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MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 21 August 2017

Released to the public on Thursday 24 August 2017

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**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE
DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD AT DAREBIN CIVIC CENTRE,
350 HIGH STREET PRESTON ON MONDAY 21 AUGUST 2017**

THE MEETING OPENED AT 6.03PM

WELCOME

The Chairperson, Mayor, Cr. Le Cerf opened the meeting with the following statement:

“I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand here today, the Wurundjeri people, and pay my respects to their Elders, past and present, as well as to Elders from other communities who may be with us today.”

In accordance with the Governance Local Law, the Chairperson, Mayor, Cr. Le Cerf asked if anyone present at the meeting had any objection to the media filming and taking photos during the meeting.

There were no objections raised.

The Chairperson, Mayor, Cr. Le Cerf noted that this meeting would be the last Council meeting for Phil Shanahan and sincerely thanked him for his guidance and assistance whilst filling the role of Acting Chief Executive Officer.

1. PRESENT

Councillors

Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) (Chairperson)
Cr. Steph Amir
Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor)
Cr. Trent McCarthy
Cr. Lina Messina
Cr. Susanne Newton
Cr. Susan Rennie
Cr. Julie Williams

Council Officers

Phil Shanahan – Acting Chief Executive Officer
Steve Hamilton – Director City Futures and Assets
Katrina Knox – Director Community Development
Tiffany White – Acting Director Corporate Services
Jacinta Stevens – Director Civic Governance and Compliance
Libby Hynes – Acting Director Operations and Environment
Katia Croce – Coordinator Council Business
Karlee Ferrante – Council Business Officer
Dave Bell – Senior Media Advisor

2. APOLOGIES

Cr. Laurence in on an approved leave of absence.

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr. Le Cerf disclosed a conflict of interest in Item 6.4 Proposed Lease to Telstra at John Hall Reserve, Bundoora.

Cr. Amir declared a conflict interest in Item 6.4 Proposed Lease to Telstra at John Hall Reserve, Bundoora.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-283

MOVED: Cr. J Williams
SECONDED: Cr. S Rennie

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 7 August 2017 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

CARRIED

5. QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

The Chairperson, Cr Le Cerf, responded to the following questions submitted for Public Question Time.

- **Anne Laver, Northcote**

The Darebin Council's Parking Policy states that residents occupying developments built post 2004 are not entitled to a Parking Permit.

However, as a significant number of these developments receive a Parking Waiver this provides a significant problem for residents.

Will the Council please revisit the Parking Policy and provide a solution to this increasing problem?

Logically disallowing a Parking Waiver would be the most effective solution and would prevent street parking problems.

Response:

At the Councillor briefing on 10 August 2017, Councillors discussed newly developed residential properties post 2004. I understand a Councillor will be moving a motion that will address the issuing of temporary permits to residents of newly developed properties when the agenda item comes up.

- **Craig Walters, Preston**

*The Council is currently negotiating an agreement to take ownership of the stormwater drainage pipes and pits that Preston Market Developments Pty Ltd are going to install for the Preston Market Stage 1B and 1C development, as well as assume responsibility for their maintenance. Darebin Council's Drainage Asset Management Plan (May 2007) describes in much detail its approach to risk assessment of stormwater drainage infrastructure. After reaching agreement to accept ownership and maintenance of the stormwater pipes and pits, **will the Council make available to ratepayers the risk assessment that evidences that the financial risk arising has been reduced to as low as is reasonably practicable?***

Response:

Flood mitigation around the Preston Market site is the responsibility of Melbourne Water. Melbourne Water set a requirement on the development proposal that Council would need to agree to take responsibility for ownership and maintenance of the proposed drain.

Council received and declined a proposal from the Preston Market developer to be responsible for ownership and maintenance of a drain which would only service the Preston Market development.

- **David Schulze, Reservoir**

Question 1:

Part 1A Sub Section 3C part 2(e) of the Local Government Act states that councils must have regards to ensure that services and facilities provided by the council are fair and equitable, how does this requirement fit with the plan to only provide one side of the SSM debate with free access to council facilities

Response:

Council's support of the Marriage Equality / 'yes' campaign is up for discussion at tonight's meeting. The matter of taking action to support vulnerable and marginalised groups across Council facilities, programs and services has been endorsed as part of the recent adoption of the Council Plan 2017-2021, specifically Goal Five:

Supporting and recognising the hurt and vulnerability facing Darebin's LQBTIQ communities is consistent with the recent pledge of one million dollars by the Victorian Government to boost funding to community and mental health organisations during the 12 week postal vote process.

Question 2:

Why is the council proposing changes to the Australia day ceremonies based on the survey to just 27 focus groups of which just 81 people took the time to respond (which is just 0.052% of the population), shouldn't all the people of Darebin be given a chance to contribute to the debate, with more information provided to all residents rather than a 72 hour rushed agenda item?

Response:

The engagement process undertaken to date commenced as an initial step in engaging with Council's key stakeholders, particularly our Aboriginal Advisory Group, in determining how Australia Day events can be celebrated from 2018 onwards to ensure an inclusive approach. This was designed and delivered in the context of an emerging debate. Since then ongoing

wide-spread public debate and media coverage is occurring, prompted by a number of factors:

- Debate within the broader Australian community at the local government level is occurring well beyond Darebin and resonating across communities across Australia
- Correspondence from the Assistant Immigration Minister to Darebin, threatening to revoke our authority should Citizenships ceremonies not be conducted on January 26;
- The decision last week of the City of Yarra regarding January 26 and subsequent unfolding events and actions by the Immigration Minister.

In light of this context Darebin's Chief Executive Officer determined the report constitutes Urgent Business and listed it for discussion at tonight's meeting.

I would also like to say that over the last week or so I had many residents of Darebin contact me and have received overwhelming support for what is being put forward this evening.

David Schulze:: It still should go to a wider public to provide an opportunity for everyone.

Chairperson: We are your elected representatives to make decisions on behalf of our community and that's the way representative democracy works.

David Schulze: Not when it comes to National significance.

Chairperson: Sorry you have had your opportunity.

- **Gina Wittingslow, Kingsbury**

Hi Gina from Kingsbury here, long time watcher first time writer. Just want to say I love tuning in, but have a suggestions that I believe would enhance the viewer's experience of watching council meetings online.

Add a Dramatic Score...

All good dramas are enhanced by a moody soundtrack. With Darebin's vast numbers of underemployed musicians, an artist in residence program would be a great way of creating jobs for up and coming bands or soloists who could sit in the chamber and ad lib a bit of music as the drama of council meetings unfolds.

This Avant Garde proposal would be a first in the history of Councils worldwide and would secure Darebin as truly progressive place to live.

What do you think???

Response:

We have reviewed a number of options for an appropriate and suitable soundtrack to accompany Council meetings. At the top of our list is Mission Impossible, followed closely by the Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1. Original soundtrack commissions were scoped but considered unviable in the context of rate capping.

Upon further review, our assessment has indicated that music would adversely impact on people with hearing impairment, people with dementia as well as people whose primary language is not English.

A soundtrack may also adversely impact on the concentration and focus of the listener as well as Councillors and Officers. Comprehension of complex matters may be compromised.

Whilst the idea is worthy in terms of generating new and interesting platforms to support local composers and musicians, the proposal runs counter to accessible communications policies and procedures required in the chamber.

- **Marion Harper, Darebin Progress Association**

Question 1:

Given the community outrage at the State Government's decision to sell off large areas of public housing land across Victoria, including Walker St. in Darebin and 9 other estates, and given that they will not confirm where tenants are going, when they are going, how many will be able to return, which means a complete disruption of their lives and their inability to maintain their links with family, doctors, hospitals, schools etc.

Apart from the loss of such land to private developers, is the fact that the government will not commit to public housing but intends any built to be 'not for profit' housing (called social housing). Will Darebin Council support other councils, community groups and tenants in campaigning against this appalling privatisation at a time when there are over 35,000 on public housing waiting lists and probably as many more homeless, in inappropriate accommodation or paying in excess of 40% of their income in private rental? Does Council support public housing?

Question 2:

Will Darebin Council consider developing a community and council subcommittee to campaign for public housing?

Response:

Thank you we are considering this this evening. But just to summarise some of the conversations that we have been having as a Council is that we are very concerned about policy at present the Government is undertaking for their public housing program and obviously Walker Street is the one that is affected within Darebin. We have concerns and there are three parts of the process:

- We have concerns over the relocation of the tenants and their rights to return;
- We have concerns about our role in the planning process; and
- We are concerned about some of the design and size of the apartments that have been put forward by the State Government and there are probably a few other things I can list but we are actually talking about those concerns tonight as part of adopting the submission that we will be making to the standing committee.

- **Geoff Richards, Reservoir**

Question 1:

This is in relation to this lady's parking and I want to follow on from that. One of the main problems is that people use their garages for storage which I hope Council will address as well as we get cars out on the street and that's not the purpose of my question tonight. Also parked in my Storey Road street is a caravan longer than the normal size that we have so my question there is can Council reiterate what is allowed to be birth, tied, whatever in the street? The same applies to building along there too as there are b-doubles there while construction is on. Can we establish please what can be left on the street? It's a danger to actually park on the nature strip on one side otherwise we wouldn't get passed the door. My second comment is I echo the same as the previous colleague all of tonight's Australia Day

came and I am a regular at Council meetings came out of left field as quite a surprise to me and I have never seen a survey on behalf of this.

Response:

Just in relation to your first question on the parking, we are very happy to pass on any questions to the officers who can clarify what can be parked and where and how long and the aspect involved directly with you and your street, in particular with issues occurring there. In relation to the consultation regarding the report we will be receiving tonight around Australia Day, officers have undertaken consultation with 27 advisory committees that Council has established to advise us on issues and we have also done the consultation with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee to inform the report that's before us this evening. I think the other point that we would like to make at this time is that issue needs leadership and sometimes we just need to stand up for what we believe in.

- **Keith Coffey, Reservoir**

Question 1

My question tonight is one of the more serious ones that I've had to put now I've been attending Council meetings for over 50 years and in that time have seen the good the bad and the ugly and I didn't like what I saw the other day that I had to see you on the television Kim saying about the meeting tonight, I thought that's a bit funny, I knew it was something that might be happening and then I saw a little bit in the Sun, but then I got a number of phone calls they were all alarmed that they have no way of getting in touch because it was advertised apparently on your website but not everyone in my age group have a computer or know how to use one. I do have one but I don't look at the Council website all the time.

A lot of people would like to know how the Council can made a decision on community concerns without them being informed in any way how to do so. I have been told that it was on the website and that is why I discussed the part about people not knowing how to use it. There are a lot of people who come here in their 50's and 60's from various backgrounds happy to be Australian and their alarmed and haven't got a chance.

Response:

I will just stop you there our agenda is available on the website and before the meeting it is available at our Customer Service Centre. I am assuming that you are talking specifically about Australia day. That report was due to come to us in 2 weeks' time on September 4th and that would have been made available via the website and that's how the community would have been informed about the report. We decided and the CEO decided to consider this as urgent business.

Keith: Another thing I have been told is that when people ring up the consultation for the survey finishes on the 24th which is next Thursday and people don't know anything about it.

Mayor: The consultation we undertook finished sometime last month.

Keith: I've been around a long time and I didn't even know of it but the community – not including any of the decisions and changes that will affect Australia day as its been there for so long it's a big change to want to do I hope that no decisions are made until proper consultation is held and give them the opportunity.

Mayor: I will take that as your last question as there is usually only 2 and I would just like to say that the role of government is about advocating on behalf of our community, all of our community which include our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Our role is also to care about the health and wellbeing of our community I think while we continue to celebrate Australia Day on the 26th, I think that we are actually harming the wellbeing of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

- **Walter Franz, Resident**

Question 1:

Will Council reconsider its position on changing Australia Day. The Darebin Reconciliation Group fully supports the change in Australia Day, fully supports treaty negotiations both at State and Federal level and that is where the situation belongs. The 26th is as relevant as almost irrelevant it is a historical event that took place it is not the day that the first fleet arrival it arrived on the 18th & 19th of January. The French arrived on the 24th. On the 26th it was decided to relocate it to the adjoining harbour which was discovered only on the 23rd.

Response:

So the 26th is when the British flag was planted in or around Sydney Cove and I guess that is why it had been chosen for whatever reason we will be debating and have not made a decision we will be considering this motion tonight.

- **John Nugent, Epping**

Question 1

Question about public toilets in Keon Park not being open. We look through the city, we go to Westgarth Street and High Street then we go up a little further and we have one in Batman Park and then there is one in all nation park. Then we come a little further and we see that the area is Preston and we only have to look up the corner of the road and there is the public toilet there. We go across past Cramers and there is a public toilet on the corner of Mary Street and Preston Football ground and there is also another public toilet on the other side of the football ground. The next thing we come to Reservoir and that's an area I know pretty well and the 2 public toilets there, we have got one in Edwards Street next to the library and on the other side of the railway line. We have another public toilet that is open all the time on the Corner of Cheddar Road and Broadway so before you. Then we come to Keon Park and there are no public toilets there at all. Now I know the Council will ring and ask questions about it but there we now have people coming into the shop and asking if they can use the public toilets. Council like to listen and say the public toilets will be open when the football grounds are open. Let's look at it this way, football grounds don't open until about 5pm so if you want to go out at 10 you are in a spot of trouble.

Mayor we need something open, if you are not prepared to do it at Keon Park open the doors of the pavilion so we can use them and it's a disgrace that I have to get up and ask these questions.

Response:

I will refer the question to officers but I do know that this question has been asked and answered a number of times.

- **Tania, Darebin Resident**

I have found it quite sad that you have been representing Indigenous people over the last week. I know that you are Council and that you are willing but in blurbs that were sent out to us when we had to vote there has never been any mention about the issues such as what we need to be debating tonight. My question to you is, after you have seen what has happened to the Yarra Council how will Darebin feel proud if we have to also lose the idea of having citizenship ceremonies?

Response:

The decision hasn't been taken around Australia Day but what I will say is that this debate is not about Australia day, this debate is about the appropriateness for it to be held on January 26th. I think that the Minister got it wrong when he stripped Yarra Council of their authorisation to hold citizenship ceremonies. We are elected to represent our community and make decisions on behalf of that community and the decision that was made by the minister was to punish us for doing that, and I think that is wrong.

- **Darebin Resident**

Every Local Council is subject to the Commonwealth of Australia constitution covering Clause 5 not many people will know that. You are not a law unto yourself, Councils are a mere Department of the State Government. The other question I want to ask is on the agenda for today there is the word agenda 21. What does that mean please?

Response:

Can you point to where that is? It might be the date as it is the 21st August. I am just not sure where in the agenda you are referring to. I can only imagine that it was in reference to the date.

Mayoral Statement

At this point I would like to acknowledge that Uncle Boydie has joined us. He travelled down from Mooroopna and he is the grandson of William Cooper who holds a special place in Darebin's heart but also is one of the leaders in the First Aid of Mourning that was held on January 26, 1938. So I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you this evening.

- **Kara Riesing**

I am here tonight just to support you in coming forward on changing January 26 and I would like to commend you on bringing this forward and I hope change will be made tonight.

Response:

The Mayor thanked Ms Riesing.

- **Resident**

Regarding Australia Day why not refer to 3 December 1854 as Eureka. Why not that? People fought and died on that day and that war still hasn't stopped that day should be recognised.

Response:

We aren't proposing to put forward a day when Australia Day should be celebrated and I think that is a discussion that we need to have. We are just suggesting that it shouldn't be January 26th and hopefully a national debate follows to select a date that is inclusive of everybody to celebrate this day.

- **Ms Lidia Thorpe, Preston**

I would also like to congratulate Darebin Council in being a progressive council and following on from Yarra and a number of other Councils around the country. I would like to ask the question because I am starting to feel the same feeling I feel on the 26 January given that there are still a lot of people in our country that don't understand the hurt that we feel as first people. I would like to know how we are going to continue to educate people on the real history of this country so that people can be better informed.

Response:

I think one of the things that I hope for as what has happened with the decision at Yarra and perhaps the decision we will make tonight, is that we start a conversation and start educating the community about Australia's history and so that we all have a better and deeper understanding of what happened because I think that if people really did acknowledge and know about that then perhaps they would feel ashamed to be celebrating on January 26.

PROCEDURAL MOTION**Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 17-284****MOVED:** Cr. S Rennie
SECONDED: Cr. S Amir

That Council reorder the agenda to hear Urgent Business Items first, then revert to the original order of the agenda.

CARRIED**ADMISSION OF URGENT BUSINESS****Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 17-285****MOVED:** Cr. T McCarthy
SECONDED: Cr. G Greco

That Urgent Business relating to Australia Day Events be admitted to the agenda and be heard as item 9.1

CARRIED**9. URGENT BUSINESS**

The following people made a submission in relation to this item and were thanked by the Chairperson, Mayor, Cr. Le Cerf:

- Leon Zemekis
- David Schulze
- Daniel Ducrou
- Lidia Thorpe
- Suriyan Nalliah
- Siu Chan

9.1 AUSTRALIA DAY EVENTS AT DAREBIN**Author:** Manager Creative Culture and Events**Reviewed By:** Director Community Development

Report Background

The report summarises the range of local community attitudes to Australia Day events in Darebin and presents options for deliberation on how Council approaches its Australia Day events from 2018 onwards.

The report provides options specific to the Australia Day Awards and a citizenship ceremony conducted annually in the City of Darebin. A second part of the report proposes options to strengthen the existing Australia Day Awards from 2018 onwards.

The report is in response to an emerging public debate regarding Australia Day and the #changethedate campaign which Darebin Councillors have been actively engaged in, attracting extensive local and national interest.

Recent correspondence from the Assistant Minister for Immigration Alex Hawke provides further context for this report (**Appendix A**). In addition, a decision of the City of Yarra Council to refer to Australia Day as "January 26" until another "more appropriate" term is adopted nationally and to stop holding citizenship ceremonies on January 26 has resulted in the Assistant Minister for Immigrations Alex Hawke revoking the City of Yarra's authority to host citizenship ceremonies.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefing – 10 August 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 5 – Involving our diverse community

Health and Wellbeing Plan

Summary

Australia Day, and its history, is complex for many Australians, in particular Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. For some Australians January 26 is national day to celebrate, for others it represents a day of mourning and sorrow. Currently there is a growing national debate on the relevance and significance of Australia Day celebrations, specifically concerning the date January 26 which historically relates to the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788. This is not a new debate in the community, and the recognition of First Nations peoples is a narrative that is not limited to Australia Day events.

Darebin has a strong tradition of affirming a proud history of respect and recognition of all of its citizens, particularly our First Nations people all year round. In the context of this emerging debate about Australia Day, Darebin has reaffirmed this position. A reactive and extensive national media campaign as well as a local community discussion has been generated and demonstrates an emotive response in the community as well as a rise in broader community support for change in 2017.

The national debate has highlighted the complexities and emotional responses to Australia Day. Importantly, it has also created a discourse about how Darebin can take a leadership role and make Australia Day an inclusive one that brings all people together in the spirit of respect and recognition at the local level.

Council has taken a strong public stance on its position in support of the #changethedate campaign. This report seeks Council's direction on options for how Council approaches its Australia Day events from 2018 onwards.

Recommendation**That Council:**

- (1) Decide on a preferred option for Australia day Events in Darebin.
 - (2) Continue to recognise excellence and service in Darebin in the lead up to Australia Day through the annual Australia Day Awards, renewed as the *Darebin Community Awards*.
 - (3) In collaboration with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders, introduce new categories within the Awards that celebrate and recognise the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live, work or study in Darebin.
-

Council Resolution**MINUTE NO. 17–286**

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

That Council:

- (1) Acknowledges that January 26 marks the beginning of the British invasion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lands and oppression of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and is therefore not an appropriate date for an inclusive national celebration.
 - (2) Acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people never ceded sovereignty of their land and have continuously cared for their country for over 60,000 years as the World's Oldest Living Culture.
 - (3) Acknowledges the first Day of Mourning was held on January 26, 1938, being the 150th anniversary of the British invasion. The Day was attended by Indigenous Australians and non-Indigenous supporters in protest of the national holiday and the 'callous treatment' of Aboriginal people and continues to be held annually.
 - (4) From 2018 onwards, hosts an inclusive and culturally-appropriate event on an agreed date in partnership with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee that recognises and celebrates the World's Oldest Living Culture.
 - (5) Supports the #changethedate campaign and initiates an ongoing conversation, in partnership with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee, to build better understanding with the broader Darebin community of Australia's history and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community's pain in relation to the significance and history of January 26. This includes referring to January 26 merely as January 26 in all communications.
 - (6) Commits to engaging with Darebin's diverse community, including established and newly arrived communities, to raise community awareness and understanding.
 - (7) Advocates to the Federal Government to change the date in line with the resolution passed by the National General Assembly of Local Government in June 2017.
 - (8) Seeks opportunities to collaborate and partner with Yarra City Council and other relevant stakeholders to support each other's events, advocacy and education initiatives.
 - (9) Continues to recognise excellence and service in Darebin, renewed as the Darebin
-

Community Awards, and to be awarded on a day other than January 26.

- (10) In collaboration with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders, introduce new categories within the Awards that recognise and celebrate the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live, work or study in Darebin.
- (11) Reaffirms our commitment to holding citizenship ceremonies in a positive and timely way on dates as required that will not include January 26.

CARRIED

Introduction

Darebin Council currently holds two events in January:

(1) A Citizenship ceremony on January 26: People from a range of different countries officially receive their Australian citizenship. There are several of these ceremonies held throughout the year.

(2) The Australia Day Awards: Individuals and groups receive awards for making an outstanding contribution to the Darebin community. Darebin Council currently holds this event prior to January 26, usually a week before.

- A community engagement plan was developed in the context of an emerging Australia wide community debate about the 26 January occurring at the local government level. Council utilised its extensive and diverse network of twenty seven advisory committees through an online survey as well as convened a roundtable discussion with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee.
- Options proposed in this report seek to strengthen Council's leadership role and demonstrate the ways in which it can take actions to be more inclusive and recognise the complexities surrounding January 26.

Issues and Discussion

- Darebin is one of the most diverse local government areas in Melbourne and residents believe diversity makes life better in Darebin. Aligned to the Local Government Act, particularly, Section Three Darebin takes direct action to support all our population groups and promote the benefits of social, cultural and religious diversity to combat discrimination and build a stronger community.
- At her speech on the 26 January 2017 the Mayor noted: *"As you know this is a very auspicious date in our national calendar – the day we celebrate the birth of modern Australia. It's a date that has a big history, a complicated history, a history that we grapple with and we debate more and more as the years pass. It's not something we put in our citizenship tests, but Australia Day, which marks the planting of the British Flag at Sydney Cove and the beginning of colonisation, is also a symbol of the unfinished business we have with our First Australians in this country."* **Appendix B** notes the full speech delivered by Cr Kim Le Cerf on 26 January 2017.
- Darebin Council recognises that Australia Day has different meanings for our diverse community and particularly for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The year 2017 also marks the 60th anniversary of an important speech made by Pastor Nicholls in Batman Park on Australia Day in 1957. On that day he spoke about the gulf between white and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander inhabitants, suggesting it should be bridged. The speech was warmly welcomed by the Mayor of Northcote, Cr Spain on behalf of the Council. **Appendix C** displays a media clipping from 30 January 1957 reporting on the speech in Batman Park.

- As part of annual Australia Day events and functions, Councillor speeches have regularly reflected and affirmed Council's proud history and commitment to reconciliation.
- Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull recently said the following: *"Changing the date does not have my support, it is a debate everyone is entitled to have, but it's not a change the government supports."*
- At the most recent Australian Local Government Congress, Australian Councils, the following motion was carried (64–62 in favour): *That the National General Assembly encourage Australian councils to consider efforts they could take to lobby the Federal Government to change the date of recognition of Australia Day.*
- Recent community engagement demonstrates an overwhelming support for Council to take a leadership role in how Australia Day can be more inclusive, bringing people together in the spirit of respect and recognition. One of the strongest themes to emerge from the recent community engagement was Council's important role in celebrating and acknowledging the achievements of all of its citizens, particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders residing or working within Darebin.
- An online survey was distributed to Council's twenty seven advisory groups on 4 July 2017 and closed on 19 July 2017. Eighty one people responded to the survey. The survey distributed to the Advisory groups is at **Appendix D**.
- A roundtable with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee was convened on Wednesday 19 July 2017 at the Aborigines Advancement League. Seven people participated in the roundtable discussion facilitated by Darebin's Equity and Diversity Unit.
- The survey and roundtable results are at **Appendix E**. Highlights of the online survey include a majority of respondents in support of the following.
 - Darebin Council's support of the #changethedate campaign (86% Favourable)
 - Preference for a citizenship ceremony to be held on a different day (60% Favourable).
 - Preference for a rename of the Australia Day Awards (48% Favourable); and
 - Support for an event that acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experiences of 26 January (61% Favourable).
- The roundtable discussion with Aboriginal Advisory Committee highlighted the following considerations:
 - Recognition and acknowledgement of the World's Oldest Living Culture;
 - Changing the activities for Australia Day events, ensuring an inclusive day for all; and
 - Support for a standalone event that celebrates how the country has benefited from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and people.
- As part of a dedicated strategy to celebrate and recognise the achievements of all of Darebin's citizens, a number of approaches to Australia Day events are proposed in this report for Council's consideration and deliberation.

Options for Consideration

There are two options proposed in the report that reaffirm Council's stated and public position of Australia Day events and celebrations. The first is an approach (Option One) that presents little change in the delivery of Australia Day events, however, a dedicated and ongoing campaign for change will underpin all communication and event strategies. The second approach (Option Two) takes action for change and recommends to cease holding a

citizenship ceremony on January 26 and proposes to combine both the Awards and a citizenship ceremony in a large scale and celebratory occasion on the evening of January 25.

This second option will demonstrate the actions necessary towards shaping and building a better Australia and move Council towards a kind of reconciliation and recognition required to affirm a pledge to First Nation peoples. However, there are known risks in taking this decision in light of the recent decision of the Immigration Minister Alex Hawke to revoke the City of Yarra's authority to conduct citizenship ceremonies following a Council resolution on the 15 August 2017 to stop holding citizenship ceremonies on January 26. Legal advice sought by officers in preparation of this report also confirms this as a strong possibility should Council take similar action regarding citizenship ceremonies on January 26.

Each option presents and introduces new opportunities to recognise the contribution of First Nation peoples as well as honour a long standing history and tradition of marking Australia Day in Darebin through inclusive and celebratory occasions.

Options for Council's consideration of the future state for Australia Day events at Darebin are:

Option 1 Business as usual + Advocacy Campaign

- Darebin continues to coordinate an Awards ceremony within the week leading up to Australia Day and hosts an inclusive Citizenship ceremony on January 26. As per all ceremonies, a Welcome to Country opens the event followed by a keynote speech from the Mayor.
- Council continues to support a proactive advocacy campaign in support of the #changethedate campaign.

Option 2: Joint Citizenship Ceremony and Awards + Advocacy Campaign

- A combined event that brings both the Awards and the Citizenship ceremony to one event on the evening of January 25. This event would be of significance in terms of scale and design, acknowledging the importance of citizenship and recognition.
- Council continues to support a proactive advocacy campaign in support of the #changethedate campaign.
- A renewal of a more inclusive and celebratory annual Awards is proposed in this report where Darebin will continue to recognise excellence and service in Darebin under a new name; the *Darebin Community Awards*.
- The introduction of two categories recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and young people is proposed in this report.
- To strengthen and build broader recognition and acknowledgement of the achievement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, two additional award categories are proposed for 2018 onwards in the annual Awards.
 - Darebin and Torres Strait Islander Aboriginal Leader of the Year Award
 - Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Youth of the Year Award
- Plus the traditional three award categories:
 - Darebin Citizen of the Year Award;
 - Darebin Youth of the Year Award; and
 - Darebin Community Group Award.
- Officers will engage with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders to establish the new categories, with a focus on the selection criteria and process.

- An renewed and expanded awards for excellence and service in Darebin from three categories to five will facilitate an “opening up” of the existing Awards, through an inclusive new approach that better reflects Darebin’s local community and strengthens how Darebin can expand the way in which it acknowledges and celebrates the contribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living, working or studying in Darebin.
- Should Council want to take further actions regarding Australia day events in Darebin, a strong and confirmed position through Council resolution will be required.

Financial and Resource Implications

Australia Day activities are funded out of existing operational budgets.

Since the early 1950’s successive Commonwealth Governments have accorded local government a significant role in Australian Citizenship through the conferral of Australian Citizenship at Citizenship ceremonies.

The Commonwealth Government provides funding to local government bodies through State and Territory governments in the form of untied financial assistance grants. This funding purportedly covers citizenship and affirmation ceremonies performed by local government.

The media release from the Hon Alex Hawke MP Assistant Minister for Immigration and Border Protection details that he had written to the Minister for Local Government and Territories Senator Fiona Nash, asking that she examine the proportion of Commonwealth Government funding provided to Yarra Council for the purpose of conducting citizenship ceremonies, with a view to that funding being reconsidered following today’s revocation decision.

However, it should be noted that general purpose grants are allocated between the States and Territories on the basis of their relative population shares, with Victoria receiving 25.3% of the Australian total in 2017–18 and that each State and Territory receives a fixed share of the local roads grants pool, with Victoria receiving 20.6% of the available grants.

It is the role of the Victoria Grants Commission to determine the allocation of financial assistance grants provided by the Commonwealth Government to Victorian councils. All of the funds allocated by the Commission are distributed on a formula basis and all funds are untied, which means that councils are able to determine how they are to be used.

Accordingly, under the current arrangements the Commonwealth Government has no mechanism to reduce an individual Council’s funding.

Risk Management

There is nothing in the *Australian Citizenship Act 2007* or on the *Australian Citizenship Regulation 2016* which has the effect of making the Australian Citizenship Ceremonies Code legally binding. However it is open to the Minister to withdraw his current authorisation that enables Darebin to conduct citizenship ceremonies when he deems that the code has been breached. Recent correspondence from the Immigration Minister Alex Hawke and actions taken to revoke the City of Yarra authority to preside over citizenship ceremonies presents a certain risk to Darebin also be revoked should a decision be made to stop holding a citizenship ceremony on January 26. It is open to the Minister to withdraw his current authorisation. There is no direction as to the exercise of discretion in the Act, or in the Regulations. This means that the Minister’s discretion is unfettered and, as such, he is free to grant or revoke authorisation as he wishes (subject to relevant administrative law principles).

Therefore a decision to adopt Option Two in this report presents a serious and significant risk to Council and may be deemed to be an action that is politicising citizenship ceremonies and therefore a breach of the Code.

Policy Implications

Economic Development

Environmental Sustainability

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

This initiative progresses human rights, equity and inclusion outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in recognizing the rights of Indigenous Australians and seeking to promote respect and understanding of these rights among the broader Australian community. It recognizes the rights of all people to have choice about how they live and the means to make those choices including the ability for First Nations to participate in Australian society as equals with a distinct status and culture that can be celebrated within the diversity of the nation.

Other

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

Future Actions

- Upon Council resolution, future state of Australia Day events confirmed and event planning progressed.

Consultation and Advocacy

- Data for this report has been collected from survey results completed by members of the City of Darebin's Advisory Committees and Reference Groups, on changes to Australia Day Celebrations along with a round table discussion with our Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee.
- A small number of responses from the general public have been received and placed on file. These have been deemed out of scope of this engagement plan and therefore not considered. Should Council consider the community consultation be expanded into the future, these submissions can be considered.
- Council officers have also consulted with other Councils in Australia regarding Australia Day events and celebrations. These Councils have been active in the emerging debate regarding 26 January as well as #changethedate campaign.
- Council Officers were in attendance at the National Australia Day Conference in Adelaide in late July and further connections to other local governments have been enabled.

Related Documents

Attachments

Correspondence from the Assistant Minister for Immigration, Alex Hawke (**Appendix A**)

Speech delivered by Cr Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) on 26 January 2017 (**Appendix B**)

Media Clipping from 30 January 1957 in the speech in Batman Park made by Pastor Nicholls on Australia Day (**Appendix C**)

Hardcopy Version of Survey seeking feedback on Change the date January 26 (**Appendix D**)

Survey and Roundtable Results (**Appendix E**)

Disclosure of Interest

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

ADMISSION OF URGENT BUSINESS**Council Resolution****MINUTE NO. 17–287****MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy****SECONDED: Cr. L Messina**

That Urgent Business items relating to Marriage Equality be admitted to the agenda and be heard as item 9.2.

CARRIED**9.2 MARRIAGE EQUALITY**

The following people made a submission in relation to this item and were thanked by the Chairperson, Mayor, Cr. Le Cerf:

- Andrew Vines
- Jason Fernandez
- Carolyn Lunt

Motion**MOVED: Cr. S Rennie****SECONDED: Cr. L Messina****That** Council:

- (1) Reaffirms its longstanding commitment to achieving marriage equality through a free vote in parliament, noting Council's previous endorsement of marriage equality in July 2015 and December 2016, as well as Council's support of its LGBTIQ citizens since 2012 through actions delivered via the Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan and also the Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diverse Advisory Committee.
- (2) Endorses the Mayor to write to the Australian Government expressing Council's disappointment at the decision to implement a national postal survey and outlining the harmful impacts on LGBTIQ Australians that will flow from this, particularly for young Australians.
- (3) Endorses the Mayor to write to all local, LGBTIQ–focussed services, organisations and groups to express Council's support for their members and communities over the next four months.
- (4) Supports LGBTIQ–focussed organisations to access Council meeting rooms and spaces at no cost, for gatherings and activities that promote the health and wellbeing of the community while the national postal survey is administered over the next four months and effective immediately.
- (5) Endorses the Mayor to write to all civic, religious, educational and sporting organisations to highlight Council's position and support for marriage equality and the actions that we will take to support and promote the safety, health and wellbeing of our LGBTIQ community over the next 4 months.
- (6) Delivers a proactive advocacy and communication strategy over the next four months that affirms Council's support for marriage equality and the "Yes" campaign in speeches, website and social media, local multicultural news outlets and in buildings

and other public realm opportunities.

- (7) Explores any additional ways in which Council can support the “Yes” campaign.
- (8) Urgently explores options to facilitate participation in the survey by people who are homeless or do not have a fixed address.

Cr. McCarthy proposed to the mover and seconder that additional wording be included at the end of point (1) as follows.

- (1) Reaffirms its longstanding commitment to achieving marriage equality through a free vote in parliament, noting Council’s previous endorsement of marriage equality in July 2015 and December 2016, as well as Council’s support of its LGBTIQ citizens since 2012 through actions delivered via the Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan and also the Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diverse Advisory Committee **and Council’s support to IDAHOBIT since 2010.**

This was accepted by Cr. Rennie and Cr. Messina.

THE AMENDED MOTION THEN READ AS FOLLOWS:

Amended Motion

MOVED: Cr. S Rennie
SECONDED: Cr. L Messina

That Council:

- (1) Reaffirms its longstanding commitment to achieving marriage equality through a free vote in parliament, noting Council’s previous endorsement of marriage equality in July 2015 and December 2016, as well as Council’s support of its LGBTIQ citizens since 2012 through actions delivered via the Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan and also the Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diverse Advisory Committee, and Council’s support to IDAHOBIT since 2010.
- (2) Endorses the Mayor to write to the Australian Government expressing Council’s disappointment at the decision to implement a national postal survey and outlining the harmful impacts on LGBTIQ Australians that will flow from this, particularly for young Australians.
- (3) Endorses the Mayor to write to all local, LGBTIQ–focussed services, organisations and groups to express Council’s support for their members and communities over the next four months.
- (4) Supports LGBTIQ–focussed organisations to access Council meeting rooms and spaces at no cost, for gatherings and activities that promote the health and wellbeing of the community while the national postal survey is administered over the next four months and effective immediately.
- (5) Endorses the Mayor to write to all civic, religious, educational and sporting organisations to highlight Council’s position and support for marriage equality and the actions that we will take to support and promote the safety, health and wellbeing of our LGBTIQ community over the next 4 months.
- (6) Delivers a proactive advocacy and communication strategy over the next four months that affirms Council’s support for marriage equality and the “Yes” campaign in speeches, website and social media, local multicultural news outlets and in buildings and other public realm opportunities.
- (7) Explores any additional ways in which Council can support the “Yes” campaign.
- (8) Urgently explores options to facilitate participation in the survey by people who are

homeless or do not have a fixed address.

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

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-288

MOVED: Cr. S Rennie
SECONDED: Cr. L Messina

That Council:

- (1) Reaffirms its longstanding commitment to achieving marriage equality through a free vote in parliament, noting Council's previous endorsement of marriage equality in July 2015 and December 2016, as well as Council's support of its LGBTIQ citizens since 2012 through actions delivered via the Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Action Plan and also the Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diverse Advisory Committee, and Council's support to IDAHOBIT since 2010.
- (2) Endorses the Mayor to write to the Australian Government expressing Council's disappointment at the decision to implement a national postal survey and outlining the harmful impacts on LGBTIQ Australians that will flow from this, particularly for young Australians.
- (3) Endorses the Mayor to write to all local, LGBTIQ-focussed services, organisations and groups to express Council's support for their members and communities over the next four months.
- (4) Supports LGBTIQ-focussed organisations to access Council meeting rooms and spaces at no cost, for gatherings and activities that promote the health and wellbeing of the community while the national postal survey is administered over the next four months and effective immediately.
- (5) Endorses the Mayor to write to all civic, religious, educational and sporting organisations to highlight Council's position and support for marriage equality and the actions that we will take to support and promote the safety, health and wellbeing of our LGBTIQ community over the next 4 months.
- (6) Delivers a proactive advocacy and communication strategy over the next four months that affirms Council's support for marriage equality and the "Yes" campaign in speeches, website and social media, local multicultural news outlets and in buildings and other public realm opportunities.
- (7) Explores any additional ways in which Council can support the "Yes" campaign.
- (8) Urgently explores options to facilitate participation in the survey by people who are homeless or do not have a fixed address.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Phil Shanahan, Acting Chief Executive Officer temporarily left the meeting at 7.33pm and returned at 7.34pm.

Dave Bell, Senior Media Advisor left the meeting at the conclusion of the above item at 7.51pm

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

6.1 SIX MONTH PROGRESS REPORT FOR COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES WITH COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION

Author: Coordinator Council Plan and Performance

Reviewed By: Director Civic Governance and Compliance

Report Background

At the Special Meeting of Council of 14 November 2016, Councillors were appointed to Community Advisory Committees. This report provides a six month progress update on Committee activities from December 2016 to May 2017.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 20 October 2017, Council resolved:

That Council...

(4) *That officers report on all Committees to Council every six months.'*

At its meeting held on 20 March 2017, Council resolved:

That Council:

- (1) *Notes the six month progress reports of the 19 Community Advisory Committees for the period June 2016 to November 2016 as attached in Appendix A to this report.*
- (2) *Establishes a Community Advisory Working Group to discuss how to review the advisory committees. The working group will be comprised of the Mayor and any Councillors who wish to participate and will be supported by relevant Council officers. The working group will meet on a regular basis over coming months to develop proposals for Council's consideration at a meeting in June 2017.*

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 5 – Involving our diverse community

Summary

This report provides a six month progress report for the 19 Community Advisory Committees with Councillor representation for the period December 2016 to May 2017.

The attached Committee reports provide the following information for each Community Advisory Committee:

- Committee Summary
- Progress of key issues/challenges
- Progress of activities/outcomes
- Future plans for the next six months

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-289

MOVED: Cr. S Rennie
SECONDED: Cr. J Williams

That Council note the six month progress reports of the 19 Community Advisory Committees for the period December 2016 to May 2017 as attached in **Appendix A** to this report.

CARRIED

6.2 GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY POLICY 2017**Author:** Council Business and Governance Officer**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance

Report Background

The *Councillor Code of Conduct 2017* and the *Excellence in Governance – Employee Code of Conduct 2013* provide guidelines on the appropriate handling of offers (whether accepted or declined) of gifts, benefits and hospitality. This Policy consolidates those guidelines and applies to Councillors and Council officers similarly.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 18 August 2014, Council resolved:

‘That Council adopts the Gifts and Hospitality Policy 2014 attached as Appendix A to this report with the following amendments:

- *At item 6.7 paragraph 2, amend the amount to \$50.*
- *At item 6.8 paragraph 3, add the words ‘community events’ after working lunches.’*

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 – A well governed Council

Summary

The *Gifts and Hospitality Policy 2017* (the Policy) provides guidance to Councillors and Council officers in addressing any offer, receipt or refusal of any gift, benefit or hospitality by ensuring that:

- A high standard of probity and accountability is maintained;
- Legislative requirements and community expectations are met;
- Council activities are not influenced, or perceived to be influenced, by the receipt of gifts, benefits or hospitality; and
- Gifts that are accepted or declined are properly disclosed and managed.

The Policy applies to all Councillors and Council officers and operates in conjunction with the *Councillor Code of Conduct 2017* and the *Excellence in Governance – Employee Code of Conduct 2013*.

Recommendation

That Council adopts the Gifts and Hospitality Policy 2017 attached as **Appendix A** to this report.

Motion

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

That Council adopts the Gifts and Hospitality Policy 2017 attached as **Appendix A** to this report.

Cr. Le Cerf proposed to the mover and seconder that an additional point (2) be included as follows.

- (2) The Gifts and Hospitality register, from the start of this current Council term, be made available on Council's web site, and is updated at least monthly.

This was agreed to by Cr. McCarthy and Cr. Rennie.

THE AMENDED MOTION THEN READ AS FOLLOWS:

Amended Motion

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

That:

- (1) Council adopts the Gifts and Hospitality Policy 2017 attached as **Appendix A** to this report.
- (2) The Gifts and Hospitality register, from the start of this current Council term, be made available on Council's web site, and is updated at least monthly.

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

Council Resolution**MINUTE NO. 17-290**

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

That:

- (1) Council adopts the Gifts and Hospitality Policy 2017 attached as **Appendix A** to this report.
- (2) The Gifts and Hospitality register, from the start of this current Council term, be made available on Council's web site, and is updated at least monthly.

CARRIED

6.3 URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK 2015 ST GEORGES ROAD AND PLENTY ROAD CORRIDORS

Author: Manager City Design and Strategic Planning

Reviewed By: Director City Futures and Assets

Report Background

Amendments C136 and C137 sought to implement the land use and built form directions contained in the Urban Design Framework 2015 St Georges Road and Plenty Road Corridors (UDF 2015). The amendments were developed to align with the population demand and dwelling supply anticipated in the Darebin Housing Strategy 2013. The amendments were also developed to encourage housing supply along the public transport corridors of St Georges Road and Plenty Road, with the intent of reducing unintentional growth within the more sensitive and intact residential areas of Darebin.

As part of the approval of Amendments C136 (gazetted 15 September 2016) and C137 (gazetted 1 June 2017), the UDF 2015 was included as a reference document to the Darebin Planning Scheme.

An updated version of the UDF 2015 (**Appendix A**) is now required to be adopted by Council. This current UDF 2015 version updates the previous Council adopted UDF 2013 which now incorporates the views and recommendations of the Independent Planning Panel (panel report released in 2014), views of the community and development industry, and particular changes to align with the Amendments C136 and C137 documents approved by the Minister for Planning.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter has not been the subject of a Council resolution since Amendments C136 and C137 were lodged for approval with the Minister for Planning in 2015.

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefing – 31 July 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 3 – A liveable city

Summary

The UDF 2015 was developed to set a clear direction for residential and mixed-use growth along the St Georges Road and Plenty Road Corridors (the Corridors). The emphasis of the UDF 2015 is on achieving well-planned intensification through high quality urban design responses that reduce negative off-site impacts.

Although the UDF 2015 has been supported by the Minister for Planning through the approval of Amendments C136 and C137 as a reference document in the Darebin Planning Scheme, the current version of the UDF 2015 has been updated to incorporate the views of the Independent Planning Panel and certain changes made by the Minister for Planning

through the approved documents. This current version of the UDF now requires adoption by Council.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-291

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

That Council:

- (1) Notes the approval of Amendments C136 and C137 by the Minister for Planning.
- (2) Adopts the Urban Design Framework 2015 St Georges Road and Plenty Road Corridors as a reference document in the Darebin Planning Scheme implemented through Amendment C137, as shown in **Appendix A** to this report.

CARRIED

The Chairperson, Mayor, Cr. Le Cerf disclosed a conflict of interest in the following item describing the type of interest as an indirect financial interest as she has shares in Telstra.

Cr. Amir disclosed a conflict of interest in the following item describing the type of interest as an indirect financial interest as she has shares in Telstra.

Mayor, Cr. Le Cerf and Cr. Amir left the meeting prior to discussion of the item at 8.00pm.

Deputy Mayor, Cr. Greco assumed the Chair.

6.4 PROPOSED LEASE TO TELSTRA AT JOHN HALL RESERVE, BUNDOORA

Author: Property Manager

Reviewed By: Director Operations and Environment

Report Background

This report provides Council with information on the outcome of preliminary negotiations with Telstra Corporation Ltd (Telstra) into the proposed establishment of a mobile base station together with the provision of sports field lighting at John Hall Reserve shown on the site plan in **Appendix A**. The report seeks Council approval to commence statutory procedures for a lease with Telstra.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 17 March 2014, Council resolved:

“That Council

- (1) Authorise the Manager, Assets and Properties to provide a letter on behalf of Council, in its capacity as public land manager, consenting to Urbis acting on behalf of Telstra to submit a planning permit application for the proposed installation of a telecommunications facility at John Hall Reserve, Reservoir and that such consent be provided subject to the following conditions:*
 - a. Telstra undertake electromagnetic energy (EME) testing before and after any proposed installation (subject to approval of the planning permit).*
 - b. Telstra is to include sports field lighting on the proposed installation (at cost to Telstra) in accordance with a lighting design that is prepared to Council’s satisfaction.*
 - c. The proposed installation of a combined sports field lighting/telecommunications pole is at a location mutually agreed between Telstra and Council (subject to approval of the planning permit).*
 - d. Consult with winter and summer users of the ground in relation to the lighting design.”*

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefing – 24 July 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 2: We will improve the wellbeing of people in our community by providing opportunities for them to live their lives well.

Strategy 2.2: We will expand opportunities for participation and social connection through sport, physical activity, arts, culture and other leisure activities.

Summary

This report provides the history and background relating to the proposed establishment of a mobile base station together with the provision of sports field lighting at John Hall Reserve shown on the site plan in **Appendix A** (the Reserve), as well as the outcome of preliminary negotiations with Telstra into the proposal and the lease.

In 2014 Council received an enquiry from Telstra expressing interest in establishing a mobile base station on Council land at the Reserve. Initial consultation between relevant internal stakeholders and Telstra representatives confirmed the proposed location and a contribution towards provision of sports field lighting at Telstra's cost.

At its ordinary meeting on 17 March 2014, Council authorised the Manager, Assets and Properties to provide a letter on behalf of Council, consenting to Urbis acting on behalf of Telstra to submit a planning permit application. A planning permit was issued on 18 January 2016.

This report seeks Council approval to commence statutory procedures to lease the land to Telstra for the installation of a telecommunications facility in return for the installation of one sportsfield lighting pole and rental over the 25 year total period of the lease.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-292

MOVED: Cr. S Newton
SECONDED: Cr. S Rennie

That Council:

- (1) Commences the statutory process, under section 190 and section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, to give effect of its intention to enter into a lease with Telstra Corporation Ltd for the installation of a telecommunications facility at John Hall Reserve.
- (2) Gives public notice under section 190 and section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* seeking public submissions in relation to Council's intention to enter into a lease with Telstra Corporation Ltd in the appropriate newspaper.
- (3) Notes any public submission that requests to be heard in relation to their submission will be presented at a Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting prior to a further report being presented to Council for a final decision.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Cr. Rennie left the meeting at the conclusion of the above item at 8.02pm.

Mayor, Cr. Le Cerf and Cr Amir returned to the meeting at the conclusion of the item at 8.03pm.

Mayor, Cr. Le Cerf assumed the Chair.

6.5 CLIMATE EMERGENCY PLAN**Author:** Manager Environment and Community Outcomes**Reviewed By:** Director Operations and Environment

Report Background

In accordance with the Council resolution of 20 March 2017, the draft Climate Emergency Plan (CEP) was released for community consultation from late May to July 2017. This report summarises the community feedback, the proposed changes in the CEP based on this feedback and presents the final draft CEP for consideration of Council adoption.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 20 March 2017, Council resolved:

'That Council:

- (1) Adopt the proposed consultation process for the draft Climate Change Action Plan and require that officers, in consultation with Councillors, revise the draft Climate Change Action Plan to better emphasise and respond to the declared Climate Emergency before the draft is released for consultation.*
- (2) Receive a further report following consultation.'*

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefings – 20 February 2017 and 10 August 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 1 – A sustainable city

This plan replaces the following previously endorsed strategies

- Climate Change Action Plan
- Community Climate Change Action Plan
- Climate Change and Peak Oil Adaptation Plan

Summary

Council has recognised that we are in a state of climate emergency that requires urgent action by all levels of government, including by local councils. A draft Climate Emergency Plan was released for community consultation between 22 May 2017 and 3 July 2017. Consultation included public meetings, feedback from reference groups and on line feedback.

This report summarises the community feedback and the proposed changes incorporated in the Climate Emergency Plan (**Appendix B**) for consideration of Council adoption.

Recommendation

That Council:

- (4) Adopts the Darebin Climate Emergency Plan attached as **Appendix B** to this report.
 - (5) Signs up to the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, in full knowledge of the commitments set out in the official Commitment Document attached as **Appendix C** to this report.
 - (6) Signs up to TAKE2 Victoria's collective climate change pledge.
-

Council Resolution**MINUTE NO. 17-293**

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

That Council:

- (1) Adopts the Darebin Climate Emergency Plan (the Plan) attached as **Appendix B** to this report subject to the following amendments:
 - a) In section 7 on page 78 after the first sentence the following sentence is inserted: "*Given the need for emergency speed action, the Plan will be updated when necessary within this period.*"; and
 - b) Noting the electronic submission received from climate expert Philip Sutton that identifies a number of minor edits, officers are authorised to make minor edits to the final Plan.
- (2) Calls upon the State and Federal Governments to declare a climate emergency and for both governments to back this up with legislated programs to drive the emergency speed creation of a safe climate economy.
- (3) Signs up to the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy.
- (4) Signs up to TAKE2 Victoria's collective climate change pledge

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Jacinta Stevens, Director Civic Governance and Compliance temporarily left the meeting during discussion of the above item at 8.06pm and returned at 8.08pm

6.6 LIFELONG LEARNING STRATEGY REFERENCE GROUP MEMBERSHIP**Author:** Strategy and Business Advisor**Reviewed By:** Director Community Development

Report Background

This report is in response to a Council Resolution from its meeting held on 19 June 2017, which endorsed the establishment of a Reference Group to support the development of a Lifelong Learning Strategy.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 19 June 2017, Council resolved:

'That Council

...

(2) endorses the establishment of a Darebin Lifelong Learning Strategy Reference Group and the Terms of Reference attached ... to this report.'

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefing – 22 May 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 2 – Opportunities to live well

Summary

This report outlines the expression of interest and assessment process and provides information on the proposed membership of the Lifelong Learning Strategy Reference Group.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17–294**MOVED:** Cr. T McCarthy**SECONDED:** Cr. G Greco

That Council endorses the membership for the Lifelong Learning Strategy Reference Group as follows:

- Amrita Chandra
- Basil Papageorge
- Donna White
- Georgia Symons
- Katherine Bussey
- Muhammet Ali
- Peter Bartley
- Shanthi Antony
- Annette Davis
- Colleen Duggan
- Elizabeth Branigan
- Graham Stevenson
- Millie Law
- Neridah Baker
- Sandro Serio

CARRIED

6.7 LANGUAGE AIDE AND MULTILINGUAL TELEPHONE LINE REVIEW 2017**Author:** Manager Customer Service**Reviewed By:** Director Community Development

Report Background

This report is in response to a resolution made at the Council meeting held on 13 February 2017 that Council provides a report into the Review of the Language Aide Program and Multilingual Telephone Line.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 13 February 2017, Council resolved:

'That Council:

- (1) Notes the report on Multilingual Language Services.*
- (2) Council reviews the draft Terms of References for the review of the language Aide Service and the scoping brief of the proposed audit of language skills in the organisation.'*

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

- Goal 2 – Opportunities to live well
- Goal 5 – Involving our diverse community

Summary

A review was conducted of the Language Aide Program and Multilingual Telephone line (**Appendix B**).

The review provided a range of recommendations including the following:

- Improved recruitment and training in line with the NAATI guidelines.
- Further alignment of Language Aide profile with the results of the 2016 ABS Census.
- Improvements to the telephony routing and reporting functions.

To ensure a continuous improvement approach the 2016 census data will be used to target high use languages to inform future development of the service. This will be conducted primarily through focus groups.

Recommendation

That Council notes this report and the recommendations of the Language Aide and Multilingual Telephone Line Review.

Council Resolution**MINUTE NO. 17-295**

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

That Council:

- (1) Note this report and the recommendation of the Language aid and Multilingual Telephone Line Review 2017.
- (2) In line with the key finding of this report officers develop and implement the following strategies to:
 - a) Increase the overall number of interpreting and translation request to internal Language Aides, especially for Arabic, Mandarin and Cantonese;
 - b) Increase the speed of the service for LOTE users to improve satisfaction levels which are currently low;
 - c) Reduce the time taken to manage a call on the MTL queue as on average it is double of the Customer Service queue
 - d) Reduce the abandonment rate among calls to the multilingual queue
 - e) Eliminate the nearly 60% of calls to the MTL that are conducted in English only which circumvent the Customer Service queue.
 - f) Increase the awareness of the MTL amongst residents, including a high profile campaign in Darebin Community News, other media outlets and with targeted direct mail.
 - g) Review the set-up of the front counter customer service centres to facilitate better and more practical use of Language Aids or professional interpreters
 - h) Provide greater prominence to Multicultural language services on the Council home page.
 - i) Improve data collection and monitoring for Council reporting purposes
- (3) Receive a further report in 12 months on the implementation and outcomes of the above recommendations.

CARRIED

6.8 ARTS PARTNERSHIPS INITIATIVE 2017–2018**Author:** Manager Creative Culture and Events**Reviewed By:** Director Community Development

Report Background

This report advises Council of the successful recipients of the 2017–2018 Arts Partnership Initiative. Fourteen partnerships have been recommended following an assessment process and Council endorsement of the partnerships is noted.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefing – 31 July 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 2 – Opportunities to live well

Darebin Arts Strategy 2014–2020

Summary

In May 2017 applications were sought from artists and arts organisations to collaborate with the City of Darebin as part of the annual program, Arts Partnerships Initiative. Thirty-one expressions of interest were received, an increase by eight from the 2016–2017 partnership round.

The initiative enables Council to reach out to new communities, particularly hard to reach, through facilitating new local creative and artist-led collaborations.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17–296

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

That Council:

- (1) Endorses the recommended Arts Partnerships for 2017–2018.
- (2) Endorses the establishment of annual service agreements for two long standing Darebin based cultural heritage organisations, the Darebin Brass Band and Preston Symphony Orchestra.

CARRIED

Anne Laver made a submission in relation to this item and was thanked by the Chairperson, Mayor Cr. Le Cerf.

6.9 TENURE EXTENSION TO AN INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL MEMBER TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Author: Manager Corporate Risk and Audit

Reviewed By: Director Corporate Services

Report Background

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

Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 – A well governed Council

Summary

At the Council Meeting held on 5 November 2014, the appointment of Mr Terry Richards as an independent external member to the Audit Committee was resolved. Council determined that Mr Terry Richards' appointment to the Audit Committee be for a three year term (expiring December 2017) with the option of a further one year term (expiring December 2018) by mutual consent.

As Mr Terry Richards' three year term will end in December 2017, it is proposed to extend his appointment, as per contract arrangements, for a further one year.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-297

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy

SECONDED: Cr. L Messina

That Council:

- (1) Resolves to extend the appointment of Mr Terry Richards' position as an independent external member of Council's Audit Committee for an additional one year, as per contract arrangements.
- (2) Resolves to have the Director Corporate Services write a letter to Mr Terry Richards informing him of the additional year to his tenure as an independent external member of Council's Audit Committee, expiring December 2018.

CARRIED

Anne Laver made a submission in relation to this item and was thanked by the Chairperson, Mayor Cr. Le Cerf.

6.10 WALKER STREET, NORTHCOTE: SUBMISSION TO THE SOCIAL HOUSING RENEWAL STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Author: Manager City Design and Strategic Planning

Reviewed By: Director City Futures and Assets

Report Background

The Victorian Government announced the *Homes for Victorians* strategy in March 2017, a \$2.7 billion program of investment into housing and homelessness initiatives. Through the *Homes for Victorians*, the government has also committed to the Public Housing Renewal Program (PHRP) which provides \$185 million of funding towards redeveloping a number of ageing public housing estates into more vibrant, better connected, mixed-tenure neighbourhoods where people can live in housing that is safe and secure. Public housing estates identified for redevelopment will likely comprise of a mix of public and private tenure, and each estate must be designed to increase the current number of social housing dwellings by at least 10 per cent. Through this process, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has identified Walker Street as a Stage One redevelopment site given its locational proximity to services and infrastructure, and ageing walk-up buildings. The buildings were constructed in the 1960s without lifts and with poor internal amenity for residents, poor public safety and internal circulation, and limited environmental sustainable design measures.

Based on the information supplied by DHHS to the TraffixGroup to prepare the Traffic Engineering Assessment for Walker Street, Northcote a yield of 222 dwellings out of the current 87 dwellings is contemplated for the site. This will increase public housing on the site by at least 10 percent to achieve 95 public dwellings (43 percent) and 127 private dwellings (57 percent) for the Walker Street site. It is of concern that only 5 of the 222 dwellings are proposed as three bedroom dwellings whilst 90 dwellings will be two bedroom and 127 will be one bedroom dwellings, based on the Traffic Engineering Assessment Report. Housing diversity is an essential component to realise an exemplary residential development.

For public housing estates where planning scheme amendments are required to facilitate the future renewal and redevelopment of the land, the Minister for Planning has appointed a Standing Advisory Committee, known as the 'Social Housing Renewal Standing Advisory Committee' to provide advice on the suitability of planning proposals. The Minister for Planning has commenced a planning scheme amendment process to rezone the land at Walker Street and to apply built form and design controls to the land. Council officers have prepared a detailed submission (**Appendix A**) to the Advisory Committee, providing a critical analysis on the documents exhibited, and within the parameters of the Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference (**Appendix B**).

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 15 May 2017, Council resolved:

That Council advocate that:

- (1) *The State Government replace all public housing currently at Walker Street Estate and add provision for at least 50% additional public housing tenants on the site.*
- (2) *The entire site remain predominantly for public housing, with some social and affordable housing (as defined by 80% or less of the median income paying less than 30% of their income in rent)'*
- (3) *Genuine consultation takes place with the residents of Walker Street, the local community and Darebin City Council.*
- (4) *Any redevelopment of the site be sensitive to the residential zoning of the site.*
- (5) *All dwellings at Walker Street Estate have at least 7.5 star energy rating.*
- (6) *Write an open letter to the state members of Northcote and upper housing members representing Northern Metropolitan Region outlining Council's position and seeing a meeting to advocate for a better outcome for both current public housing tenants and for those who are on public housing waiting lists'.*

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefing – 31 July 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 1 – A sustainable city

Goal 2 – Opportunities to live well

Goal 3 – A liveable City

Goal 5 – Involving our diverse community

Council strategies

- Darebin Housing Strategy 2013–2033
- Responding to Housing Stress: A local action plan 2013

Summary

This report provides a summary of the draft submission prepared (**Appendix A**) which responds to the Terms of Reference provided to the Social Housing Renewal Standing Advisory Committee. It also provides the context of social housing in Darebin, the increasing need to continue advocacy efforts to ensure that the provision of social and affordable housing across the municipality meets the growing needs of a diversifying community.

Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Endorses the submission to the Social Housing Renewal Standing Advisory Committee regarding the proposed Planning Scheme Amendment at Walker Street, Northcote, as presented in **Appendix A**.
- (2) Officers submit the submission to the Social Housing Renewal Standing Advisory Committee for consideration before 5pm Friday 25 August 2017.

Motion

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy

SECONDED: Cr. G Greco

That Council:

- (1) Endorses the submission to the Social Housing Renewal Standing Advisory Committee regarding the proposed Planning Scheme Amendment at Walker Street, Northcote, as presented in **Appendix A**.
- (2) Officers submit the submission to the Social Housing Renewal Standing Advisory Committee for consideration before 5pm Friday 25 August 2017.
- (3) Asks the Minister for Housing to commit to retaining Walker Street and other public housing sites in public hands and be renewed and redeveloped to increase the supply of much needed public housing in Darebin and Victoria more generally.
- (4) Notes that a community meeting with Walker Street residents and neighbours is being held on Thursday evening at the Walker Street Estate
- (5) Asks the Planning Minister to seriously consider amending the terms of reference for the Social Housing Renewal Advisory Committee to ensure that the voice of public housing tenants is the key guiding principle and proper consideration is given to the many social issues and impacts that arise from renewal programs such as that proposed for the Walker Street Estate (and others).
- (6) Asks the Minister for Planning, the Minister for Housing, Minister for Suburban Development and Local Members of Parliament to commit to ensure the outcomes from the extensive community consultation and engagement for the affected residents of the Walker Street Estate are reflected in all documents, strategies, actions and decisions associated with the redevelopment process.
- (7) Asks the Minister for Housing to reconfigure Stage 1 of the Redevelopment program to redevelop the Stokes / Penola site as a first step and best practice model to ensure Walker Street residents remain in their local communities, and the social, family and community impacts are minimised.
- (8) Collaborates with the Friends of Public Housing Victoria and Victorian Public Tenants Association to assist and inform Council's advocacy strategy with regards to Walker Street Estate and the State Government's Public Housing Renewal program.
- (9) Works with the Friends of Public Housing Victoria and Victorian Public Tenants Association to develop mutually complementary advocacy strategies for broader social and public housing agendas.
- (10) Acknowledges the work and the views of the Friends of Public Housing Victoria and Victorian Public tenants Association in all relevant submissions and public communications.

- (11) Makes a formal submission to inquiry into the Government's Housing Renewal program by the Victorian legislative Council.
- (12) Writes to the Inquiry Chair urging that public hearings occur in situ on the housing estates to ensure public tenants have an opportunity to make a submission.
- (13) Forwards copies of this letter to The Premier, The Minister for Housing , The Minister for Planning and local Members of Parliament.

Cr. Amir proposed to the mover and seconder an additional point (14) be included as follows.

- (14) Supports and implements the recommendation for further advocacy as outlined on page 54.

This was accepted by Cr. McCarthy and Cr. Greco.

THE AMENDED MOTION THEN READ AS FOLLOWS:

Amended Motion

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy

SECONDED: Cr. G Greco

That Council:

- (1) Endorses the submission to the Social Housing Renewal Standing Advisory Committee regarding the proposed Planning Scheme Amendment at Walker Street, Northcote, as presented in **Appendix A**.
- (2) Officers submit the submission to the Social Housing Renewal Standing Advisory Committee for consideration before 5pm Friday 25 August 2017.
- (3) Asks the Minister for Housing to commit to retaining Walker Street and other public housing sites in public hands and be renewed and redeveloped to increase the supply of much needed public housing in Darebin and Victoria more generally.
- (4) Notes that a community meeting with Walker Street residents and neighbours is being held on Thursday evening at the Walker Street Estate
- (5) Asks the Planning Minister to seriously consider amending the terms of reference for the Social Housing Renewal Advisory Committee to ensure that the voice of public housing tenants is the key guiding principle and proper consideration is given to the many social issues and impacts that arise from renewal programs such as that proposed for the Walker Street Estate (and others).
- (6) Asks the Minister for Planning, the Minister for Housing, Minister for Suburban Development and Local Members of Parliament to commit to ensure the outcomes from the extensive community consultation and engagement for the affected residents of the Walker Street Estate are reflected in all documents, strategies, actions and decisions associated with the redevelopment process.
- (7) Asks the Minister for Housing to reconfigure Stage 1 of the Redevelopment program to redevelop the Stokes / Penola site as a first step and best practice model to ensure Walker Street residents remain in their local communities, and the social, family and community impacts are minimised.
- (8) Collaborates with the Friends of Public Housing Victoria and Victorian Public Tenants Association to assist and inform Council's advocacy strategy with regards to Walker Street Estate and the State Government's Public Housing Renewal program.

- (9) Works with the Friends of Public Housing Victoria and Victorian Public Tenants Association to develop mutually complementary advocacy strategies for broader social and public housing agendas.
- (10) Acknowledges the work and the views of the Friends of Public Housing Victoria and Victorian Public tenants Association in all relevant submissions and public communications.
- (11) Makes a formal submission to inquiry into the Government's Housing Renewal program by the Victorian legislative Council.
- (12) Writes to the Inquiry Chair urging that public hearings occur in situ on the housing estates to ensure public tenants have an opportunity to make a submission.
- (13) Forwards copies of this letter to The Premier, The Minister for Housing , The Minister for Planning and local Members of Parliament.
- (14) Supports and implements the recommendation for further advocacy as outlined on page 54.

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

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-298

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

That Council:

- (1) Endorses the submission to the Social Housing Renewal Standing Advisory Committee regarding the proposed Planning Scheme Amendment at Walker Street, Northcote, as presented in **Appendix A**.
- (2) Officers submit the submission to the Social Housing Renewal Standing Advisory Committee for consideration before 5pm Friday 25 August 2017.
- (3) Asks the Minister for Housing to commit to retaining Walker Street and other public housing sites in public hands and be renewed and redeveloped to increase the supply of much needed public housing in Darebin and Victoria more generally.
- (4) Notes that a community meeting with Walker Street residents and neighbours is being held on Thursday evening at the Walker Street Estate
- (5) Asks the Planning Minister to seriously consider amending the terms of reference for the Social Housing Renewal Advisory Committee to ensure that the voice of public housing tenants is the key guiding principle and proper consideration is given to the many social issues and impacts that arise from renewal programs such as that proposed for the Walker Street Estate (and others).
- (6) Asks the Minister for Planning, the Minister for Housing, Minister for Suburban Development and Local Members of Parliament to commit to ensure the outcomes from the extensive community consultation and engagement for the affected residents of the Walker Street Estate are reflected in all documents, strategies, actions and decisions associated with the redevelopment process.
- (7) Asks the Minister for Housing to reconfigure Stage 1 of the Redevelopment program to redevelop the Stokes / Penola site as a first step and best practice model to ensure Walker Street residents remain in their local communities, and the social, family and community impacts are minimised.

- (8) Collaborates with the Friends of Public Housing Victoria and Victorian Public Tenants Association to assist and inform Council's advocacy strategy with regards to Walker Street Estate and the State Government's Public Housing Renewal program.
- (9) Works with the Friends of Public Housing Victoria and Victorian Public Tenants Association to develop mutually complementary advocacy strategies for broader social and public housing agendas.
- (10) Acknowledges the work and the views of the Friends of Public Housing Victoria and Victorian Public tenants Association in all relevant submissions and public communications.
- (11) Makes a formal submission to inquiry into the Government's Housing Renewal program by the Victorian legislative Council.
- (12) Writes to the Inquiry Chair urging that public hearings occur in situ on the housing estates to ensure public tenants have an opportunity to make a submission.
- (13) Forwards copies of this letter to The Premier, The Minister for Housing , The Minister for Planning and local Members of Parliament.
- (14) Supports and implements the recommendation for further advocacy as outlined on page 54.

CARRIED

The Chairperson, Mayor, Cr. Le Cerf read a submissions on behalf of Gaye Britt in relation to this item.

6.11 RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMIT POLICY 2017

Author: Manager Health and Compliance

Reviewed By: Director Civic Governance and Compliance

Report Background

This report is to seek Council's endorsement of the *Residential Parking Permit Policy 2017*.

Previous Council Resolution

At the Council meeting dated 3 July 2017, Council resolved:

“That Council defers the report on the Resident Parking Permit Policy 2017 to the next practicable Council meeting”.

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefing dated 10 August 2017.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 3 – A liveable city

Summary

Historically, the issuing of parking permits has been seen as an operational function therefore the parking permit policy has not been subject to any previous Council resolution. Council has however, been responsible, through the annual budget process, to adopt the fees associated with the issuing of permits. The fees for the 2017/2018 financial year were approved by Council on 22 June 2017.

To ensure there is full transparency across policies that affect the local community, this policy was recently reviewed and is being presented to Council for consideration and endorsement.

Recommendation

That Council endorses the *Resident Parking Permit Policy 2017* attached as **Appendix A** to this report.

Council Resolution**MINUTE NO. 17-299**

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

That Council:

- (1) Endorses the *Resident Parking Permit Policy 2017* attached as **Appendix A** to this report with the following amendments under Clause 2.4 of the policy:
- a) *Include an additional paragraph "Occupants of newly developed residential properties* may obtain one temporary permit to park for up to four weeks. The cost of the temporary permit is \$100. Any further temporary permits issued within the same twelve month period will cost \$300.*
- *A newly developed residential property is any residential property that was constructed post December 2004"*
- b) Amend the following two paragraphs currently in Clause 2.4 of the attached policy to read:
- i) *Parking permits are not available for any new developments including residential, mixed use, commercial or industrial developments however, new residential developments may purchase a temporary permit in accordance with point a. above.*
- ii) *If your property is a new development for the purpose of this Policy, only new residential developments will be eligible for a temporary permit.*
- c) Include the following wording as an additional point under clause 2.6 of the attached Policy:
- The annual fee for a residential parking permit will be waived in areas where it has been agreed to trial parking restrictions. If parking restrictions are permanently put in place, residents will be required to seek a residential parking permit in accordance with this policy.

CARRIED

6.12 PROCUREMENT POLICY**Author:** Coordinator Procurement and Contracts**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance

Report Background

On an annual basis Council is required to review its procurement policy and submit it to Council for approval.

The report sets out the amendments made to the previous procurement policy dated 3 October 2016, whilst also taking into account additional Council resolutions made since 12 December 2016.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 12 December 2016, Council resolved:

- (1) *That Council Considers changes to the Procurement Policy to strengthen Section 6 (Social Procurement) to:*
 - (a) *Deliver a 'youth employment' dividend (eg. 10% of all work to be provided to apprentices and trainees), as recommended by the Northern Youth Employment Taskforce.*
 - (b) *Provide further employment opportunities for refugee and asylum seeker community members.*
 - (c) *Encourage and promote the engagement of Aboriginal businesses, organisations and individuals; and*
 - (d) *Achieve improved sustainability and environmental outcomes for the Darebin community.*
- (2) *Receives further recommendations for changes to the policy from the Future Infrastructure and Services Working Group (subject to it being established) to be considered at a Council meeting in March.*
- (3) *Receives a further report before October 2017 to consider the following changes to the local business framework in Appendix A to ensure that where available three local quotes are always sought and that the local content weighting be lifted from 10% to 20%.*

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 – A well governed Council

Summary

On an annual basis Council is required to review its procurement policy and submit it to Council for approval. The Procurement Policy 2016 was endorsed at the Council Meeting held on December 12, 2016. This annual procurement policy update will also address outstanding Council resolutions.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-300

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

That Council:

- (1) Endorses the Procurement Policy dated August, 2017 attached as **Appendix A** to this report.
- (2) Notes in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*, the Procurement Policy must be endorsed annually. The next scheduled update will be presented to Council in August 2018, unless requested earlier.

CARRIED

7. CONSIDERATION OF RESPONSES TO PETITIONS, NOTICES OF MOTION AND GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

8. NOTICES OF MOTION**8.1 EDWARDES LAKE WATER QUALITY****Councillor:** Cr. Gaetano GRECO**NoM No.:** 336

Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 21 August 2017, it is my intention to move:

That Council receive a briefing in October on Edwardes Lake water quality and contamination issues and options for future improvements in water quality.

Notice Received: 8 August 2017**Notice Given to Councillors** 14 August 2017**Date of Meeting:** 21 August 2017

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-301**MOVED:** Cr. G Greco**SECONDED:** Cr. S Amir

That Council receive a briefing in October on Edwardes Lake water quality and contamination issues and options for future improvements in water quality.

CARRIED

The Chairperson, Cr. Le Cerf read a submissions on behalf of Jane Miller and Katrina Roberg in relation to this item.

8.2 NO LOCAL EXTINCTIONS**Councillor: Cr. Trent MCCARTHY****NoM No.: 337**

Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 21 August 2017, it is my intention to move:

***That** Council develops a 'No Local Extinctions' policy and receives a further report on a draft policy and options for implementation, including through the Darebin Nature Trust, the development of a new Open Space Strategy and the review of the Darebin Planning Scheme.*

Notice Received: 8 August 2017**Notice Given to Councillors 14 August 2017****Date of Meeting: 21 August 2017**

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-302**MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy****SECONDED: Cr. S Amir**

***That** Council develops a 'No Local Extinctions' policy and receives a further report on a draft policy and options for implementation, including through the Darebin Nature Trust, the development of a new Open Space Strategy and the review of the Darebin Planning Scheme.*

CARRIED

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

7. PETITIONS

Nil

8. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Nil

9. RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

13.1 ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS HELD

An Assembly of Councillors is defined in section 3 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) to include Advisory Committees of Council if at least one Councillor is present or, a planned or scheduled meeting attended by at least half of the Councillors and one Council Officer that considers matters intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision.

Written records of Assemblies of Councillors must be kept and include the names of all Councillors and members of Council staff attending, the matters considered, any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending, and whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest leaves the assembly.

Pursuant to section 80A (2) of the Act, these records must be, as soon as practicable, reported at an ordinary meeting of the Council and incorporated in the minutes of that meeting.

An Assembly of Councillors record was kept for:

- NURP Steering Committee – 27 July 2017
- Councillor Briefing Session – 31 July 2017
- Darebin Environmental Reference Group (DERG) – 2 August 2017
- Darebin Interfaith Council Committee Meeting – 3 August 2017
- Darebin Disability Advisory Committee – 7 August 2017

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-303

MOVED: Cr. L Messina
SECONDED: Cr. J Williams

That the record of the Assembly of Councillors held on 27 and 31 July and 2, 3 and 7 August and attached as **Appendix A** to this report, be noted and incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.

CARRIED

Cr. Williams requested that the spelling of her name be corrected in the attached Assemblies of Councillors appendix.

10. REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-304

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy
SECONDED: Cr. J Williams

That Council note the Reports by Mayor and Councillors.

CARRIED**REPORT OF CR. KIM LE CERF, MAYOR**

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

- Meeting to discuss planning application on Cramer Street
- Discussion regarding Preston Market at VCAT
- Discussion regarding Act on Climate Project Proposal
- Welcome Participants at the Darebin SPEAK Program
- John Cain Memorial Park Master Plan – Public Consultation Session
- Wurundjeri History Talk with Uncle Bill Nicholson
- Walk to School Photo Opportunity with East Preston Islamic School
- Meeting with Kate Morris – Principal Northcote High
- Council Briefing Session
- Briefing re Walker Street Public Housing Renewal Program
- Discussion on Embedding ESD into Council Operations
- Meeting with Karamzo Saccoh – Policy Edge, to Discuss Northern Vocational Mentoring Exchange
- Fair Trade Festival Networking Night and Screening of the New Economy
- Diamond Valley Vietnam Veterans Sub-Branch Community Memorial Service
- Cantabile Choir performance at Northcote Library
- Leaders of Change School Opening Welcome and Workshop
- Regular Meetings with Communications
- Regular Meetings with A/CEO
- Aged Care Reforms Working Group
- Planning Committee
- Arts Hack – Pitch and Networking Session
- VLGA Local Government Working Group on Gambling
- MAV Showcase LG Innovation in Preventing Violence Against Women
- Discussion with 3KND regarding Old Preston Police Station
- Photoshoot with Friends of Darebin Creek
- Discussion regarding Australia Day
- Discussion regarding CEO Induction

- Discussion regarding Public Housing Renewal Program
- Meeting with Minister Hutchins Chief of Staff and Aboriginal Victoria regarding 3KND
- 100th Birthday Maisy Watson
- Meeting with Preston Baseball Club
- Meeting with La Trobe University and Preston Baseball Club
- Public Housing Renewal Program Group Meeting with Rob Spence, MAV
- Council Meeting
- Various meetings and phone calls with residents
- Preston Market VCAT hearing

REPORT OF CR. STEPH AMIR

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

- Meeting to discuss Cramer Street development
- Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee
- Road User Pricing Conference
- Council briefing August 10th
- Aged Care Reforms Working Group
- Planning Committee
- Interview on 3CR Tuesday Breakfast about marriage equality
- Meeting with representatives from the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council
- Arts Hack – Darebin Arts Centre
- Arts Networking session
- Meeting with Cr Messina and officers regarding illegal brothels in Darebin City Council
- Interview on 3CR 'In Ya Face' about marriage equality
- Meeting with the Manager of Creative Culture regarding arts infrastructure planning
- Many calls and emails with residents about the Australia Day motion and the marriage equality motion

REPORT OF CR. GAETANO GRECO

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

- Speak Youth Empowerment program
- Council Briefing
- Active and Healthy Ageing Advisory Committee
- Plan by meeting
- Friends if Baucau meeting
- Furlan Club 60th anniversary
- Keon Park Stars junior football finals

- VCAT hearing re: Preston Market
- Meeting with residence re: VCAT representation

REPORT OF CR. TIM LAURENCE

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

- On a leave of absence

REPORT OF CR. TRENT McCARTHY

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

- Councillor briefing
- Meeting with residents regarding Merri Creek and biodiversity
- Briefing re Walker St Public Housing
- Meeting regarding Council's work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- Planning Committee meeting
- Arts Hack event at DAEC
- Interviews with 774 ABC Melbourne and 3KND
- Various issues on behalf of residents and traders

REPORT OF CR. LINA MESSINA

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

-

REPORT OF CR. SUSANNE NEWTON

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

- Meeting to discuss Cramer Street development
- Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Committee meeting
- SPEAK Youth Empowerment Program
- Road User Pricing Seminar
- Council Briefing Session
- VLGA Board Meeting
- Aged Care Reforms Working Group
- Planning Committee Meeting
- Women's Advisory Committee meeting
- Preston Market VCAT hearing
- Keon Park Starts Junior football grand final

REPORT OF CR. SUSAN RENNIE

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

- Instagram Masterclass at Think Thornbury
- Higher Design standards workshop
- Open Day at the Bridge
- St James Anglican Church Centenary celebration
- Council briefing session x 3
- Special Council Meeting
- Meeting with Twisters Gym regarding parking
- Gambling Reform Discussion Our Lady of Lebanon Church
- Meeting with Northcote Park Football Club
- Meeting with Tony Barbera Mayer Park Open Air Cinema for next summer
- Metropolitan Transport Forum
- MAV Metropolitan Forum and dinner
- Councillor workshop on Exploring Equity
- Council Meeting
- Meeting to discuss Cramer Street Development
- Meeting with residents
- Discussions regarding Preston Market
- MAV Planning Committee
- Speak Youth Empowerment Program
- Leader of Change School Event opening
- Preston Market VCAT hearing
- Aged Care Reforms Working group
- Planning Committee
- Discussion re marriage equality and 26 January motions

REPORT OF CR. JULIE WILLIAMS

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

- Darebin Disability Advisory Committee
- Meeting to discuss Cramer Street Development
- Preston Connected Community Committee
- Networking Night – Sustainability, food security and the new economy
- Council Meeting
- Cantabile Choir
- Planning Committee

- ACR Supporting Olivia Newton–John Cancer Wellness & Research Centre
- Attended Preston Market VCAT hearing on 14, 15, 17,18

11. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL**CLOSE OF MEETING**

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-305

MOVED: Cr. G Greco
SECONDED: Cr. L Messina

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 (d) contractual matters:

15.1 Civil Construction Works Panel – Contract CT 2017100

CARRIED

The meeting was closed to the members of the public at 9.09pm.

The Council considered and resolved on Report Item 15.1 which had been circulated to Councillors with the Council Agenda Paper.

RE-OPENING OF MEETING

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-306

MOVED: Cr. S Amir
SECONDED: Cr. J Williams

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

CARRIED

The meeting was re-opened to the members of the public at 9.18pm.

CONFIDENTIAL

15.1 CIVIL CONSTRUCTION WORKS PANEL – CONTRACT CT 2017100

Author: Senior Transport Engineer

Reviewed By: Director City Futures and Assets

Recommendation

That the Council report and resolution remain confidential with the exception of the successful tenderers and the period of the contract.

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 17-307

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy

SECONDED: Cr. G Greco

That the Council report and resolution remain confidential with the exception of the successful tenderers and the period of the contract.

Successful Tenderers: Presta Construction Group Pty Ltd, Entracon Civil Pty Ltd, MAL Paving Pty Ltd, Berne Fleming Civil Pty Ltd, Petrolo Construction Pty Ltd, Citywide Service Solutions Pty Ltd, JMAC Constructions Pty Ltd, Rezcon Concreting Australia, Roadside Services and Solutions Pty Ltd, Prestige Paving Pty Ltd, Luciana Constructions Pty Ltd and Rapid Paving Construction Co. Pty Ltd.

Contract Period: 1 September 2017 until 31 August 2020.

CARRIED

12. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 9.19pm.