the Planning Committee will take an additional three to four days of officer time to prepare. On this basis, consideration of applications with a three objection trigger would require a total of an additional 20 to 27 weeks of officer time.

In addition, because of the fortnightly meeting cycle, applications considered by Planning Committee can take an additional two to six weeks to process.

To provide some level of benchmarking officers contacted other Councils to gather information about their delegation and Committee triggers. Whilst these Councils have different processes for dealing with applications with objections, the following is a summary of the number of objections triggers used to refer applications to Committee or Council.

Council	Trigger
Banyule	full delegation
Brimbank	5+ objections
Hobsons Bay	8+ objections
Hume	3+ objections
Maribyrnong	6+ objections
Moonee Valley	10+ objections
Moreland	10+ objections from properties
Nillumbik	6+ objections
Whitehorse	5+ objections
Whittlesea	1+ objection
Wyndham	15+ objections
Yarra Ranges	5+ objections

Moonee Valley, Moreland and Wyndham Councils have recently increased the number of objections that trigger consideration by a Planning Committee or its equivalent.

Other methods used for the referral of applications to Committee/Council include the following:

- Emailing a weekly list of applications and Councillors request the reporting of an application to Committee/Council;
- Emailing a list of applications with objections with Councillors given 5 days to respond requesting reporting of the application to Committee/Council; if there is no response the application is decided under delegation;
- Applications over a certain value (eg \$5 million);
- Emailing applications where there is non compliance with policy to the Ward Councillor(s) with a completed report and recommendation. The Ward Councillor(s) then support or reject the recommendation;
- Applications with more than 10 dwellings; and

- Applications with a threshold number of objections from different properties. So two or more objections from the one address would count as one objection.

As the above indicates, there is considerable variation in how Councils deal with permit applications with objections.

The five objection trigger appears to be a reasonable compromise considering the additional work load that result for both the Planning Committee and staff. This trigger also appears consistent with that used by a number of other Councils.

If Council wished to change the number of objections that trigger an application to be referred to the Planning Committee or adopt another process or criterion, the Committee Charter and Instrument of Delegation would need to be amended and formally adopted by Council resolution.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental Sustainability

This report does not raise any environmental sustainability issues.

Social Inclusion and Diversity

This report does not raise any social inclusion and diversity issues.

Other

Nil.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications or resource implications arising from the recommendation made in this report.

FUTURE ACTIONS

Nil.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Council Minutes – 19 April 2010

Council Minutes – 7 December 2009

Planning Committee Charter

Planning Committee Instrument of Delegation

8.6 DELEGATION OF POWERS, DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS TO COUNCIL STAFF

MINUTE NO. 209

AUTHOR: Council Business Coordinator – Ron Downes**DIRECTOR: Director Corporate Services – Bruce Dobson****SUMMARY:**

At its meeting on 16 November 2009, Council adopted an *Instrument of Delegation* to various members of Council staff.

This report presents for approval by Council a revised *Instrument of Delegation* which takes account of the new organisation structure with various Officer title name changes, and legislation changes since November 2009.

This report was previously submitted to Council on 19 April 2010, where Council resolved that consideration of the matter be deferred. The report is now re-submitted to this meeting of the Council, the matter having being further discussed at the Council Briefing Session on 24 May 2010.

CONSULTATION:

Relevant Directors and Managers

Chief Health Officer

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**MOVED: Cr. D. Asmar****SECONDED: Cr. T. McCarthy**

THAT in the exercise of the powers conferred by section 98(1) of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) and the other legislation referred to in the attached *Instrument of Delegation*, Darebin City Council (Council) resolves that:

- a) There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached *Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff*, the powers, duties and functions set out in that Instrument attached as **Appendix A**, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.
- b) The Instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the Instrument.
- c) On the coming into the force of the Instrument all previous delegations to members of Council staff (other than the Chief Executive Officer) are revoked.

- d) The duties and functions set out in the Instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the Instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

CARRIED

REPORT

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

At its meeting on 16 November 2009, Council adopted an *Instrument of Delegation* to various members of Council staff.

This report presents for approval by Council a revised *Instrument of Delegation* which takes account of the new organisation structure with various Officer title name changes, and legislation changes since November 2009.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Councils have a raft of powers, duties and functions under the Local Government Act, Planning and Environment Act, Subdivisions Act, Building Act, Road Management Act, Domestic Animals Act, Emergency Management Act and many (approximately 70) more. Most powers, duties and functions are therefore performed by members of Council staff with formal powers delegated by the Council, either directly or through the Chief Executive Officer (by sub-delegation).

This *Instrument of Delegation* to members of Council staff refers specifically to the delegation of (statutory) powers under various Acts and Regulations which (because of the terms of the particular legislation) require a delegation direct from the Council to the nominated members of Council staff.

These include:

- Domestic Animals Act
- Environment Protection Act
- Food Act
- Planning and Environment Act
- Road Management Act.

The *Instrument of Delegation* describes in each case the power, duty or function being delegated, the source of power and lists the position to which the delegation is to be conferred.

The delegations provide the necessary authority for day-to-day planning, health, amenity and road management matters.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental Sustainability

Nil.

Social Inclusion and Diversity

Nil.

Other

The delegation of Council powers to the members of Council staff is a long established practice facilitated and regulated by the Local Government Act to enable day to day statutory and operational decisions to be made. Delegated authority is part of the good governance framework outlined in the *Governing Darebin 2008* policy statement. The proposed *Instrument of Delegation* is based on the model developed by Maddocks, Lawyers and used by a majority of Victorian councils.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FUTURE ACTIONS

- The signed copy of this *Instrument of Delegation* to be included in the Register of Delegations available for inspection by the public.
- This *Instrument of Delegation* be reviewed and updated as required to address changes in legislation.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Proposed Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff – **Appendix A**
- Delegations and Authorisations Service – Maddocks, Lawyers
- Council Minutes – 16 November 2009

8.7 COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENTS NATIONAL HEALTH AND AGED CARE REFORM DECISION REGARDING THE VICTORIAN HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAM AND THE PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO AGED CARE

MINUTE NO. 210

AUTHOR: Manager Aged and Disability Services – Deb Warren

DIRECTOR: Director Communities and Culture – Jan Black

SUMMARY:

At its meeting on 19 April 2010 Council resolved that *“following the outcomes of the COAG National Health and Aged Care Reform meeting a Report outlining the implications for Councils HACC services be prepared. The report to include recommendations on the future actions Council can take to advocate that the operational model for HACC in Victoria is not compromised and continues to be based on State/local partnerships and local planning and service delivery.”*

The COAG meeting on 20 April 2010 decided the following: **“that within the Home and Community Care (HACC) Program - Commonwealth will have full funding and policy responsibility for aged care, including transfer of current resourcing for aged care from the HACC program - except in Victoria”.**

What this means is that the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), the Australian Services Union (ASU) and the State Government successfully protected Home and Community Care (HACC) arrangements in place for Victorian Councils, resisting a threatened Federal takeover. This is a significant win for Victorian local government as it ensures that, although there will be some changes, the important things such as local funding, local control and local workers meeting local community needs will remain in Victoria and therefore in Darebin.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. G. Greco
SECONDED: Cr. S. Chiang

THAT:

- (1) Council keep abreast of the development of the Home and Community Care (HACC) trilateral agreement with the Commonwealth, State and local government through the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), and actively contribute to the MAV's planned consultation with all Councils.

- (2) Council through the MAV and the work of the MAV Council of Australian Governments (COAG) working party with Human Services Directors representatives, actively participate in the development of a submission to the Productivity Commission's Public Inquiry into aged care services.
- (3) A further report be provided to Council on the outcomes of the MAV's negotiations with the Commonwealth and State Government regarding the HACC Tripartite Agreement; and on the key issues addressed in the MAV's submission to the Productivity Commission's Public Inquiry into aged care services and the implications of the Commission's draft report.

CARRIED

REPORT

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Council employs over 220 staff to provide Home and Community Care (HACC) and aged care services. These jobs and these services responding to local needs were potentially threatened with a change in funding and management. As part of the recent discussions between the Federal and State Governments about health and aged care, an important outcome has been that "*within the Home and Community Care (HACC) Program - Commonwealth will have full funding and policy responsibility for aged care, including transfer of current resourcing for aged care from the HACC program - except in Victoria*".

This is incredibly significant as it means that, although there will be some changes, the important things such as local funding, local control and local workers meeting local community needs will remain in Victoria and therefore in Darebin. This also means that the existing arrangements will continue to apply in regard to the State's role in HACC service planning, funds allocation and delivery, and that local government's funding, planning and service roles have also been acknowledged and protected by the Commonwealth Government.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

The Tripartite Agreement.

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) has secured written confirmation from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet that special implementation arrangements on HACC would apply to Victoria, including a trilateral agreement with the State and local government through the MAV, recognising the unique system in place in Victoria.

The MAV on behalf of Victorian Local Government will continue discussions on the establishment of a more detailed tripartite agreement for Victoria for HACC services (including funding levels and price escalators) at both the political and department levels.

All Victorian Councils will be consulted throughout the process.

Productivity Commission's public inquiry into aged care

The Federal Government also announced on 21 April 2010 the terms of reference for the Productivity Commission's public inquiry into aged care, an inquiry prompted by demographic forecasts that by 2050, nearly one-quarter of Australians will be over 65, compared with 13 per cent today.

The inquiry has been charged with developing options for redesigning Australia's aged care system to ensure ongoing quality of care for an ageing population.

The Commission will examine a range of factors, including the social, clinical and institutional aspects of aged care in Australia, regulatory and funding options for residential and community aged care, including the HACC program, future workforce requirements, and the fiscal implications of any change in aged care roles and responsibilities.

The Commission is expected to provide a draft report by December 2010 and final report twelve months from the start of the inquiry.

The MAV has registered interest in making a submission to the inquiry (on behalf of Councils) and will be seeking input from Council. Initial submissions are due by the end of July followed by a draft report in December, and an opportunity for further submissions by February 2011.

The next steps by the MAV

The MAV will be taking the following actions over the next few months in consultation with all Councils (in accordance with the practice note on consultation adopted by the MAV Management Committee in December 2009):

1. Review the current HACC Program Partnership Agreement between Department of Human Services (DHS) (now Department of Health - DH) and MAV, and input to the development of the CW/State HACC agreement (or similar) from July 2011.
2. Meet with senior DH officers to discuss their processes and work plans to progress the Commonwealth/State COAG work plan and ways local government is to be involved.
3. Preparing a submission to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into aged care services.
4. Continue to liaise with the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) on the progress on COAG National Partnerships in the health and human services areas and advocate on behalf of Victorian Councils as appropriate.

To progress the above, the MAV Human Services Advisory Group at their 27 May 2010 meeting agreed to establish a time limited MAV COAG working party (July 2010 to June 2011) with Human Services Director representatives from all Department of Health Regions, to plan responses on the range of strategic and transition issues (including HACC). Specifically the role of the working party is:

- To provide input to MAV advocacy into COAG policy directions and influence on behalf of Victorian local government
- To be briefed on progress on COAG National Partnerships at regular intervals
- To monitor progress and input to Agreements being developed with the State.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental Sustainability

Nil.

Social Inclusion and Diversity

Council has always had a strong commitment to supporting aged care services. Council is not only the largest public sector provider of HACC in Darebin but also a vital funding partner and key service planner. The COAG decision for Victoria respects the existing investment and infrastructure at the State and local levels; and also ensures that the existing continuity and quality of aged care provided to vulnerable older residents in Darebin by Council is not compromised.

Other

The future role(s) of Council in aged care is a key component of the work currently underway in the development of a new Darebin City Council Active and Healthy Ageing Strategy (2011 to 2021). The strategy is due to be finalised by Council in February 2011.

National, State and Victorian Local Government HACC and aged care policy and funding directions will be considered during the development of the Strategy.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

A further Council report addressing any financial and resource implications arising from the negotiations around the development of a new tripartite agreement for the Victorian HACC program and from the initial outcomes from the Productivity Commissions inquiry into aged care will be prepared in due course.

FUTURE ACTIONS

- A further report to Council will be prepared outlining the new HACC Tripartite Agreement and what it means for Council's HACC service provision and planning roles.
- A further report to Council will also be prepared that provides an overview of the Productivity Commission's public inquiry into aged care - draft report - and its implications for Council.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Council Report 15 September 2008 - Proposed Revamp of Commonwealth and State Government Roles for Aged and Disability Services.

Council Report 5 October 2009 - Development of the Active and Healthy Ageing Strategy.

MAV Human Services Bulletin April 2010

8.8 EARLY YEARS FRAMEWORK**MINUTE NO. 211****AUTHOR: Early Years and Education Planner – Sharyn Scott****DIRECTOR: Director Communities and Culture – Jan Black****SUMMARY:**

The Darebin Early Years and Children's Services Branch has begun the development of an Early Years Framework. This framework will identify Council's principle-based role in relation to Early Years programs in Darebin. The framework will assess and plan for our community's future early years needs in relation to infrastructure and services.

This paper presents Council with a project brief outlining the scope of the initiative and the establishment of a Darebin Early Years Reference Group to inform Council's work in the Early Years area.

Concurrent to this work, Council is consulting with our community about the Kindergarten Centralised Waiting List Review.

CONSULTATION:

- Community Managed Kindergarten providers
- Community Managed Integrated Long Day Care and Kindergarten providers
- Neighbourhood Renewal Early Years Working Group
- Darebin Best Start Partnership
- Darebin Early Years and Children's Services Team
- Social Inclusion and Early Years Branches
- Maternal and Child Health Branch

RECOMMENDATION**THAT:**

- (1) Council endorse the Darebin Early Years Framework Brief attached as **Appendix A** to this report.
- (2) Council establish the Darebin Early Years Reference Group to guide the development of the Darebin Early Years Framework and associated actions in accordance with the Terms of Reference attached as **Appendix B** to this report.
- (3) Council nominate Councillor to chair the Darebin Early Years Reference Group.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

THAT:

- (1) Council endorse the Darebin Early Years Framework Brief attached as **Appendix A** to this report.
- (2) Council establish the Darebin Early Years Reference Group to guide the development of the Darebin Early Years Framework and associated actions in accordance with the Terms of Reference attached as **Appendix B** to this report.
- (3) Council nominate Councillors Asmar, Katsis and Tsitas to the Darebin Early Years Reference Group.

CARRIED**REPORT****INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

The roles and responsibilities in relation to children's care and education are relatively complex. The Federal Government has recently adopted a 'Framework for Australia's Children' and announced that all children will have access to 15 hours of a fully funded early childhood education program in the year prior to school attendance from 2013. This is an increase of 5 hours per week to the current State funded kindergarten.

The State Government adopted a "Blueprint for Victoria's Children" which focuses on care and education. State Government departments have been integrated to form the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development to support the implementation of this strategy. All Victorian primary schools, kindergartens and families now implement 'transition statements' that structure the transfer of important early learning information with children as they begin formal schooling.

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) has been contracted by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) to support municipal planning for achieving Universal Access to 15 Hours Early Childhood Education. This support takes the form of a range of DEECD, MAV and local government groups including:

- Victorian Children's Council
- Early Childhood Development Advisory Group
- Early Childhood Development Universal Access to 15 Hours Early Childhood Education Reference Group
- Regional Youth and Children's Services Managers Meetings.

In Darebin early years planning, local education and children's services are working in a rapidly changing sector. Darebin participates in regional partnership groups as well as MAV/DEECD structures to keep informed of sector developments. Darebin also faces competing pressures associated with early years and children's services infrastructure. It is important that Darebin articulate a principle-based framework from which we can clarify our role in early years planning, local early education and children's services.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Darebin Early Years Framework

Within the context of the changing Federal and State early years policy sector an early years framework will achieve the following aims:

- To identify the future early years needs for Darebin's children
- To define the future role of Council in meeting these identified needs
- To develop a principle-based framework, an early years infrastructure plan and an early years program plan that articulate Council's strategic directions for responding to the identified needs in a sustainable way.

Council expressed its promise to our community in the Council Plan 2009-2013 highlighting a commitment to "... strive in all that we do to achieve fairness ...". The Plan continues to provide greater direction to undertake planning that requires careful consideration of the challenges faced by Darebin's most disadvantaged. The commitment is that we consider the social impacts of all its decisions, and to use the delivery of programs and services to address the potential imbalance between members of our community.

Principles that direct our early years planning and service provision toward achieving fairness are required to form a basis of the Darebin Early Years Framework. These principles will include:

- Social Inclusion: ensuring the right of all children to participate in early learning experiences by reducing barriers to participation
- Universal Access: improving access to early childhood education
- Strong local early care and education system: local planning, supporting community involvement through committees and other governance structures, resourcing high quality service provision and the sharing of local learning.

Consideration will be given to how Council's Early Years Framework will:

- Align with Federal and State early years policy directions
- Ensure a local mix of early learning settings providing services that meet the varying needs of our community and provide for family choice
- Facilitate child orientated services that are integrated in provision
- Promote culturally inclusive service provision and practices.

Community and stakeholder consultation and engagement processes are planned to ensure both the framework and service reviews reflect the needs of Darebin's diverse community. Adapted from the Council Plan 2009-2013, the aims of the consultation strategy are to:

- Involve the community in our decision making, through consultation, public participation, community engagement and representation
- Strengthen our knowledge and understanding of the community we serve and work together to identify and respond to early years needs
- Work with the community to identify early years needs and develop and implement a co-ordinated response
- Build on our close partnerships with community organisations, community agencies, other levels of government and the private sector to improve outcomes for Darebin's children
- Place particular emphasis on Darebin's diversity, including Darebin's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents, our culturally and linguistically diverse residents, and our residents with a disability.

Kindergarten Capacity Assessment

Council has completed the first stage of assessing the capacity of our local kindergartens (community managed and privately provided) to provide 15 hours of kindergarten for all children in the year prior to school attendance. This assessment was a requirement of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and took the form of an online survey. Initial findings raise the following issues for further exploration:

- There is great variation across our local services between kindergartens who can already provide more than 15 hours of kindergarten and those that cannot deliver such a change in service without displacing other services (such as 3 year old kindergarten)
- There are many kindergarten places available in integrated care and education centres
- Some kindergartens in Darebin are delivering many kindergarten places (3 groups of 4 year old kindergarten) and in order to achieve 15 hours without reducing the places available will need significant infrastructure changes (ie. additional kindergarten room).

Darebin joined other Victorian local governments in a process, facilitated by the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), to highlight the significant infrastructure needs identified by this Kindergarten Capacity Assessment with both the State and Federal governments.

Children's Capital Program 2009/2010

The Victorian Government has allocated capital funding to contribute to the improvement in infrastructure to provide kindergarten across the state. In Darebin the following projects were submitted:

- Westgarth Kindergarten (funded)
- Relocation of Portable Kindergarten Building (funded)
- Raleigh Street Children's Centre (not funded)
- Preston Neighbourhood House (not funded)
- Oakhill Family Services Centre (awaiting response)
- Nara Children's Centre (awaiting response)

- JS Grey Children's Centre (awaiting response)
- Batman Park Kindergarten (awaiting response).

Darebin Children's Services Reviews

As the Darebin Early Years Framework is developed program reviews will be undertaken. The purpose of early years and children's services reviews is to consider the delivery of our programs within the context of the rapidly changing sector and to challenge the structure and delivery of our services against our principles to be articulated in the Darebin Early Years Framework.

This process currently involves the review of the Kindergarten Centralised Waiting List. To date we have received approximately 400 surveys from Darebin families. The survey sought community view on a range of weighted criteria for the allocation of kindergarten placement. The survey closed on Friday 28 May 2010 and information is currently being entered for analysis. Community meetings will be held on Tuesday 8 and Thursday 10 June 2010 in each of the three Council Wards and we look forward to hearing the views of families to bring back to Council for consideration. The review of the Kindergarten Waiting List will be presented to Council in July 2010.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental Sustainability

The impacts of climate change and peak oil are significant to the ongoing provision of staff, costs of service delivery, health and well-being of those who are vulnerable and community infrastructure. Council's Climate Change and Peak Oil Adaptation Plan will be guide the development of appropriate and sustainable responses and actions in the Early Years Framework.

Social Inclusion and Diversity

The Early Years Framework will align with the Darebin Social Inclusion Agenda, Diversity Policy, Human Rights Check List, and Council's broader commitment to respect community diversity and wellbeing. The research and consultation phases will consolidate Council's understanding of the composition, strengths, opportunities, vulnerabilities and attitudes of the community in relation to early years care and education opportunities.

Other

The Early Years Framework will be aligned with and progress the work of the *Community Health and Wellbeing Plan 2009- 2013* in relation to children in Darebin by providing an early years focus to the life course lens and the human rights, social inclusion, diversity and gender planning principles.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The development of the Darebin Early Years Framework will require significant staff time. Council has established the position of an Early Years and Education Planner who will lead this process.

FUTURE ACTIONS

- Establishment of Darebin Early Years Reference Group
- Development of the Darebin Early Years Framework as articulated in the attached brief (**Appendix A**).
- Completion of the review of Kindergarten Centralised Waiting List for Council consideration in July 2010.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to the report. The author of the report is a parent of children who access a range of early years services in Darebin.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Council Briefing Paper 15 March 2010 – Darebin Early Years Framework

The National Quality Framework for Early Education and Care

In December 2007, the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed to a partnership between the Commonwealth and state and territory governments to pursue substantial reform in the areas of education, skills and early childhood development, to deliver significant improvements in human capital outcomes for all Australians. This discussion paper provides the basis for the initial round of consultations on the development of a new national quality framework for early childhood education and care to progress these reforms.

Blueprint for Education and Early Childhood Development: One Year On

The *Blueprint for Education and Early Childhood Development: One Year On* report highlights the achievements made in the first year of Blueprint implementation and describes the actions that the Government commits to in 2010.

8.9 LANGUAGE SERVICES FUNDING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT**MINUTE NO. 212****AUTHOR: Multicultural Relations Officer – César Díaz****DIRECTOR: Director Communities and Culture – Jan Black****SUMMARY:**

The Victorian Minister for Local Government, the Hon Richard Wynne MP, has advised that this is the final year of the “Local Government Language Services Program” funding arrangements with the Victorian Interpreting and Translating Service (VITS).

The Local Government Language Services Program (LGLSP) has been very effective in supporting Councils across Victoria to increase the access to services and programs by members of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities. A total of \$275,000 was available for this purpose in this financial year.

It is not clear if Local Government Victoria will look at alternative methods to support Councils in the provision of interpreting and translating services.

CONSULTATION:

Manager Social Inclusion and Diversity

RECOMMENDATION**THAT:**

- (1) The Mayor write a letter to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Richard Wynne, expressing Council's concerns about the decision to terminate the Local Government Language Services Program funding arrangements with Victorian Interpreting and Translating Service, and to ask the Minister if the loss of funding will be compensated by the establishment of a new funding alternative to support Councils.
- (2) Council issue a press release in support of the continuation of the funding from Local Government Victoria to support Victorian Councils in the provision of language services.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

THAT:

- (1) The Mayor write a letter to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Richard Wynne, expressing Council's concerns about the decision to terminate the Local Government Language Services Program funding arrangements with Victorian Interpreting and Translating Service, and to ask the Minister if the loss of funding will be compensated by the establishment of a new funding alternative to support Councils.
- (2) Council issue a press release in support of the continuation of the funding from Local Government Victoria to support Victorian Councils in the provision of language services.
- (3) The Mayor organise a strategy meeting of concerned Mayors in support of the continuation of the funding from Local Government Victoria to support Councils in the provision of language services.
- (4) The Mayor also write a letter to the Premier, Opposition Leader and Minister Assisting the Premier on Multicultural Affairs expressing Council's concern about the decision to terminate the Local Government Language Services Program funding arrangements.

CARRIED**REPORT****INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

Darebin City Council is one of the most diverse cities in Victoria. It is one of the top ten Councils with the largest percentage of residents with low proficiency in English, over 10,000 people. Darebin Council receives up to \$14,000 dollars under the Local Government Language Services Program (LGLSP) annually. This grant has made a significant contribution to Council's success in informing and engaging with a large number of residents for whom the lack of English language constitutes one of the main barriers to their capacity to access information and services and to their participation in community life.

The LGLSP grant has enabled branches and units across Council to access an additional source of funding to support their communication strategies targeting non-English speaking residents, and in particular newly arrived settlers and refugees.

Council has recently completed a major review of multicultural communications for the City of Darebin. The review has resulted in a number of new initiatives and approaches around this important aspect of our work. The review has confirmed the importance of Darebin's Multicultural Communications Service, which includes the translation of printed material and the availability of interpreters.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Funding

The termination of the Local Government Language Services Program will reduce resources available for Council's language services particularly in the areas of translations and desktop publishing of multilingual printed material. Additional resources will have to be allocated from the internal budget to assist Council units in the planning of their CALD Communication Strategies.

Community engagement

A reduction in available funding for language services will reduce Council's capacity to reach newly arrived and refugee communities and residents who prefer to communicate in a language other than English.

Implementation of multicultural communication Strategy

The effective implementation of Council's new CALD Communication Strategy will need resourcing in the areas of interpreting and translation services. The termination of the government grant reduces the level of funding available to support these activities.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental Sustainability

Nil.

Social Inclusion and Diversity

Council is currently developing a Social Inclusion and Diversity Agenda (SID) which focuses on creating an inclusive community and an inclusive Council. This agenda will assist Council officers to better understand and assist the communities they deliver services to and in particular those who are more disadvantaged in Darebin. The Agenda will support the development of tools and resources to enable Council to engage and respond more actively and effectively to community issues.

One of these tools and resources is Council's internal Language Services system that will support the development of Social Inclusion planning and implementation across Council. This system has been supported over the last few years by the funding received from the Local Government Language Services Program.

Other

Nil.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The amount of money available to support Council's language services will be reduced by the amount granted annually by Local Government Victoria.

Adverse impact of up to \$14,000 per annum resulting from loss of funding.

FUTURE ACTIONS

- As part of the CALD Communication Strategy to determine the level of budget allocation required to meet Council's language services needs on an annual basis, including translating, interpreting, training, promotion, and the ongoing improvement of Council's language services.
- To seek Council support for an additional budget allocation to Council's language services program to offset the possible loss of funding from the Local Government Language Services Program.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Nil.

8.10 CROSSOVER AND FENCE – 16 CRAWLEY STREET RESERVOIR**MINUTE NO. 213****AUTHOR: Transport Engineer – Daniel Neave****DIRECTOR: Director Infrastructure – Geoff Glynn****SUMMARY:**

At its meeting on 6 April 2010, Council resolved under 'General Business' that consideration be given to allowing construction of a vehicle crossing at 16 Crawley Street Reservoir.

Council staff met with the resident and further information provided now enables a vehicle crossing to be permitted at 16 Crawley Street Reservoir.

CONSULTATION:

City Works Branch
Resident of 16 Crawley Street Reservoir

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**MOVED: Cr. B. Morgan****SECONDED: Cr. N. Katsis**

THAT the owner of 16 Crawley Street Reservoir be notified in writing that the application for a vehicle crossing is permitted.

CARRIED**REPORT****INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

At its meeting on 6 April 2010, Council resolved the following under 'General Business':

That:

- (1) *Council give consideration to allowing construction of a crossover at 16 Crawley Street Reservoir.*
- (2) *Council give consideration to allowing construction of a replacement fence at 16 Crawley Street Reservoir at the same height as the existing fence abutting the side lane and rear lane of the said property.*

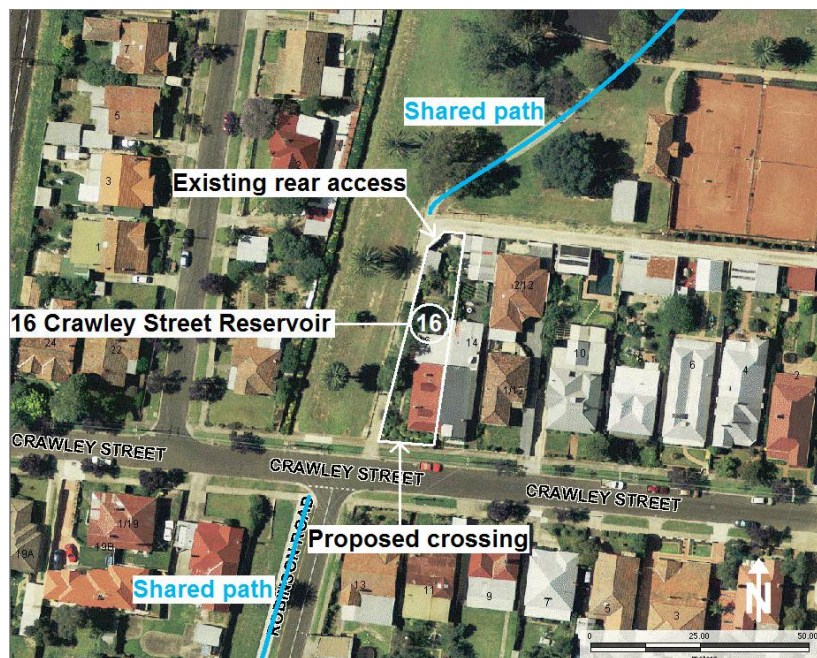
Council officers write to the residents of the above property outlining this resolution by Friday 15 April 2010.

This report recommends that the vehicle crossing for 16 Crawley Street Reservoir be permitted based on the additional information received from the applicant. The second item (ie. height of replacement fence) has been addressed by the provision of correct information to the resident for consideration.

On 24 June 2009, Council received a request from 16 Crawley Street Reservoir for a vehicle crossing from Crawley Street to the front of the property. This application was inspected by Council's Permits Officer on 25 June 2009 and it was found that the property has access to a Right Of Way (ROW) with rear entry to the property. The inspection also identified a Council drainage pit in the vicinity of the proposed vehicle crossing. Only two properties in Crawley Street have a vehicle crossing out of the eight that abut the ROW.

Council's *Neighbourhood Character Study* for this area sets design guidelines for front setbacks to ensure there is space for front gardens and to minimise car parking structures and non-permeable surfaces. The most applicable design response is to "provide vehicle access from a rear laneway if available" and avoid "creation of crossovers in streets that do not have crossovers".

As such, the application was not approved in the first instance.



ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

A letter was sent to the property owners outlining the Council resolution and a meeting was held with the owners of 16 Crawley Street Reservoir on 6 May 2010. The following issues were discussed regarding the vehicle crossing:

- The owners intend to use a permeable surface for the vehicle accessway within the property. The vehicle accessway will hold three vehicles off-street.
- The owners are aware they are responsible for the cost of the vehicle crossing, but were not aware of the potential cost of relocating a drainage pit.
- The property has rear access from the ROW to a carport that can accommodate a standard vehicle. The owners advised they have difficulty manoeuvring their vehicles into this space.

- The personal circumstances of the resident's family situation are taken into consideration.

It was also noted during the inspection that the ROW beside 16 Crawley Street is used as an unsigned shared path. This is not unusual, but will need to be formalised with signage to ensure clarity of use.

In light of the additional information provided by the owners, a vehicle crossing at 16 Crawley Street Reservoir is permitted.

During the meeting between the residents and Council staff, it was also identified that incorrect information was provided to the residents regarding the replacement of their side fence. Following on from this meeting, Council's Fencing Requirements fact sheet was sent to the residents.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental Sustainability

There is minimal impact to environmental sustainability from this report.

Social Inclusion and Diversity

There is minimal impact to social inclusion and diversity from this report.

Other

This report is consistent with the Darebin Transport Strategy.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FUTURE ACTIONS

- Advise the residents in writing that the vehicle crossing application is approved.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989 (VIC)* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Neighbourhood Character Study, August 2007

Cr. Asmar disclosed a conflict of interest in the following report classifying the type of interest as an indirect interest by close association and describing the nature of the interest as that she has an auntie who resides in Hawthorn Road Northcote and an uncle who resides in Elm Street Northcote both affected by the project. She left the meeting prior to consideration of the matter – 8.43pm.

Cr. Tsitas disclosed a conflict of interest in this matter classifying the type of interest as an indirect interest by close association and describing the nature of the interest as that he has a relative who owns property and operates businesses in the area affected by the project. He left the meeting prior to consideration of the matter – 8.43pm.

8.11 NORTHCOTE ACTIVITY CENTRE STREETScape MASTERPLAN

MINUTE NO. 214

AUTHOR: Urban Designer – James Dickson

DIRECTOR: Director of Infrastructure – Geoff Glynn

SUMMARY:

This report outlines the process undertaken to prepare the Northcote Activity Centre Streetscape Masterplan (“the Masterplan”) and recommends that Council adopt the Masterplan and commence preparation of detailed documentation to facilitate implementation.

The Masterplan has been exhibited and received an overwhelmingly positive response from the community including the Northcote Business Association. This Masterplan included amendments recommended in the Route 86 Corridor Improvement Program that was adopted by Council in 2009.

CONSULTATION:

Internal

Project Manager – Darebin City Council
Activity Centre Coordinator – Darebin City Council
Director of Infrastructure – Darebin City Council
Manager of Open Space Planning – Darebin City Council
Manager of Major Projects & Transport – Darebin City Council
Northcote Activity Centre Streetscape Masterplan - Council Control Group
Northcote Activity Centre Streetscape Masterplan - Working Group

Community & Business Groups

Northcote Activity Centre Streetscape Masterplan - Community Reference Group
Northcote Business Association & Committee
High Street Landowners & Tenants
Local Police & Schools
Victoria Walks
Darebin Disability Advisory Committee (DDAC)

External Agencies

Department Planning Community Development
Route 86 Working Group (Vic Roads, Department of Infrastructure, Yarra Trams, etc)

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

THAT:

- (1) Council adopt the *Northcote Activity Centre Streetscape Masterplan* attached as **Appendix A** to this report.
- (2) Council proceed with design development and detailed documentation of the Northcote Streetscape Masterplan.
- (3) Council write to members of the Community Reference Group and thank them for their contribution to the project.

CARRIED

REPORT**INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

Preparation of the Masterplan was a key recommendation from the Northcote Activity Centre Structure Plan, adopted in April 2007. The project aims to deliver streetscape improvements to the Northcote Activity Centre through improved street furnishings, pavement treatments, street trees and generally deliver an improved pedestrian environment for the traders and the community. Council engaged Urban Initiatives Pty Ltd to prepare the Masterplan.

The Masterplan has been developed in conjunction with the Tram Route 86 Corridor Improvement Project. Both projects were exhibited together in March/April 2009.

Further consultation was undertaken between October and December 2009 to resolve issues related to the Tram Route 86 Corridor Improvement Project ("Tram Route 86"). During this time the Northcote Masterplan was placed on "hold". The Tram Route 86 project was endorsed by Council in December 2009 including specific recommendations affecting the resolution of the Northcote Masterplan. These recommendations have been included in the Streetscape Masterplan and presented to the community and stakeholders during a second public exhibition and consultation period recently conducted during April and May this year.

Project Objectives

- Provides a process to facilitate and encapsulate Northcote's identity and how this might be expressed in the design of the streetscape. This process should facilitate how Northcote expresses itself as a community and recognises key identifying elements such as the presence of a significant arts community which is quickly defining and differentiating Northcote from other centres, the individual and independent nature of the business community, Rucker's Hill landform, indigenous heritage and multicultural development among other things.
- Encourage street activity and al-fresco dining.
- Creating high quality and consistent use of materials throughout centre to generate a strong streetscape theme.
- Addressing how the physical landscape enhances the Arts Precinct and remainder of the Activity Centre with a focus on improved pedestrianisation and the interface between buildings and urban spaces.
- Identify opportunities for public art recognising new and emerging art forms.
- Identify opportunities for expanding and improving informal and urban spaces eg. Northcote Uniting Church forecourt.
- Respond to access audit report completed in 2007.
- Identify scope for public art and street furniture in the most appropriate and effective manner.
- Establish appropriate design and treatments for major entrances to the centre to the north/south approaches along High Street and east/west approaches along Arthurton Road and Separation Street.
- To improve access to the Railway Station and Northcote Plaza.
- Identify and complement heritage elements.
- Identify further opportunities for tree planting and "greening" of streetscape spaces.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Preparation of the Masterplan included three accessible tramway stops in the Northcote Activity Centre. Accessible tramway stops add a layer of complexity to the project but have the potential to deliver significant urban design improvements including increased footpath widths, opportunity for tree planting and additional public realm and performance spaces.

Key Issues

Tram Route 86 Project

- Preparation of the Masterplan was planned for completion in June 2009. This timeline was extended in line with the Tram Route 86 project to ensure further design resolution of tramway platforms. Throughout project, the Tram Route 86 project tended to dominate the type of feedback received about the Masterplan.

- Recommendations in the Council Report – “Route 86 Corridor Improvement project” – resulted in some re-working of the Northcote Streetscape Masterplan prior to the final exhibition of the Masterplan. These changes were relatively minor and included remodification to Tram Stop 32 in accordance with changes recommended by the Tram Route 86 Reference Group. This Reference Group was set-up to investigate opportunities to improve the functionality of the tramway platforms within the Northcote Activity Centre.

Community Consultation – 1st Round, March – April 2009

- Darebin Council established both an internal Working Group and an external Community Reference Group to provide input and feedback about the Masterplan during development. The Community Reference Group included representatives from the Northcote Business Association, local business operators, local police and Australian Horizons and local residents. Their participation greatly assisted in guiding the urban design principles and outcomes of the Masterplan.
- Community information and consultation about the project included the establishment of a webpage, an advertisement in the Northcote Leader newspaper, an information flyer hand-delivered to over 2000 households and businesses and a separate letter and information flyer posted to High Street landowners and local stakeholders and interest groups. Plans were exhibited at the Northcote Town Hall, Northcote Customer Service Centre and Preston Customer Service Centre.
- Community feedback received primarily related to the Tram Route 86, project. In particular the community raised concerns about perceived issues related to traffic congestion and parking along High Street. However, responses that related to the urban design improvements proposed by the Masterplan were generally positive and well received by the community and the Northcote traders.

Community Consultation – 2nd Round, April – May 2010

- Community information and consultation about the project included an advertisement in the Northcote Leader, a letter to owners and occupiers within the project area and local stakeholders and interest groups. Updated plans were exhibited at the Northcote Town Hall, Northcote Customer Service Centre and Preston Customer Service Centre.

Feedback was considerably less than expected and can be attributed to the following reasons. Firstly, the majority of concerns raised last year in the initial consultation period were predominately traffic related concerns and these issues were addressed as part of the community consultation period undertaken as part of the “Route 86 Corridor Improvement Program”. Secondly, the protracted timeline to develop the Masterplan that resulted in minimal changes to the final draft.

The feedback received from the community and stakeholders has generally been positive with only a few items of concern raised (detailed below). The main benefits that the community highlighted included the upgrading of street furniture, improved pavement treatments, greening of the centre through additional planting of street trees and generally improving the walkability and appearance of the centre.

Community Consultation – Key Issues

- The location of the existing pedestrian crossing at the Northcote Town Hall “Outstand” tram platform.

- Concerns were raised regarding the retention of the pedestrian crossing in the same location and suggested that it be relocated further north of the platform stop.

The location was considered to be appropriate as the trams are required to stop at the set of lights and allow pedestrians to cross. Due to the narrow crossing point, it allows for safer and easier crossing of High Street. The current location also benefits the high number of pedestrians utilising the tram stop and frequenting the Town Hall. Relocating the stop was considered to be cost prohibitive and its current location facilitates an easier and safer crossing of High Street.

- Other queries related to traffic congestion along High Street. These concerns were addressed as part of the Tram Route 86 Project.
- The reference in the “Masterplan Design Report” cited the opportunity to provide future access to Northcote Plaza via Robbs Parade. This was a direct reference to the Northcote Structure Plan and its inclusion in the report was considered to be outside the scope of the Masterplan Study Area. It has been requested that this reference be omitted from the Masterplan Design Report and that a letter be issued to this stakeholder notifying them of this change to the “Masterplan Design Report”. This request has already been actioned.

Financial Contributions

- The estimated cost of Council’s contribution towards urban design improvements to all Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant tramway platform stops in both Northcote and Westgarth (noted as Stage 1) is projected to cost **\$2 million** over two years beginning in 2010/2011. The Victorian Government contribution is likely to be in the order of \$30 million towards the Tram Route 86 project.
- The estimated cost of Council’s contribution towards the implementation of the Northcote Streetscape Master Plan is projected to be **\$1.5 million** over a number of years and is likely to begin in 2011/2012. This will fund all works associated with the Streetscape Masterplan including replacing the paving, street furniture, street trees, and other urban design improvements identified in the Masterplan. These funds will be directed to all pavement areas between the platform stops (estimated to be approximately 1.5km in pavement length) along High Street within the Northcote Activity Centre.
- Council officers are discussing a possible funding opportunity with the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) for the design development and detailed design work required to implement the Masterplan. This work will ensure that the detailed resolution of all urban improvements outlined in the Masterplan are incorporated into the design and delivery of the Tram Stop planned for the Northcote Activity Centre. This contribution from DPCD would fund the engagement of a multi-disciplinary design team to undertake these extensive and detailed works. It is anticipated that this process would take approximately 9-12 months. Funding of these works will be dependent on reaching an agreement with DPCD.
- Council will pursue further external funding opportunities for the eventual implementation of the Masterplan including Creating Better Places funding.

Conclusion

The Masterplan addresses a number of recommendations made within the Structure Plan, incorporates the relevant recommendations of the Tram Route 86 Project and responds to community expectations and feedback through an extensive consultation program over a two year period. There is an opportunity to realise part of this Masterplan through the Tram Route 86 project and this requires that Council adopt the Masterplan and proceed with the preparation of detailed documentation. There is also an opportunity to be a recipient of significant external funding through the Department of Planning and Community Development again provided that the Masterplan is adopted by Council.

It is recommended that Council adopt the Masterplan and proceed to the next phase of design development.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental Sustainability

Improvements to the Northcote Activity Centre, through the Northcote Streetscape Masterplan which is closely tied to the Tram Route 86 Corridor Improvement Project, will provide an improved pedestrian environment in a very busy Activity centre and encourage more people to walk, cycle and take public transport to these areas.

Inclusion of additional street trees along High Street and in side street intersections will contribute towards a “greening” of the Northcote Activity Centre. In addition, use of “Water Sensitive Urban Design” techniques to capture surface water from the pavements and roads to water existing and newly planted street trees.

Social Inclusion and Diversity

One of the key elements of the Northcote Streetscape Master Plan is the provision of accessible platform tram stops to ensure the infrastructure component of tram stops become Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant as soon as possible. This will put Tram Route 86 in a very strong position to have new low floor trams run on this route when they become available.

Accessible platform tram stops and low floor trams will enable people with mobility impairments, wheelchairs, shopping trolleys and parents with prams the ability to access the tram in this corridor for the first time from a DDA perspective.

Accessible platforms in Northcote will have an improved urban design character and functionality than the standard Yarra Tram platform stops and this provides improved scope to integrate with the public spaces and narrow pavements along High Street. Urban design improvements to these spaces should broaden the Centre’s appeal as a destination point for the local community.

Other

The Northcote Streetscape Masterplan together with the Tram Route 86 Corridor Improvement Project seek to improve the public’s commuting experience along High Street transport corridor and improve the pedestrian environment within our busy Activity Centres.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

Refer to the section titled 'Financial Contributions' earlier in the report.

Resource Implications

A Council project manager would be required to administer the next stage of the Masterplan process which would involve managing a multi-disciplinary team of designers to undertake design development and detailed documentation of all improvements including platform stops at the Northcote Activity Centre. A Place Manager will be appointed by Council in July/August this year and will be involved in the implementation of the Masterplan.

FUTURE ACTIONS

- Inform the following stakeholders of Council's decision on the Streetscape Masterplan:
 - Community Reference Group
 - Council Working Group
 - Department of Planning and Community Development
- Update Council webpage
- Proceed to more detailed documentation of the Northcote Streetscape Masterplan and associated Disability Discrimination Act compliant tramway stops within Northcote Activity Centre.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Council Briefing Paper – Northcote Streetscape Master Plan, 22 March 2010
- Council Briefing Paper – Northcote Streetscape Master Plan, 25 May 2009
- Council Briefing Paper – Northcote Streetscape Master Plan, 9 January 2009
- Council Briefing Paper – Northcote Streetscape Master Plan, 19 May 2008
- Council Report – "Route 86 Corridor Improvement Project", December 2009
- Northcote Structure Plan, April 2007
- Darebin Retail Activity Centre Streetscape Strategy, 2007

- Northcote Activity Centre Streetscape Project Brief, 2008
- Northcote Identity Development Report, 2008
- Masterplan Drawings & Urban Design Report for Northcote, 2010

Crs. Asmar and Tsitas returned to the meeting – 8.46pm.

Cr. Tsitas disclosed a conflict of interest in the following item classifying the type of interest as an indirect interest by close association and describing the nature of the interest as that the residential amenity of a relative who resides in Jessie Street Northcote could be affected by the matter. He left the meeting prior to consideration of the matter – 8.47pm

8.12 RIGHT OF WAY (ROAD) DISCONTINUANCE ADJOINING 31 JESSIE STREET, NORTHCOTE

MINUTE NO. 215

AUTHOR: Property Officer – Kristie Berry

DIRECTOR: Director Infrastructure – Geoff Glynn

SUMMARY:

This report recommends that Council discontinue a 2.4m wide section of the right of way (road) adjoining 31 Jessie Street, Northcote, and sell the land from the road to the owners of 31 Jessie Street, Northcote, by private treaty.

Statutory procedures under the Local Government Act 1989 have been completed and this report recommends that the road be discontinued and sold by private treaty.

CONSULTATION:

Macquarie Lawyers and Strategists
Owners of adjoining properties
Statutory Authorities and Council Departments
VicTrack

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Cr. T. McCarthy

SECONDED: Cr. D. Asmar

THAT Council, having given public notice of a proposal to discontinue the 2.4m wide section of road adjoining 31 Jessie Street, Northcote, shown hatched on the plan attached as **Appendix A** to this report, and having received no submissions in respect of this proposal under section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989:

- (1) Discontinues the road in accordance with section 206 and Schedule 10, Clause 3 of the Local Government Act 1989;
- (2) Directs that a notice be published in the Victoria Government Gazette;
- (3) Authorises the Director Infrastructure to finalise the sale of the parcel of land from the road to the owners of 31 Jessie Street, Northcote in accordance with Council's resolution of 15 February 2010.
- (4) Signs and seals all documents relating to the sale of any land from the discontinued road to the owners of 31 Jessie Street, Northcote.

CARRIED

REPORT

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Council received a request from the owners of 31 Jessie Street, Northcote, for the discontinuance and sale of part of the 6.4m wide road adjoining that property in order to facilitate access to the rear of the property.

A site inspection confirmed that the road adjoining 31 Jessie Street is not constructed but is open and partly used as part of the pedestrian network in the area.

31 Jessie Street is a very narrow property with no driveway access other than from the side adjoining the road.

In order to maintain access to the pedestrian network in the area it has been proposed to discontinue a 2.4m wide section of the road, which is shown hatched on the plan attached as **Appendix A**, leaving the remaining 4m of road open for access.

Consultation with adjoining owners revealed no objection to the proposed discontinuance and sale of the section of road.

In addition contact was made with VicTrack as it is the registered proprietor of the road. VicTrack has offered no objection to the proposal.

At its meeting on 15 February 2010, Council directed that the statutory procedures for the proposed discontinuance and sale of the 2.4m wide section of road adjoining 31 Jessie Street, Northcote, be commenced (road shown hatched on the plan attached as **Appendix A**). At the same meeting, Council approved of a departure from its policy guidelines with regard to the sale of the land to the owners of 31 Jessie Street, Northcote.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Public notice of the proposal was given in The Age and Northcote Leader newspapers on Wednesday, 17 March 2010.

Owners and occupiers of all of the adjoining properties were also notified in writing and were advised that submissions, in writing, would be considered by Council pursuant to the provisions of section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.

No submissions in regard to this proposal have been received.

Service Authorities/Council Departments

Council Departments and all necessary Service Authorities have also been consulted in respect to the proposal and no objections have been received. Council has a drain within the section of road proposed to be discontinued and will require an easement to be saved over the land.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental Sustainability

There are no factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability.

Social Inclusion and Diversity

There are no factors in this report which impact upon social inclusion and diversity.

Other

This report has been prepared having regard to Council's "Right of way and road closure policy".

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Excluding the costs associated with discontinuing and selling the road, net income during 2009/2010 from this project is estimated at \$59,670.

FUTURE ACTIONS

Arrange for a notice to be published in the Victoria Government Gazette and the land to be sold and transferred to the owners of 31 Jessie Street, Northcote.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Appendix A showing the section of road proposed to be discontinued and sold is enclosed.

Cr. Tsitas returned to the meeting – 8.48pm

8.13 STATUS REPORT ON REPORTS AND 'GENERAL BUSINESS' ITEMS OUTSTANDING**MINUTE NO. 216****AUTHOR: Council Business Coordinator – Ron Downes****DIRECTOR: Director Corporate Services – Bruce Dobson****SUMMARY:**

This report provides a summary of the status of reports and 'General Business' items outstanding as at May 2010.

CONSULTATION:

Executive Management Team

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

THAT the status report on Reports and 'General Business' items outstanding as at May 2010, attached as **Appendix A** to this report, be received and noted.

CARRIED

REPORT

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The status of outstanding reports and actions requested by Council resolution is reported to Council monthly.

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

A schedule of the reports and actions outstanding as at May 2010 is attached as **Appendix A**.

The list of reports requested includes items raised by Councillors under 'General Business'.

Items are deleted from the list once the report or action has been completed and the completed status has been noted by the Council.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Environmental Sustainability

Nil.

Social Inclusion and Diversity

Nil.

Other

Nil.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

FUTURE ACTIONS

The next status report will be submitted to Council at its meeting on 5 July 2010.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Section 80C of the Local Government Act 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Director authorising this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Minutes of previous meetings of the Council.

9. NOTICES OF MOTION**9.1 MEMBERSHIP OF VICTORIAN LOCAL GOVERNANCE ASSOCIATION (VLGA)****MINUTE NO. 217****NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 7****CR. TIM LAURENCE**

Take notice that at the Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on 7 June 2010, it is my intention to move:

THAT:

1. Council membership of the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA) be suspended.
2. The Chief Executive Officer write to the VLGA advising of Council's decision.
3. Council Officers report to Council on the longer-term membership of local government peak bodies, including the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA).

Notice Received: 31 May 2010

Notice Given to Councillors: 3 June 2010

Date of Meeting: 7 June 2010

MOTION

MOVED: Cr. T. Laurence

SECONDED: Cr. S. Tsitas

THAT:

1. Council membership of the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA) be suspended.
2. The Chief Executive Officer write to the VLGA advising of Council's decision.
3. Council Officers report to Council on the longer-term membership of local government peak bodies, including the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA).

Cr. McCarthy foreshadowed moving the following Motion in the event of the Motion before the Chair (moved by Cr. Laurence, seconded by Cr. Tsitas) being lost:

“THAT:

- (1) Council invite the President and the Chief Executive Officer of the Victorian Local Governance Association to meet with Council to discuss issues of concern.
- (2) Council Officers report to Council on the longer-term membership of local government peak bodies, including the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA).”

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND CARRIED AND BECAME THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION AS FOLLOWS:

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

THAT:

1. Council membership of the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA) be suspended.
2. The Chief Executive Officer write to the VLGA advising of Council's decision.
3. Council Officers report to Council on the longer-term membership of local government peak bodies, including the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and the Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA).

CARRIED

A Division was called for on the Motion

For

Cr. S. Tsitas
Cr. T. Laurence
Cr. D. Asmar
Cr. N. Katsis
Cr. B. Morgan
Cr. G. Greco
Cr. S. Chiang
The Mayor, Cr. V. Fontana

Against

Cr. T. McCarthy

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

10. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

11. GENERAL BUSINESS**11.1 PARKING – CHARLES STREET NORTHCOTE****MINUTE NO. 218****COUNCIL RESOLUTION****MOVED: Cr. S. Tsitas**
SECONDED: Cr. T. McCarthy

THAT Council consult with Charles Street Northcote residents from the corner of George Street to Timmins Streets, with a view to adopting resident parking permit restrictions. In addition, Council include in any resident survey the alternative of a one or two car restriction per household, as applies in other Council jurisdictions, in this stretch of Charles Street, Northcote.

CARRIED**11.2 RECYCLING OF TELEVISION SETS****MINUTE NO. 219****COUNCIL RESOLUTION****MOVED: Cr. T. Laurence**
SECONDED: Cr. T. McCarthy

THAT Council invite local television retailers and consult with local electrical repair businesses and other organisations recycling electronic goods to commence dialogue around local solutions to recycling of television sets in Darebin.

CARRIED

11.3

TRAFFIC ISSUES – AREA BETWEEN MERRI PARADE AND CHARLES STREET NORTHCOTE AND EPPING TRAIN LINE**MINUTE NO. 220****COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

MOVED: Cr. T. McCarthy
SECONDED: Cr. T. Laurence

THAT Officers prepare a pro-active plan for traffic calming measures for the area between Merri Parade and Charles Street Northcote and the Epping train line.

CARRIED**12. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL****CLOSE OF MEETING**

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

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 items which relate to contractual matters, proposed developments or personal hardship of ratepayers and residents:

- 12.1 Pathway Computer Application - Maintenance and Support.
- 12.2 Provision of Maintenance of Traffic Signals - CT201025.
- 12.3 Supply and Delivery of one Dual Control Multi Purpose Green Waste and Domestic Side Loading Compaction Unit - CT201013.
- 12.4 Supply of Mobile Garbage Bins.
- 12.5 Proposed Land Swap with Northland Secondary College and TW Blake Reserve.
- 12.6 Storage of Goods and Amenity Issues

CARRIED

The meeting was closed to members of the public at 9.33pm.

The Council considered and resolved on Report Item 12.1 (Pathway Computer Application – Maintenance and Support), Report Item 12.2 (Provision of Maintenance of Traffic Signals – CT201025), Report Item 12.3 (Supply and Delivery of one Dual Control Multi Purpose Green Waste and Domestic Side Loading Compaction Unit – CT201013), Report Item 12.4 (Supply of Mobile Garbage Bins), Report Item 12.5 (Proposed Land Swap with Northland Secondary College and TW Blake Reserve) and Report Item 12.6 (Storage of Goods and Amenity Issues) which had been circulated to Councillors on Thursday 3 June 2010 with the Council Agenda Paper.

RE-OPENING OF MEETING

MOVED: Cr. S. Tsitas

SECONDED: Cr. S. Chiang

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

CARRIED

The meeting was re-opened to members of the public at 10.05pm.

CONFIDENTIAL**12.1 PATHWAY COMPUTER APPLICATION MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT****MINUTE NO. 221****AUTHOR: Manager Information Systems – Pradeep Agrawal****DIRECTOR: Director Corporate Services – Bruce Dobson****SUMMARY:**

Pathway is one of Council's core information systems and is an essential tool for raising rates and other revenue. At Council's meeting held on 17 August 1998, authorisation was given for the purchase of the current Property and Rates system. A maintenance and support fee has been paid to the software vendor each year since implementation in early 1999.

As the amount of the maintenance and support fee for the 2010-2011 year is greater than \$150,000, Council approval of this expenditure is required. The annual fee for the 2009-2010 year was previously approved by Council on 6 July 2009.

CONSULTATION:

Financial Services Branch

RECOMMENDATION

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

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**MOVED: Cr. S. Tsitas****SECONDED: Cr. N. Katsis****THAT** the following Council Resolution:*“That Council:*

- (1) *Approve expenditure of \$170,625.05 (excluding GST) with INFOR for maintenance and support of the Pathway System for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011.*

- (2) *Authorise the Manager Information Services to review the annual license fees (maintenance and support) for the years 2011/2012 to 2013/2014 and renew the maintenance and support agreement for the Pathway system with INFOR at comparable costs allowing for normal industry escalations and within budgeted amounts.”*

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

CARRIED

CONFIDENTIAL**12.2 PROVISION OF MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS - CT201025****MINUTE NO. 222****AUTHOR: Senior Transport Engineer – Wal Cichocki****DIRECTOR: Director Infrastructure – Geoff Glynn****SUMMARY:**

The current contract for the maintenance of Council owned traffic signals will expire on 30 June.

Tenders have been called for the provision of maintenance of traffic signals for a period of two years, with an option to extend for a further two years. The contract involves providing scheduled and breakdown maintenance for 26 sets of traffic signals owned by Darebin Council to ensure their proper functioning.

This report recommends that the tender submission from AJ Williams Group Pty Ltd be accepted and Council enter into a contract for the Provision of Maintenance of Traffic Signals with AJ Williams Group Pty Ltd for the amount of \$543,339.50, inclusive of \$49,394.50 GST for a 4 year period. Provision of a contingency sum of \$49,395 is also recommended in accordance with Council's Project Management guidelines to cover unscheduled and breakdown events beyond predicted level.

CONSULTATION:

- VicRoads
- Brimbank City Council
- Banyule City Council
- Wyndham City Council

RECOMMENDATION

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

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

THAT the following Council Resolution:

“That:

- (1) Council resolves to enter into a contract for the Provision of Maintenance of Traffic Signals with AJ Williams Group Pty Ltd for the amount of \$543,339.50 for a four year period, inclusive of \$49,394.50 GST.*
- (2) Council resolve to allocate a contingency amount of \$49,395 (including GST), being 10% of the contract sum.*
- (3) The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to finalise and execute the contract documentation*
- (4) At the end of the first 2 year period, Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to approve the extension of the Contract for a further 2 year period, subject to satisfactory performance.”*

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

CARRIED

CONFIDENTIAL**12.3 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ONE DUAL CONTROL MULTI PURPOSE GREEN WASTE AND DOMESTIC SIDE LOADING COMPACTION UNIT - CT201013****MINUTE NO. 223****AUTHOR: Coordinator Fleet Services – John Milwain****DIRECTOR: Director Infrastructure – Geoff Glynn****SUMMARY:**

Council has a plant replacement program which is based on whole-of-life costing and reviewed annually. This program is funded as part of the annual Capital Works program and adopted by Council.

A dual control multi purpose green waste and domestic garbage side loading compaction unit (Plant Item 520) has been identified and approved for replacement as part of the 2009/2010 Capital Plant Replacement program.

In accordance with Council's Procurement Policy, tender submissions were sought from suppliers who could provide this specific plant for Council's operational needs.

The selected unit was considered by the Evaluation Panel to be the most suitable unit for delivery of this service.

CONSULTATION:

Executive Manager Infrastructure Performance
Acting Manager Environmental Operations
Workshop Coordinator
Team Leader Waste Services
Driver/Operator
Collections OHS Representative

RECOMMENDATION

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

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

THAT the following Council Resolution:

“That:

- (1) *Council resolves to award the Contract CT201013 for the supply and delivery of one Dual Control Multi Purpose Green Waste and Domestic Garbage side loading compaction unit to Adtrans Truck Centre for \$371,418.00 (inclusive of GST) in accordance with the specifications stated in the tender document.*
- (2) *The Director Infrastructure be authorised to finalise and execute the contract documentation.”*

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

CARRIED

CONFIDENTIAL**12.4 SUPPLY OF MOBILE GARBAGE BINS****MINUTE NO. 224****AUTHOR: Coordinator Waste Management – Brett Grambau****MANAGER: Director Infrastructure – Geoff Glynn****SUMMARY:**

Tenders have been called for the supply of Mobile Garbage Bins (MGB). The contract involves the supply and delivery of new MGB and associated spare parts. Procurement Australia (formerly Strategic Purchasing) as tendering agents, were engaged to conduct the tendering process on behalf of thirteen member Councils with the new contract commencing from 1 July 2010 for a three year term, with the option of a further two years in single increments.

This report recommends that the tender submission of SULO MGB Australia Pty Ltd be accepted by Council.

CONSULTATION:

Strategic Purchasing
Acting Manager City Works
Coordinator Purchasing and Procurement
Environment Officer – Water and Waste

RECOMMENDATION

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

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

THAT the following Council Resolution:

“That:

- (1) Council resolves to nominate SULO MGB Australia Pty Ltd as the preferred supplier for supply Mobile Garbage Bins, for a three year term commencing from 1 July 2010, with the option of a further two years in single year increments.*
- (2) The Director Infrastructure be authorised to finalise and execute the contract documentation.”*

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

CARRIED

CONFIDENTIAL**12.5 PROPOSED LAND SWAP WITH NORTHLAND SECONDARY COLLEGE AND TW BLAKE RESERVE****MINUTE NO. 225****AUTHOR: Director Development and Amenity – Michael Ballock****DIRECTOR: Director Development and Amenity – Michael Ballock****SUMMARY:**

As part of the development of a vision for the Northland Structure Plan the working group has explored alternative proposals for the future development of the Northland precinct and the surrounding area. One proposal looked at the relocation of Northland Secondary College to part of the TW Blake Reserve, the redevelopment of the Reserve and the creation of a new oval on part of the school site. The remainder of the current school site would then be available for a mixture of residential and commercial development.

CONSULTATION:

Northland Secondary College

RECOMMENDATION

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

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**MOVED: Cr. S. Tsitas****SECONDED: Cr. N. Katsis**

THAT the following Council Resolution:

“That Council support the proposal to transfer land from TW Blake Reserve and the Northland Secondary College and to effect this action that:

- (1) *Council authorise officers to undertake negotiations to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development conditional on adequate funds being made available for the reconstruction of the ovals and associated facilities.*
- (2) *The Memorandum of Understanding be brought back to Council for ratification.*

- (3) *Officers develop a consultation program for affected land owners and occupiers.*
- (4) *Officers develop a program of actions necessary to implement the transfer and this be reported back to Council.”*

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

CARRIED

CONFIDENTIAL**12.6 STORAGE OF GOODS AND AMENITY ISSUES****MINUTE NO. 226****AUTHOR: Manager Amenity and Enforcement – Michael Kennedy****DIRECTOR: Director Development and Amenity – Michael Ballock****SUMMARY:**

The City of Darebin is a fairly densely populated municipality with a wide variety of building styles. In an effort to achieve a pleasing, safe and rich streetscape, Council has enacted the General Local Law (2005) which provides guidance to the property owners on their maintenance requirements at the front of their property.

Council's Local Laws Unit regularly receives concerns from residents regarding the way in which a neighbour may be maintaining their property. While there are separate methods for dealing with smell issues, fire hazards etc, a property which has a general build up of materials which are not flammable or smelly, but however detract from the enjoyment of the street and may cause a hazard to those who enter the property, can be dealt with through the Amenity provisions contained in the Local Law.

CONSULTATION:

Local Laws Unit
Coordinator Amenity
Coordinator Home Support

RECOMMENDATION

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

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

THAT the following Council Resolution:

“That Council note the findings of this report regarding storage of goods and amenity issues.”

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

CARRIED

13. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 10.06pm.