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AGENDA OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 30 April 2018

Public question time will
commence shortly after 6.00pm.




ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and future.

Council pays respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

Council recognises, and pays tribute to, the diverse culture, resilience and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We acknowledge the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the right to self-determination in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.



English - Agenda

This is the Agenda for the Council meeting. For assistance with any of the agenda items, please telephone 8470 8888.

Arabic

هذا هو جدول أعمال اجتماع المجلس. للحصول على المساعدة في أي من بنود جدول الأعمال، يرجى الاتصال بالرقم 8470 8888.

Chinese

这是市议会会议议程。如需协助了解其中的任何议项，请致电8470 8888。

Greek

Αυτή είναι η Ημερήσια Διάταξη (Agenda) της συνεδρίασης του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου. Για βοήθεια σε οποιοδήποτε θέμα της ημερήσιας διάταξης, παρακαλούμε τηλεφωνήστε στο 8470 8888.

Hindi

यह काउंसिल की बैठक के लिए एजेंडा है। एजेंडा के किसी भी आइटम के साथ सहायता के लिए कृपया 8470 8888 पर टेलीफोन करें।

Italian

Questo è l'ordine del giorno per la riunione municipale. Per assistenza su uno dei punti dell'agenda chiamate il numero 8470 8888

Macedonian

Ова е дневен ред за состанокот на Советот на Општината. За помош за било која точка од дневниот ред, ве молиме телефонирајте на 8470 8888.

Somali

Kani waa ajandaha kulanka Golaha Degmada. Wixii caawima ah oo ku saabsan qodob kasta oo ka mid ah ajandaha fadlan la xiriir tel: 8470 8888.

Vietnamese

Đây là chương trình buổi họp của Hội đồng Thành Phố. Muốn biết thêm các thông tin về chương trình buổi họp, xin hãy gọi số 8470 8888.

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Agenda

1. MEMBERSHIP

Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) (Chairperson)

Cr. Steph Amir

Cr. Gaetano Greco

Cr. Tim Laurence

Cr. Trent McCarthy

Cr. Lina Messina (Deputy Mayor)

Cr. Susanne Newton

Cr. Susan Rennie

Cr. Julie Williams

2. APOLOGIES

Cr. Tim Laurence is on an approved leave of absence.

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 9 April 2018 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

5. QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

Members of the public can lodge questions for Council to answer or make a Comment or Submission prior to a specific item listed on the Agenda of an Ordinary Council meeting.

QUESTIONS

Members of the public can ask up to two (2) questions at an Ordinary Council meeting.

Questions submitted online will be responded to in the first instance. If you are not present at the meeting, the Chairperson will read the question and provide a response. The Chairperson may then take questions from members in the gallery.

Any question not answered at the meeting will be taken on notice and a written response will be provided to the person asking the question.

In accordance with the Darebin Governance Local Law, the Chairperson may disallow a question if it:

- is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language or substance; or
- deals with a subject matter already answered; or
- is aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or an officer.

If you are unable to submit your question prior to the Ordinary Council meeting, the Chairperson may take questions from the floor.

SUBMISSIONS OR COMMENTS

Members of the public may make a comment or 2 minute submission on a matter listed on the Agenda prior to the item being debated.

A person who is unable to stay at the meeting until the Agenda item is heard, may make their comment or submission during Question Time.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION OR MAKE A COMMENT OR SUBMISSION

Members of the public who wish to ask a question, or make a comment or submission to an agenda item, at an Ordinary Council meeting are encouraged to do so in one of the following ways:

- (a) online at darebin.vic.gov.au/questionsandsubmissions by 3pm on the day of the meeting; or
- (b) by email to Q&S@darebin.vic.gov.au; by 3pm on the day of the meeting; or
- (c) in person at the Preston Customer Service Centre, 274 Gower Street, Preston; or
- (d) by mail to PO Box 91, Preston 3072; or
- (e) with a Council officer prior to a Council meeting.

Council meetings can be viewed at the Watch Council and Planning Committee meetings page.

Agenda's will be available for viewing on Council's website at the 'Meeting Agendas and Minutes' page by 5pm, up to 6 days prior to the date of the meeting. Copies are also available at Customer Service centres and libraries.

6. PETITIONS

7. URGENT BUSINESS

8. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

8.1 PROPOSAL TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE EDWIN STREET AT STATION STREET IN FAIRFIELD

Author: Transport Engineer

Reviewed By: General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

PURPOSE

To seek Councils endorsement of the placement of a permanent obstruction to formally close Edwin Street at Station Street in Fairfield to vehicular traffic and the placement of a Notice in the Government Gazette.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its meeting on 18 December 2017, Council resolved to give notice of its intention to permanently close Edwin Street to vehicular traffic from Station Street. This report outlines that there were no written submissions received through the statutory advertisement process and recommends that Council proceed with the permanent closure.

Edwin Street is an unmade road, which provides an informal east-west link in a local residential precinct of Fairfield between Station Street, Gillies Street and Rathmines Street. It is in a poor condition with no footpath but has a painted area on the south side designated for pedestrians.

Residents of Edwin Street raised concerns about the poor condition of the street and the level of through-traffic using this route entering from Station Street. Following consultation with the residents, Edwin St was temporarily closed at Station St in October 2014 to reduce the volume of traffic using the road.

A public notice was placed in The Age newspaper on 15 January 2018, Preston Leader on 16 January 2018 and in the Northcote Leader on 17 January 2018. Letters were sent to the residents of Edwin Street on the same day.

Those persons wishing to make a submission in relation to the proposed closure were invited to do so by 16 February 2018 with any person requesting to be heard in support of their written submission to be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee. There were no written submissions received to this statutory process for permanently closing Edwin Street.

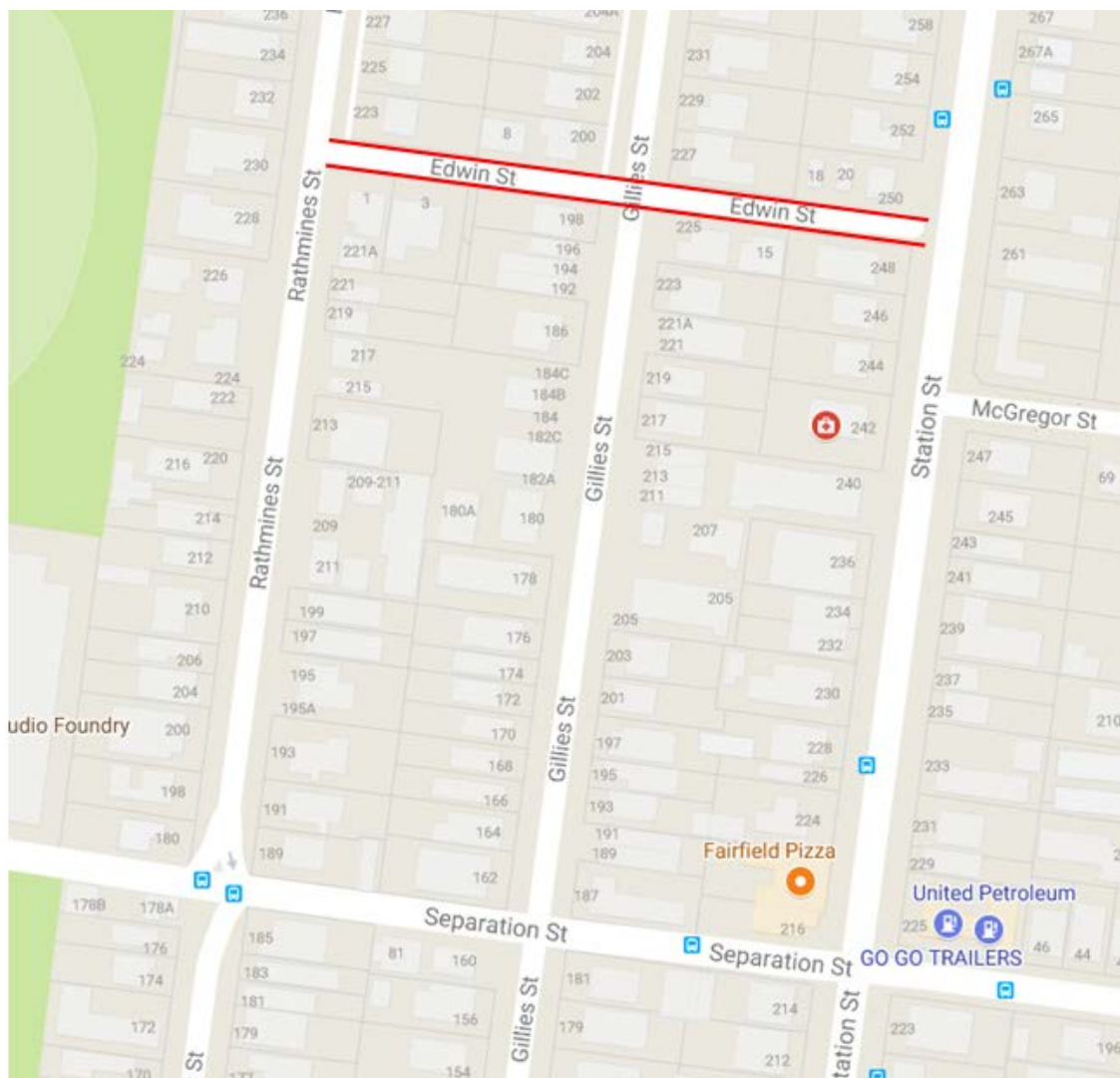


Figure 1: Edwin Street and the surrounding road network in Fairfield

Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Approve the placement of a permanent obstruction to formally close Edwin Street at Station Street to vehicular traffic.
- (2) Approve the placement of a Notice regarding the closure in the Government Gazette.

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Edwin Street is an unmade road that varies in width up to 6 metres wide and runs west-east between Rathmines Street, Gillies Street and Station Street in Fairfield. The surrounding road network includes Gillies, Rathmines, Separation, and Christmas Streets with Station Street at the eastern end. Station Street is a secondary arterial road under the management of VicRoads and is also a preferred north-south traffic route as defined in the VicRoads SmartRoads network.

From 2011, residents of Edwin St have raised concerns about the poor condition of the road and the amount of through-traffic using this route entering from Station Street. The intersection of Station Street and Edwin Street was observed to be a safety risk due to the high volumes of traffic and high vehicle speeds on Station Street.

Following a positive response to a survey of resident opinions in July 2014 and VicRoads approval, the temporary road closure in Edwin Street at Station Street was installed in October 2014.



Figure 2: Existing road closure at the eastern end in Edwin Street at Station Street

A survey was undertaken in November 2017 to determine the level of satisfaction with the closure. A favourable response was received.

At the Council meeting on 18 December 2018, a report was considered that provided information regarding the existing road closure and to seek approval from Council to commence the statutory process of consultation with the intention to make the closure permanent, as required by the *Local Government Act 1989*. Council resolved to give notice of its intention to formally close Edwin Street to vehicular traffic. A public notice was placed in *The Age* newspaper on 15 January 2018, *Preston Leader* on 16 January 2018 and in the *Northcote Leader* on 17 January 2018. Letters were sent to the residents in the road on the same day. Submissions were invited until 16 February 2018.

Previous Council Resolution

This matter was previously referred to Council on 18 December 2017 with the following resolution:

That Council:

- (1) Resolves to give public notice of its intention to permanently close the Edwin Street and Station Street intersection under 207A and Clause 9 of Schedule 11 of the Local Government Act 1989.*
- (2) Notes in accordance with section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989, a Special Meeting of the Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee will be scheduled to hear any submitters who wish to be heard in support of their written submissions.*
- (3) Notes a further report will be presented to Council on the outcome of the statutory consultation process. is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.'*

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

A public notice on Council's intention to permanently close Edwin Street was placed in The Age newspaper on 15 Jan 2018, Preston Leader on 16 January 2018 and in the Northcote Leader on 17 January 2018. Letters were sent to all the residents in Edwin Street on the same day.

No written submissions were received.

Communications

None

ANALYSIS

Alignment to Council Plan / Council policy

Goal 3 - A liveable city

Edwin St was temporarily closed at Station Street in October 2014, by removing through traffic from Edwin Street, retaining resident access, and minimising impact on the surrounding road network. It was anticipated that restricting turns into and out of Edwin Street would also improve safety for pedestrians. A survey of residents and owners was undertaken in November 2017 regarding the proposal of continuing Edwin St closure at Station Street. There was a clear majority (90%) of the residents' support for permanently close the intersection. Residents mentioned in their responses that the existing road closure of Edwin Street did not impact negatively and increased safety for the residents in the area. The subsequent statutory consultation process for permanently closing Edwin Street did not return any objections.

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

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

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

There are no factors in this report which impact on equity, inclusion and wellbeing considerations.

Cultural Considerations

There are no factors in this report which impact on cultural considerations.

Economic Development Considerations

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development.

Financial and Resource Implications

Existing road closure will be retained. Funding for Edwin Street reconstruction has been approved in the current financial year.

Legal and Risk Implications

There are no factors in this report which impact on the legal and risk implications.

DISCUSSION

A public notice was placed in the Age of 15 January 2018, Preston Leader on 16 January 2018 and in the Northcote Leader on 17 January 2018. Letters were sent to the residents in the road on the same day.

No written submissions were received.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option 1 – Approve the permanent closure of Edwin Street as per the above recommendation, which the community have been consulted on and support.

Option 2 – Reject the proposal to permanently close Edwin Street and re-open the road to vehicle traffic. This option would be contrary to the preference of Edwin Street residents.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The statutory process of closing Edwin Street will be completed.

Details

- A notice will be published in the Government Gazette.

Communication

- A letter will be sent to the residents of Edwin Street with confirmation that the road has been permanently closed.

Timeline

- A notice will be published in the Government Gazette.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Council Minutes 18 December 2017
- Public Advertisement in The Age newspaper on 15 Jan 2018, Preston Leader of 16 January 2018 and in Northcote Leader of 17 January 2018.

Attachments

Nil

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.

8.2 LA TROBE UNIVERSITY - PROPOSED MINISTERIAL PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C165

Author: Principal Strategic Planner

Reviewed By: General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

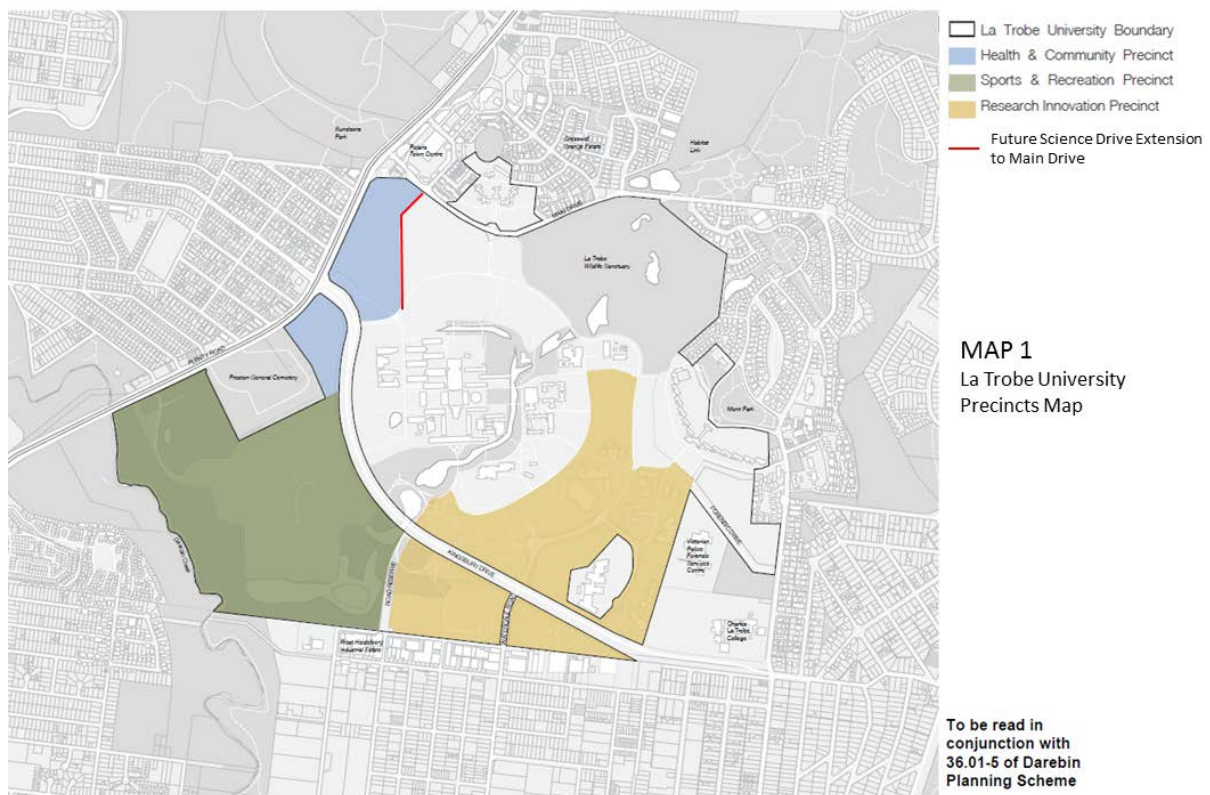
PURPOSE

La Trobe University have requested Council’s in-principal support for a Ministerial planning scheme amendment to deliver certainty around short-term land use and development proposals.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

La Trobe University is seeking Council’s in-principle support for a planning scheme amendment request which they will submit directly to the Minister for Planning for approval under Section 20(4) of the Planning and Environment Act.

The proposed Amendment C165 (refer **Appendix A**) inserts planning permit exemptions in the schedule to the Public Use Zone (PUZ) for a range of nominated land uses within the Health & Community, Sports & Recreation and Research Innovation precincts of the University campus, as shown in the map supplied below. These are precincts that have been identified as part of the La Trobe University Melbourne Campus Master Plan.



(1) Figure 1 - Proposed map to be included within the Schedule to the Public Use Zone

The University submit (refer to Town Planning Report at **Appendix B**) that the Amendment is required to facilitate a number of planned health, recreation, and research related projects to be undertaken in partnership with the private sector in the near term.

Historically, the University has financed and delivered campus facilities, however partnerships with the private sector to deliver facilities is becoming an increasingly common delivery model and is now necessary for La Trobe University to compete in a global environment.

The Amendment is required to deliver greater certainty and confidence to prospective private sector partners for a range of land uses that would otherwise be exempt from planning permit requirements under the objects and powers of the University set out in the *La Trobe University Act 2009*.

Council officers have reviewed the Amendment and are satisfied that the proposed land uses to be added to the PUZ Schedule will be of a scale and function that can be considered consistent with the University's core functions of education, research and furtherance of knowledge. The changes will not facilitate uses that are entirely unrelated to the University.

The changes sought by Amendment C165 have been requested as a short-term measure ahead of any longer term planning scheme changes that may be requested as part of the La Trobe University Melbourne Campus Master Plan implementation. Any substantial changes required to planning controls in the future will require a full planning scheme amendment process, including full exhibition and notification requirements.

Recommendation

That Council provide in-principle support for Amendment C165 to the Darebin Planning Scheme as proposed by La Trobe University.

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Recognising the vast potential of La Trobe University to build on its strengths and realise future opportunities, a campus Master Plan and Integrated Development Plan have been prepared by the University which articulates its future directions for the development of the Bundoora campus. Short term actions to build momentum to realise the Vision for the Melbourne (Bundoora) Campus in the Master Plan include encouraging private partnership projects within key areas of the campus as shown in the map above. The purpose of Amendment C165 is to provide the certainty to deliver private partnership projects that are related to the University's core functions as allowable under the La Trobe University Act 2009.

Council received a verbal briefing on the proposed Amendment on 12 February 2018.

Previous Council Resolution

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

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

La Trobe University has discussed the Amendment with officers from Council and the Department of Land, Environment, Water and Planning. No public consultation is proposed for the Amendment given the intended Ministerial approval process and policy neutral changes.

The University submits that the Amendment facilitates the partnership projects identified in the La Trobe University Melbourne Campus Master Plan, prepared following extensive consultation with staff, students, community and business groups, local industry, State and local governments. The Amendment would also facilitate outcomes consistent with the draft National Employment and Innovation Cluster Framework Plan, which was developed in conjunction with Austin Health, La Trobe University, Banyule and Darebin City Councils, State government agencies and stakeholders. The Amendment is also consistent with the current requirements under the objects and powers of the University set out in the *La Trobe University Act 2009* and is therefore only required to provide greater certainty to the private sector in establishing permit triggers for specific uses and buildings and works.

Communications

Given that this amendment is considered to be policy neutral, a communications plan is not required for this matter for Council purposes.

ANALYSIS

Alignment to Council Plan / Council policy

Goal 2 – Opportunities to Live Well

Goal 3 – A liveable city

Goal 4 – A strong economy

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

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

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

The proposed amendment would have positive social effects by facilitating development for health, recreation and research and innovation related projects, all of which will be of benefit to the community.

Cultural Considerations

There are no factors in this proposal which impact upon cultural considerations.

Economic Development Considerations

The proposed Amendment has positive economic effects by providing certainty for investment in the University as part of the La Trobe National Innovation and Employment Cluster, and through employment during construction of partnership projects and employment opportunities upon completion. The projects undertaken will enhance the economic well-being of the community.

Financial and Resource Implications

There are no factors in this report which have financial and resource implications for Council.

Legal and Risk Implications

There are no factors in this report which have legal and risk implications to Council.

DISCUSSION

What the Amendment does

Under Clause 36.01-5 of the Public Use Zone (PUZ), a permit is not required to use land or to construct a building or to construct or carry out works *on land listed in a schedule to the zone, provided any condition in the schedule is complied with* (emphasis added).

Amendment C165 proposes to insert planning permit exemptions (for use or development) into the schedule to the PUZ for a range of land uses within three nominated precincts on the University's Bundoora campus – the Health & Community, Sports & Recreation and Research Innovation precincts.

These precincts are 3 of 7 'neighbourhoods' identified in La Trobe University's long term Masterplan for its Bundoora campus. A copy of the proposed Schedule, which includes a map to show the relevant precinct locations, is provided at **Appendix A**.

Different land uses are nominated for each of the 3 precincts. The exemption from planning permits for the nominated uses is conditional on the land use remaining consistent with the objects of the University under the La Trobe University Act and being wholly located in the corresponding precinct.

Why the Amendment is required

A supporting Town Planning Report has been prepared by the University (refer **Appendix B**) which outlines the basis and justification for the Amendment request in greater detail.

The PUZ in its current form provides a broad exemption from planning permits on La Trobe University land for uses and development that are for education purposes and which are carried out by or on behalf of the University as the Public Land Manager.

However, this broad exemption can be open to interpretation and the University contends that it does not provide the certainty required to secure partnership agreements. The University contends that this lack of certainty is constraining their ability to pursue projects which will achieve the University's vision and make a meaningful contribution to the implementation of Plan Melbourne, with a risk of partnership opportunities being lost.

The University submits that the changes to the PUZ Schedule proposed in Amendment C165 are required to give the certainty and confidence to prospective private sector partners that is necessary to secure delivery of key projects on the Bundoora campus.

Adding nominated land uses to the Schedule to the PUZ as proposed will remove any uncertainty about campus projects which qualify for permit exemptions.

In considering the need for the Amendment and the request for Council's support, the following points provided by La Trobe University are relevant to note:

- The Amendment is updating the provisions of the zone consistent with the practice of modern universities to enter partnership with a broad range of businesses and organisations.
- All partnerships entered into and all land uses will be in accordance with the La Trobe University Act, which assures the government and the community that the university is a responsible land manager acting in accordance with its Act.
- All partnerships entered into will be for activities which will be of benefit to the University's key purposes of education, research and furtherance of knowledge etc. They would not be for uses that are unrelated to the university.

- The University will retain the ownership of the land and the partners will lease it from the University.
- The three campus precincts proposed to accommodate projects facilitated through the Schedule to the PUZ are located where there are substantial buffers from surrounding sensitive land uses.
- The Amendment will not remove permit requirements under other provisions of the planning scheme, such as main road access and native vegetation removal.
- The Amendment is an interim response to immediate issues facing the university. It is anticipated that, in the longer term, the University will be required to seek approvals for any further changes required to applicable planning controls.
- The Amendment is extending the exemptions presently under the zone, just clarifying them in relation to uses that are in partnership with the university.
- The basis of the Public Use Zone is that education uses can occur without the need for a permit, which may include substantial and multi-level buildings. The Amendment will provide certainty that this extends to uses with which the university has legitimate partnerships.
- The Amendment will facilitate outcomes which are consistent with and supported by a range of State and local policy provisions, as outlined in the Town Planning Report provided.

Reasons for Ministerial Intervention

The University intends to request Ministerial intervention for direct approval the proposed amendment pursuant to Section 20(4) of the Planning and Environmental Act without any public notice.

The University submits the Amendment satisfies the circumstances in which the Minister may intervene. Details are provided in support of the request on pages 12-13 of the Town Planning report, including the following key points:

- The Amendment will have a substantial effect on the achievement of State planning objectives outlined in Plan Melbourne, by facilitating development within the La Trobe National Employment and Innovation Cluster.
- The Amendment will facilitate major partnership projects that will result in significant employment, education, research benefits for the wider region.
- The Amendment will give effect to an outcome where the issues have been reasonably considered and the views of affected parties are known, given the extent of previous internal and external consultation that was undertaken in the preparation of the La Trobe University Melbourne Campus Master Plan – a synopsis of past consultation is provided at page 12-13 of the supporting report at **Appendix B**.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

La Trobe University is seeking Council's in-principle support for Amendment C165.

Council's support for Amendment C165 will enhance the University's request to the Minister for Planning for direct approval under Section 20(4) of the Act.

Without Council's support, approval of the Amendment by the Minister will be more difficult to justify.

Council officers have reviewed the Amendment and supporting Town Planning Report and are satisfied that the proposed land uses to be added to the PUZ Schedule will be of a scale and function that can be considered consistent with the University's core functions of education, research and furtherance of knowledge. The changes will not facilitate uses that are entirely unrelated to the University.

The University intend the changes sought by Amendment C165 as short-term measures ahead of any longer term planning scheme changes that may be requested as part of the La Trobe University Melbourne Campus Master Plan implementation. Any substantial changes required to planning controls in the future will require a full planning scheme amendment process, including full exhibition and notification requirements.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

La Trobe University has advised that the Amendment request will be submitted to the Minister for Planning within the next few weeks.

Communication

The Minister for Planning will notify Council of his decision to approve or refuse the Amendment request.

Timeline

There is no set timeline for the Minister's consideration of the Amendment request.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- La Trobe University Melbourne Campus Master Plan
- Plan Melbourne 2017-2050

Attachments

- Amendment C165 Proposed Public Use Zone Schedule (**Appendix A**)
- Amendment C165 Town Planning Report (**Appendix B**)

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.

8.3 SOLAR SAVER PROGRESS AND SPECIAL CHARGE SCHEME**Author:** Manager Environment and Community Outcomes**Reviewed By:** General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

PURPOSE

To update Council on the progress of the Solar Saver scheme and seek Council's declaration of intent to declare a special charge for the first Solar Saver round.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Solar Saver program is a key action of Council's Climate Emergency Plan. The proposed special charge scheme includes 481 properties and would add 2MW of solar to Darebin, doubling the total of previous programs. The program was open to all residents and low income residents, renters, pensioners and social housing residents have been prioritised.

The proposed special charge scheme totals over \$2.5 Million and these funds will be paid back to Council through the special charge scheme over 10 years. No interest is charged. These payments are more than offset by participants' savings on their energy bills. So the program provides financial and environmental benefits.

Recommendation

That:

- (1) Council gives notice of its intention to declare a special charge in accordance with section 163 of the *Local Government Act 1989 (Act)* as follows:
 - a. A special charge is declared for the period commencing on the day on which Council issues a notice levying payment of the special rate and concluding on the tenth anniversary of that day.
 - b. The special charge be declared for the purpose of defraying any expense incurred by Council in relation to the provision of solar energy systems on residential properties participating in the Solar Saver scheme, which project:
 - i. Council considers is or will be a special benefit to those persons required to pay the special charge (and who are described in succeeding parts of this resolution); and
 - ii. Arises out of Council's functions of advocating and promoting proposals which are in the best interests of the community and ensuring the peace, order and good government of Council's municipal district.
 - c. The total:
 - i. Cost of performing the function described in paragraph 1(b) of this resolution be recorded as \$2,510,483.37; and
 - ii. Amount for the special charge to be levied be recorded as \$2,510,483.37, or such other amount as is lawfully levied as a consequence of this resolution.

- d. The special charge be declared in relation to all rateable land described in the table included as Appendix B to this report, in the amount specified in the table as applying to each piece of rateable land.
 - e. The following be specified as the criteria which form the basis of the special charge so declared:
 - i. Ownership of any land described in paragraph 1(d) of this resolution.
 - f. The following be specified as the manner in which the special charge so declared will be assessed and levied:
 - i. A special charge calculated by reference to the size of the solar energy system being installed and the particular costs of installation at each property participating in the Solar Saver scheme, in respect of which a Householder Agreement has been executed, totalling \$2,510,483.37, being the total cost of the scheme to Council;
 - ii. To be levied each year for a period of 10 years.
 - g. Having regard to the preceding paragraphs of this resolution and subject to section 166(1) of the Act, it be recorded that the owners of the land described in paragraph 1(d) of this resolution will, subject to a further resolution of Council, pay the special charge in the amount set out in paragraph 1(f) of this resolution in the following manner:
 - i. Payment annually by a lump sum on or before one month following the issue by Council of a notice levying payment under section 163(4) of the Act; or
 - ii. Payment annually by four instalments to be paid by the dates which are fixed by Council in a notice levying payment under section 163(4) of the Act.
- (2) Council considers that there will be a special benefit to the persons required to pay the special charge because there will be a benefit to those persons that is over and above, or greater than, the benefit that is available to persons who are not subject to the proposed special charge, as a result of the expenditure proposed by the special charge, in that the properties will have the benefit of a solar energy system being installed.
- (3) Council, for the purposes of having determined the total amount of the special charge to be levied:
- a. Considers and formally records that only those rateable properties included in the Solar Saver scheme as proposed will derive a special benefit from the imposition of the special charge, and there are no community benefits to be paid by Council; and
 - b. Formally determines for the purposes of section 163(2)(a), (2A) and (2B) of the Act that the estimated proportion of the total benefits of the special charge to which the performance of the function or the exercise of the power relates (including all special benefits and community benefits) that will accrue as special benefits to the persons who are liable to pay the special charge is 100%.
- (4) Public notice be given in "The Northcote Leader" and "The Preston Leader" newspapers of Council's intention to declare, at its ordinary meeting to be held on 23 July 2018, the special charge in the form set out above.

- (5) Separate letters, enclosing a copy of this resolution, **Appendix B** to this report and the public notice referred to in paragraph 4 of this resolution, are to be sent to the owners of the properties included in the scheme, advising of Council's intention to levy the special charge, the amount for which the property owner will be liable, the basis of calculation of the special charge, and notification that submissions and/or objections in relation to the proposal will be considered by Council in accordance with sections 163A, 163B and 223 of the Act.
- (6) The Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee be convened, at a date and time to be fixed, to hear persons who, in their written submissions made under section 223 of the Act, advise that they wish to appear in person, or to be represented by a person specified in the submission, at a meeting in support of their submission.
- (7) Council's Manager Environment and Sustainable Transport be authorised to carry out any and all other administrative procedures necessary to enable Council to carry out its functions under sections 163A, 163(1A), (1B) and (1C), 163B and 223 of the Act.

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

In the Council Plan 2017-2021 and the Climate Emergency Plan, Council committed to working with the community to expand the amount of solar PV in Darebin from 18,000 kW to 36,000 kW. To achieve this, Council has included an allocation of \$5.4 million in the draft 2018/19 budget for the third round of the Solar Saver program and further allocations will be considered in future budgets – with a total of \$20 Million envisaged for the program to 2021.

Key aspects of the program include:

- The Solar Saver program is currently open to all residential rate payers for solar systems up to 5kW and officers are currently working on the details for a business program to be considered by Council in June 2018.
- Council undertakes procurement of good value solar systems and installation with 10 year warranties.
- Solar saver participants register interest, receive quotes and the property owner signs a householder agreement (**Appendix A**)
- Council declares a special charge and pays the upfront cost of the solar system and installation for participants when the solar systems are installed.
- Solar saver participants pay the special charge over a 10 year period to reimburse council's upfront payment – which is more than offset by their energy bill savings.
- As detailed below Council has resolved that interest is not charged to residential participants and that the program will be funded through Council's existing cash reserves.

Just under 500 low income householders have participated in previous Solar Saver programs. The Solar Saver program has been broadened to all residential ratepayers and preference is still given to low income homes.

Envirogroup, a local business, have been engaged by Council through a Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) contract to provide and install solar for this round of the Solar Saver program and have provided the quotations for the systems to residents. 450 residents have accepted these quotations and are included in the proposed special charge scheme.

A group of 4 regional greenhouse alliances (representing 24 councils) are using the Solar Saver program model to roll out solar PV for 720 low income households through Victoria. The ACT and Adelaide City Council are also using the solar saver program model.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 18 December 2017, Council resolved:

That Council:

- (8) *Endorses that for the next stage of the Solar Saver program:*
 - a) *That no interest is charged as part of the ten year special charge scheme to maximise the number of participants; and*
 - b) *That program is funded from Council's existing cash reserves.*
- (9) *Notes that for the next stage of the Solar Saver program that the priority for installation will be given to households that fulfil low income requirements (pensioners, social housing, and Centrelink benefit recipients) that have completed household agreements and then all other households will be prioritised based on the date that the completed household agreement was received.*

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

- Approximately 1500 homes expressed interest, with over 900 agreeing to provide details to receive a quote.
- Approximately 20% of people who registered interest had roof, shading or other issues which meant that solar was not a good option for them.
- 601 homes received home visits from Envirogroup and written quotations for the Solar Saver program. Participating households have all signed agreements to participate in the program based on quoted prices.
- Consultation has occurred with the Darebin Environmental Reference Group, Aged & Disability - Community Development Officer and Marketing and Community Engagement Officer, Equity & Diversity – Community Planner, Interfaith Development Officer and Aboriginal Policy Officer.
- Officers have also consulted with Northcote Rental Housing Co-operative, which have a number of homes included in the proposed scheme
- The Chief Financial Officer and Executive Management Team have been consulted

Communications

- The program was advertised on the Council website, in the local paper, through Darebin News, newsletters and through networks.
- Similar communication channels will be used for the next scheme including promotions at events and targeted mail outs if required.

ANALYSIS

Alignment to Council Plan / Council policy

Goal 1 - A sustainable city

Climate Emergency Plan

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

This project is a key action in the Darebin Climate Emergency Plan.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

This project was specifically aimed at low income households, who are more vulnerable to increasing energy costs.

Cultural Considerations

Many participants are from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities. It is estimated that over 25% of homes receiving quotes were from CALD communities.

Economic Development Considerations

It is estimated that participating households will save over \$100 per year after the special scheme payment (based on what their energy bills would have been before solar). After 10 years average participating households are expected to save well over \$400 per year. This represents potential funds that can be spent within the Darebin community rather than on utility bills.

Financial and Resource Implications

Council has included \$5.4 million in the 2018-2019 draft Council budget for the delivery of the Solar Saver program. \$200,000 is allocated to administrative and promotions cost with \$5.2 Million to be paid in solar installations with funds returned through special rates scheme. There will be at least one more special rates scheme conducted over the 2018-2019 year.

Should the proposed special charge scheme proceed, Council will pay \$2,510,483.37, for the supply and installation of the solar PV systems on the properties listed in Appendix B. In accordance with their respective Householder Agreements, property owners will pay for the cost of the solar energy system by equal instalments apportioned over a 10-year period, commencing from February 2019. Council is expected to receive \$251,048.33 in special charge repayments annually for this scheme over the 10 year period. Some households will pay the total amount in the first year. It should be noted that the special charge scheme is effectively an interest free loan to the households.

Payments to Council by property owners for works via special charge schemes are GST exempt.

Should the property be sold during the 10 year period in which the special charge scheme applies, the amount outstanding on the special charge scheme at the time of sale will be fully paid.

Legal and Risk Implications

A risk analysis has been undertaken for the program. This round was limited to 500 installations to ensure that the contractor could manage installation works over a 22 week period. Solar installations are electrical works and are required by law to be signed off by an authorised electrician through a certificate of electrical safety. Random independent audits of the work will also be undertaken by Council to ensure installations comply with Council specifications. Occupational Health and Safety processes have been assessed and will be audited on site. Ten year warranties are required on panels, inverters and installation.

DISCUSSION

Progress of Solar Saver Scheme

Envirogroup have provided written quotes to 601 homes since January 2018 and 481 have signed contracts. This is an excellent outcome with 80% of quotes resulting in agreements to install solar.

The previous program had been limited to 2kW systems and larger systems sizes now have a much better payback with the current Victorian Solar Feed-in-Tariff of 9.9 cents per kilowatt hour. Most residents are opting for 5KW systems. As a result we estimate that this special charge scheme will result in over 2 MW of solar being installed (double the total of previous programs).

As of February 2018 total solar installs in Darebin had reached 23.4 MW. So with the Solar Saver installations and current market activity we expect Darebin will have achieved one third of Council's solar target by December 2018.

A preference has been given to low income homes and 208 participants were classed as high priority including:

- Low income households
- Pensioners
- Renters
- Social housing tenants
- Culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) residents.

Proposed special charge declaration

Under Section 163 of the *Local Government Act 1989 (Act)*, Council is empowered to declare a special charge for the purposes of defraying any expenses in relation to the performance of a function or the exercise of a power of Council, if Council considers that the performance of the function or the exercise of the power is, or will be, of special benefit to the persons required to pay the special rate or special charge.

In this case, the installation of solar energy systems on properties as part of the Solar Saver scheme arises out of Council's functions of advocating and promoting proposals which are in the best interests of the community and ensuring the peace, order and good government of Council's municipal district and promotes the social, economic and environmental viability and sustainability of the municipal district. Each participating property has signed a Householder Agreement with Council to participate in the scheme, which includes the overall cost and repayments which would be paid by the property should the scheme be approved (see **Appendix A**).

In September 2004, the Minister for Local Government issued a guideline for the preparation of special charge schemes. The guideline specifically deals with the calculation of the maximum total amount that a council may levy as a special charge.

The guideline requires that Council identify the following:

- A. Purpose of the works
- B. Ensure coherence
- C. Calculate total cost
- D. Identify special beneficiaries
- E. Determine the properties to include

- F. Estimate total special benefits
- G. Estimate community benefits
- H. Calculate the benefit ratio
- I. Calculate the maximum total levy

A. Purpose of the Works

The purpose of the works is to supply and install solar energy systems on properties to reduce energy costs and encourage and increase the use of renewable energy in Darebin.

B. Ensure Coherence

The proposed works have a natural coherence with the proposed beneficiaries, as the properties proposed to be included in the scheme are receiving solar energy systems to the value of their participation.

C. Calculate the Total Cost

The proposed solar system installation includes the following items:

- Assessment and administration costs
- Supply and installation of solar energy systems

For the purposes of section 163(1) of the Act, the total cost of the works is calculated at \$2,510,483.37 based on signed quotations.

The expenses in the estimate of works are consistent with the allowable expenses listed in section 163(6) of the Act.

D. Identify the Special Beneficiaries

Council is required to identify those properties that would receive a special benefit from the proposed works. A special benefit is considered to be received by a property if the proposed works or services will provide a benefit that is additional to or greater than the benefit to other properties.

The Ministerial Guideline notes that a special benefit is considered to exist if it could reasonably be expected to benefit the owners or occupiers of the property. It is not necessary for the benefit to be actually used by the particular owners or occupiers of a specified property at a particular time in order for a special benefit to be attributed to the property.

Property owners participating in the Solar Saver scheme are considered to receive special benefit from the proposed supply and installation of solar PV systems by means of:

- Reduced energy costs over the life of the solar PV system
- Ownership of the solar PV system after the special rate repayments are paid in full
- Increased property value

The proposed properties taking part in the scheme, the owners of which have signed a Householder Agreement with Council to participate in the scheme, are listed in **Appendix B**.

E. Determine Properties to Include

Once the properties that receive special benefit are identified, Council must decide which properties to include in the scheme. If a property will receive a special benefit but is not included in the scheme, the calculation of the benefit ratio will result in Council paying the share of costs related to the special benefits for that property.

It is accepted that only those properties at which the solar energy systems are installed will receive a special benefit from the scheme. Accordingly, it is proposed to include only those residential properties whose owners have signed Householder Agreements in the scheme. Council will not, then, be required to pay a share of costs related to special benefits for any property that is not included in the scheme.

F. Estimate Total Special Benefits

As per the Ministerial Guideline for Special Rates and Charges, total special benefits are defined according to the formula below:

$$\text{TSB} = \text{TSB}_{(\text{in})} + \text{TSB}_{(\text{out})}$$

- **TSB** is the estimated total special benefit for all properties that have been identified to receive a special benefit
- **TSB_(in)** is the estimated total special benefit for those properties that are included in the scheme
- **TSB_(out)** is the estimated total special benefit for those properties with an identified special benefit that are not included in the scheme

For the purposes of the proposed scheme, total special benefits have been calculated as follows:

- **TSB_(in)** – The estimated total special benefit is based on the quoted cost of the solar PV system to be installed (which has been included in the Householder Agreement signed by the property owner). It is expected that the benefit in reduced energy costs will exceed this special benefit.
- **TSB_(out)** – This is not applicable as all participating properties are included.

G. Estimate Community Benefits

Whilst the reduction of energy use, greenhouse emissions and increase of renewable energy is considered a community benefit there are no direct quantifiable costs.

- **TCB** – Total Community Benefit is assessed to be 0 benefit units

H. Calculate the Benefit Ratio

The benefit ratio is calculated as:

$$R = \frac{\text{TSB}_{(\text{in})}}{\text{TSB}_{(\text{in})} + \text{TSB}_{(\text{out})} + \text{TCB}}$$

Where:

$$\text{TSB}_{(\text{in})} = \$2,510,483.37;$$

$$\text{TSB}_{(\text{out})} = 0$$

$$\text{TCB} = 0$$

$$R = 1$$

I. Calculate the Maximum Total Levy

In order to calculate the maximum total levy **S**, the following formula is used:

$$\mathbf{S = R \times C}$$

Where **R** is the benefit ratio and **C** is the cost of all works

Therefore **S** = 1 * \$2,510,483.37 = \$2,510,483.37

Note there is no community benefit amount payable by Council.

Apportionment of Costs

Once the maximum levy amount has been calculated, it is necessary to establish an appropriate way to distribute these costs to all affected landowners.

As the properties have all received individual quotations based on the solar system and work required, it is proposed to apportion the costs based on these quotes. It is noted that the householders have been notified and signed agreements on the basis of these costs for the purpose of declaring this scheme.

It is proposed to distribute the costs as shown in **Appendix B**.

Statutory Process

The Act requires Council to give public notice of its proposed declaration of the special charge and write to all people who will be liable to contribute. The proposed declaration of the special charge has been prepared in accordance with the Act.

Owners (or occupiers who would pay the charge as a condition of their lease) may object to the proposal within 28 days. If objections are received from more than fifty per cent of persons liable, Council will be prevented from making the declaration and the scheme cannot proceed.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Further options to include business properties in the Solar Saver program will be considered by Council in June, 2018.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

Communication

- Copies of the proposed declaration to property owners – 7 May 2018
- Copy of proposed declaration available for public inspection – 7 May 2018
- Public notice of proposed declaration – 9 May 2018
- Receipt of written submissions – 7 June 2018
- Hearing of submissions (if required) – 9 July 2018
- Promotions of the next Solar Saver scheme have commenced. Expressions of interest are being taken, with quotes provided when new tender is awarded (from July 2019) Installation for the next

Timeline

Subject to Council resolution

- Council report – intention to declare special charge scheme – 30 April 2018
- Copies of the proposed declaration to property owners – 7 May 2018
- Copy of proposed declaration available for public inspection – 7 May 2018
- Public notice of proposed declaration – 9 May 2018
- Receipt of written submissions – 7 June 2018
- Hearing of submissions (if required) – 9 July 2018
- Council report – declaration of special charge scheme – 23 July 2018
- Future report to Council establishing new Solar Saver contracting panel - 12 June 2018
- Subject to declaration of the special charge scheme, installation of solar will occur late July to December 2018
- It is anticipated that Council will consider the establishment of the next special charge scheme in October 2018

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Local Government Act 1989
- Community Climate Change Action Plan
- The Macquarie Special Rates and Charges Manual 2012

Attachments

- Solar Saver Household Agreement (**Appendix A**)
- Property Addresses and Special Charge (**Appendix B**)

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.

**8.4 700-718 HEIDELBERG ROAD, ALPHINGTON -
APPLICATION FOR REVIEW NO. P607/2018****Author:** Principal Planner**Reviewed By:** General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

PURPOSE

To seek approval to participate in the VCAT proceedings with respect to a planning permit application to develop land at 700-718 Heidelberg Road, Alphington within the municipal district of Yarra City Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A planning permit has been sought to develop the land for an 8 storey mixed-use building. The application was supported by Yarra City Council, subject to conditions which reduced the building height to a total of 5 storeys.

The various objectors (including Council) did not seek review of this decision pursuant to Section 82 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Act)*, and a planning permit has subsequently issued. The Applicants for Review have now sought a review of a number of conditions on the Planning Permit, principally the reduction of building height.

Council is required to lodge any Statement of Grounds by 7 May 2018.

Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Requests officers to lodge a Statement of Grounds with the Tribunal, nominating the Council intends to actively participate in the proceedings.
 - (2) Requests officers to attend the Practice Day Hearing and Compulsory Conference on behalf of Council.
 - (3) Delegates officers to negotiate on behalf of Council at the Compulsory Conference, with any position agreed by the parties communicated in accordance with the Planning Committee Charter.
 - (4) Requests officers to attend and present submissions at the Hearing (or direct brief external counsel of same).
 - (5) Requests officers to consider calling an expert witness to give evidence at the hearing in the field of planning.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

Planning Permit Application PLN17/0040 was lodged with on 23 January 2017. The application sought approval for a 9 storey mixed-use building. The application was subsequently amended to 8 storeys pursuant to Section 57A of the Act.

Council was entitled to notice of the application pursuant to Section 52(1)(b) of the Act on the basis of its abuttal to the municipal boundary. Council officers lodged an objection to the application on the grounds of insufficient policy support for a building of the height and scale proposed.

The application was supported by Yarra City Council, and a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit was issued. Importantly, Condition 1(a) sought:

Deletion Levels 2, 3 and 4 while retaining the residential community facility to achieve a maximum height of five storeys in accordance with the urban design objective of 17.2 with the reasons including but not limited to the proposal's limited offsets justifying a height in excess of 5 to 6 storeys achieving a less dominate urban scale consistent with its location within a neighbourhood activity centre subject to a heritage overlay, its proximity to a residential neighbourhood zone and while located in proximity, not located within a strategic redevelopment site.

No objectors (including Council) sought a review of the decision pursuant to Section 82 of the Act. A planning permit has subsequently issued. By way of service by the Applicant for Review, Council was alerted to an appeal pursuant to Section 80 of the Act (conditions appeal). The matter has been listed on the Major Cases List with the following timetable:

Practice Day Hearing	11 May 2018 at 10.00am (30 mins)
Compulsory Conference	3 July 2018 at 2.00pm (3 hours)
Hearing	20 August 2018 at 10.00am (3 days)

Objectors (including Council) are required to lodge any Statement of Grounds by 7 May 2018.

Previous Council Resolution

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

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

Matters of consultation (service and notice) are governed by the requirements of the Act and Practice Note procedures of the Tribunal.

Communications

Not applicable.

ANALYSIS

Alignment to Council Plan / Council policy

Council has obligations as both Planning Authority and Responsible Authority with respect of the Darebin Planning Scheme.

The application for review may have consequences to Council's responsibilities in terms of assessment of future planning permit applications on the northern side of Heidelberg Road, and any future planning scheme amendment for the Heidelberg Road corridor.

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

Not applicable.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

Not applicable.

Cultural Considerations

Not applicable.

Economic Development Considerations

Not applicable.

Financial and Resource Implications

Pursuant to Section 109(1) of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998, parties are to bear their own costs in a proceeding.

For the current proceeding, Council's costs may include (as applicable) engaging external legal counsel and an expert witness for the hearing. Assuming Council is represented by officers of Council an expert witness is expected to cost from \$6,000 - \$10,000.

Legal and Risk Implications

Council is entitled to be joined as a party to the proceedings under Section 83(2) of the Act.

DISCUSSION

The proceedings have potential implications for Council with respect to assessment of future planning permit applications on the northern side of Heidelberg Road, and any future planning scheme amendment for the Heidelberg Road corridor.

Council recently refused Planning Permit Application No. D/453/2017 for the construction of a 9 storey mixed-use building at 779-785 Heidelberg Road.

Further, Clause 21.03 of the Darebin Planning Scheme lists the preparation and implementation of an Urban Design Framework and guidelines for the Heidelberg Road corridor as further strategic work to be undertaken.

Officers believe that there is insufficient policy support to warrant a building of the height and scale sought by the Applicant for Review. Further, if approved the building proposed may result in a built form outcome that prejudices future strategic work for the corridor.

Given the foregoing, it is recommended that Council seek to actively participate in the proceedings by lodging a Statement of Grounds. The matters to be relied upon by Council should relate to its position as the adjoining municipality, namely the absence of clear policy support and the impact such an approval may have on future strategic work.

With respect to representation, officers can ably attend and represent Council at both the Practice Day Hearing and Compulsory Conference.

With respect of the hearing, Council can be represented either by officers, or may seek to engage external counsel (via direct brief). To properly support Council's case, consideration should be given to engaging an expert witness in the field of town planning.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Officers seek instructions from Council with respect to the following:

- Lodgement of a Statement of Grounds;
- Whether Council seeks to actively participate in the proceeding;
- Subject to the above, the authority (or otherwise) for officers to negotiate at the Compulsory Conference and any subsequent reporting procedures;
- Representation for the hearing, and whether Council seeks to engage external counsel (via direct brief); and
- The calling of an expert witness to give evidence at the hearing.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

Subject to instructions, officers can immediately lodge a Statement of Grounds with the Tribunal nominating active participation in the proceedings. Officers will subsequently attend the Practice Day Hearing and Compulsory Conference in accordance with the Tribunal's initiating orders.

Again subject to instructions, officers will arrange representation for the Hearing, including (if necessary) seeking an expert witness to give evidence.

Communication

Officers can provide regular updates to Councillors on these proceedings.

Timeline

Key dates for updates to Council will be the week following the Practice Day Hearing, Compulsory Conference and Hearing.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- *Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998*
- Darebin Planning Scheme
- Yarra Planning Scheme

Attachments

- Application for Review (**Appendix A**)
- Site Map (**Appendix B**)
- Council Objection to PLN17/0040 (**Appendix C**)
- Yarra City Council IDAC Agenda (extracted) (**Appendix D**)
- Yarra City Council IDAC Minutes (extracted) (**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.

8.5 MAYER PARK MASTER PLAN - COMMUNITY PROJECT CONTROL GROUP**Author:** Landscape Architect**Reviewed By:** General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Mayer Park Master Plan project and to appoint members of the community to the Mayer Park Project Control Group.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mayer Park is neighbourhood park located at 99 Leinster Grove (corner of Normanby Avenue and Leinster Grove), Thornbury. It is primarily classed as a sporting ground and secondary category of parkland (Darebin Open Space Strategy 2007-2017).

In 2015, Mayer Park was identified as one of the five possible sites for locating Darebin's new Multi-Sport Stadium. Extensive community consultation was conducted at the time and ultimately the selected site for the Multi-Sport Stadium was John Cain Memorial Park. The community consultation results clearly showed that the local community are very supportive of retaining access to green open space at Mayer Park. The Friends of Mayer Park group was formed following this process and has been active ever since organising community events at the park such as regular outdoor movie nights and markets. Friends of Mayer Park has also advocated for the need for a new masterplan for Mayer Park with Darebin Council.

This was recognised by the inclusion of an action to *'develop new master plans and yearly action plans for Mayer Park and the Northcote Golf Course'* in Council's 2017-2018 Action Plan. Around the same time, the Victorian State Government released the Planning For Golf in Victoria Discussion Paper in June 2017, to which Darebin provided a submission. The State Government is yet to release its Recommendations Report to clarify their position on golfing in Victoria. Because of this, answers to the questions regarding golf's future in Darebin are still outstanding. This led to a change of scope for the master plan that will see Community Project Control Group (PCG) that includes community members for the purpose of **designing and developing a master plan for Mayer Park only (excluding the Northcote Golf Course)**.

The master plan will be a community led design process that delivers a new master plan that will guide development of the park over the next four years and provide a set of actions and projects to be delivered during this time, including an implementation program and budget estimates.

An expressions of interest period was open for three (3) weeks for local community members to submit their application to be part of the PCG. Nine (9) submissions were received and evaluated. Council is to appoint eight (8) people to form the group.

Recommendation

That Council appoints the following people to the Mayer Park Community Project Control Group, in accordance with the adopted Terms of Reference.

- (a) _____
- (b) _____
- (c) _____
- (d) _____
- (e) _____
- (f) _____
- (g) _____
- (h) _____

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

This report addresses Council resolution number (4) from 26 February 2018 council meeting as stated below.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 26 February 2018, Council resolved:

That Council:

- (1) *Endorses the development of a master plan for Mayer Park only, excluding the Northcote Golf Course.*
- (2) *Endorses the Community Project Control Group Terms of Reference attached as Appendix A.*
- (3) *Appoints Councillor Susan Rennie as the chairperson of the Community Project Control Group with Cr. Trent McCarthy as the proxy.*
- (4) *Notes that at the conclusion of the Expression of Interest process a further report will be submitted to Council for selection of the Community Project Control Group members.*
- (5) *Notes that the timeframe to deliver the master plan will continue into the 2018-2019 financial year.*

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT**Consultation**

The following Council officers have been involved and/or notified of the kick-off of the master planning process in an email sent 6 March 2018:

- Chief Executive Officer
- General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy
- Manager Transport and Public Spaces
- Coordinator Public Places
- Landscape Architect Public Places

- Coordinator Community Engagement and Demographics
- Research Officer Community Engagement and Demographics.
- Manager Parks & Gardens
- Coordinator Open Space & Horticulture
- Coordinator Bushland Management
- Coordinator Facilities Management
- Team Leader Local Laws
- Manager Creative Culture
- Team Leader Transport Strategy
- Team Leader Outreach and Community
- Coordinator Community Participation and Development
- Manager Leisure Services
- Coordinator Leisure Services
- Senior Communications Advisor
- Coordinator Community Wellbeing
- Coordinator Turf and Irrigation
- Coordinator Equity and Diversity
- Aboriginal Contact Officer

External stakeholders and known park user groups were advised of the kick-off of the master planning process and the EOI process via an email sent 6 March 2017.

- Darebin Soccer Club
- Step Into Life Thornbury
- Bridge Neighbourhood House
- Merri Creek Management Committee
- Friends of Merri Creek
- Friends of Mayer Park
- Northcote Golf Club Operator/ Manager
- Wurundjeri Tribe Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council
- Croxton School
- Yappera Children's Services – Kindergarden
- Merri Community Childcare Centre, Thornbury
- Aveo Veronica Gardens Retirement Village

Postcards were distributed to about 4000 households located up to a 800m radius around Mayer Park advertising the Expression of Interest for the PCG. Posters were placed on site and the project features prominently on Council's website.

A Have Your Say web page has been set up for the project, where regular updates on the master planning process will be provided. This will also be a tool to collect feedback and ideas at the consultation phase.

A drop in session was held at Mayer Park on Saturday 17 March, which was attended by about 50 local community members. Attendees were able to discuss the EOI process and also provide feedback and suggestions.

ANALYSIS

Alignment to Council Plan / Council policy

Goal 1 - A sustainable city

The development of the master plan is part of Council's commitment to Goal 1.3 of the Council Plan 2017-2021 to *'expand and improve our network of open and green spaces, parks and natural environments to provide the lungs for our city and reduce the impacts of climate change'*. The 2017-2018 Action Plan also notes the action to *'develop new master plans and yearly action plans for Mayer Park and the Northcote Golf Course'*.

The development of the master plan is in accordance with the actions identified in the following strategic documents:

- Open Space Strategy 2007-2017
- Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

Existing Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO1) applies to the park due to its proximity to Merri Creek. Environmental objectives listed in Schedule 1 of the ESO on the Darebin Planning Scheme will need to be achieved, including protection of the existing flora and fauna and enhancement of the existing vegetation at Mayer Park. Increasing the canopy coverage and habitat in the park will ensure that the environmental benefit of the park are retained and improved.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

Public open spaces enhance the social and community value of this neighbourhood by improving access to open space in areas that are lacking or going through urban transition, providing much needed local space for people to gather and interact.

Cultural Considerations

Any land that is within 100 metres of the Merri or Darebin Creek is subject to a cultural heritage assessment.

Economic Development Considerations

Increasing amenity, usability and accessibility of public open space will have a positive impact on the community by creating places for communities to gather and make vital connections. This has a positive impact in increasing retail traffic and visitation numbers, having a positive flow-on effect on adjacent retail centres, residential area and public transport corridors.

Financial and Resource Implications

- A sum on \$65,000 has been allocated in the 2017/2018 Capital Works budget for initial site assessments, feature and level surveys and the creation of the master plan. This is part of an overall works plan for Mayer Park in 2017-2018 that includes:
 - Fencing upgrades – Works to be completed by 30 June, \$54,000
 - Lighting Design – Combined with three (3) other like projects (Dole, BT Connor and Mayer). Design to be completed by June 2018. \$73,000
 - Irrigation System – Works in progress. All works to be completed by June 2018. \$115,000
 - Master Plan - Initial background assessments will be conducted to inform the master plan. These background assessments include tree assessment throughout the park, flora and fauna survey and recommendations including along Merri Creek; Cultural Heritage assessment; feature and level survey. Works to be complete by June 2018.
- Projects identified by the master planning process would require funding to be considered in future years.

Risk Implications

1. The risk is that the Community PCG does not deliver on the project.

Risk management: Council will reserve the right to discontinue the PCG at any time and take over the master planning process.

2. The risk that community consultation does not include all stakeholders. The PCG will be tasked with formulating and conducting the community consultation process, including with stakeholders such as the wider local community, Merri Creek Management Committee, Wurundjeri Land Council, Sporting clubs that use the park and the numerous community groups that use the Leinster Grove community hall.

Risk management: A Project Lead council officer from the Public Places Unit will be nominated as a non-voting administration and project support to the PCG. This officer will work across the relevant areas of Council over the period of the project, to ensure Council actions required to deliver the Master Plan are undertaken in the required timeline as agreed to by the PCG. This officer will assist the PCG with identifying all stakeholders.

DISCUSSION

The community demographic and resultant demands are changing in Thornbury and around Mayer Park and it is appropriate to develop a master plan to direct future works in the park.

On 26 February 2018 Council endorsed the Mayer Park Master Plan – Community Project Control Group **Terms of Reference (ToR)**. The Terms of Reference list the selection criteria and the EOI process for assembling the PCG.

Key Outcomes

- The PCG and EOI process was promoted to various community groups and stakeholders to ensure a broad representation through the submission process.
- The Expression of Interest period ran for three (3) weeks from the 2 March to 25 March 2018.

- Council received **9** Expressions of Interest by the close of the EOI period for the eight **(8)** places on the PCG.
- The EOI's were assessed by officers against the selection criteria outlined in item 5 of the Terms of Reference.
- The applications received and Officer evaluations against the selection criteria have been provided to Council separately as they are deemed to be confidential documents in accordance with section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Option 1 – Appoint members as per the officer evaluation.

Option 2 - Not Support the selection of the Project Control Group (PCG) members

Option 3 – Select an alternate PCG Membership

Option 4 – Select all community members that submitted to the EOI process

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Timeline

This timeline is indicative only and will need to be reviewed and amended by the CRG.

- 30 April – Council Meeting to appoint the Community PCG members.
- May 2018 – PCG to schedule first meeting.
- May 2018 – PCG to develop a timeline for development of the Mayer Park Master Plan.
- May/June 2018 – PCG to develop a thorough and inclusive community and stakeholder consultation process.
- Jun 2018 – Internal / External / Stakeholder / Community Consultation.
- Jun/Jul 2018 – PCG to develop a project scope/brief based on community and stakeholder consultation.
- Jul – Sept 2018 – Prepare Draft Masterplan.
- Sept 2018 – Draft Masterplan for internal review.
- Oct 2018 – Prepare Final Draft Masterplan.
- Nov 2018 – Final Draft Masterplan out for Consultation.
- Nov 2018 – Capital Bids for 2019/2020 based on Final Draft Masterplan.
- Dec 2018 – Final Draft Masterplan up to Council for endorsement.
- PCG may be called upon to provide ongoing feedback and recommendations at the various stages of the implementation phase.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Council Minutes – 26 February 2018

Attachments

- Terms of Reference PCG - Mayer Park (**Appendix A**)
- Mayer Park PCG Expressions of Interest (**Appendix B**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover. (This document has been designated as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer, in accordance with Section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, as it relates to 'any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person' pursuant to section 89(2)(h) of the *Local Government Act 1989*)
- Mayer Park PCG Submission Evaluation Form (**Appendix C**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover. (This document has been designated as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer, in accordance with Section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, as it relates to 'any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person' pursuant to section 89(2)(h) of the *Local Government Act 1989*)
- Mayer Park PCG Evaluation Outcomes (**Appendix D**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover. (This document has been designated as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer, in accordance with Section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, as it relates to 'any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person' pursuant to section 89(2)(h) of the *Local Government Act 1989*)
- Mayer Park Evaluation Matrix – signed (**Appendix E**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover. (This document has been designated as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer, in accordance with Section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, as it relates to 'any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person' pursuant to section 89(2)(h) of the *Local Government Act 1989*)
- Mayer Park Expression of Interest (**Appendix F**) Enclosed under separate cover Confidential - enclosed under separate cover. (This document has been designated as confidential by the Chief Executive Officer, in accordance with Section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, as it relates to 'any other matter which the Council or special committee considers would prejudice the Council or any person' pursuant to section 89(2)(h) of the *Local Government Act 1989*)

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.

8.6 DAREBIN COMMUNITY AWARDS TERMS OF REFERENCE**Author:** Acting Manager Creative Culture and Events**Reviewed By:** General Manager Community

PURPOSE

To inform Council of changes to the Darebin Australia Day Awards, which are now known as Darebin Community Awards, and to seek Council endorsement for the new Terms of Reference and the process in place to source community members to be part of the Committee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of a Council resolution on 21 August 2017, Council resolved to:

- Continue to recognise excellence and service in Darebin, renewed as the Darebin Community Awards, and to be awarded on a day other than January 26.
- 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.

This has meant that it was required to refresh and renew the current 26 January Awards and to rebrand them as the Darebin Community Awards. It also has meant that we have worked in collaboration with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders to introduce two new categories within the Awards that recognise and celebrate the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live, work, study or volunteer in Darebin.

Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Endorse the Terms of Reference for the Darebin Community Awards
 - (2) Commence the Expression of Interest process for members.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

As part of a Council resolution on 27 August 2017, Council resolved:

That Council;

- 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.
- 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.

This has meant that it was required to refresh and renew the current 26 January Awards and to rebrand them as the Darebin Community Awards. It also has meant that we have worked in collaboration with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders to introduce two new

categories within the Awards that recognise and celebrate the achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live, work, study or volunteer in Darebin.

The Darebin Community Awards recognise the achievement of our community members who have made an outstanding contribution to the Darebin community. There are now five award categories:

- (1) Citizen of The Year
- (2) Young Citizen of the Year
- (3) Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Community Leader of the Year - new category
- (4) Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Emerging Community Leader of the Year (Under 21 years) - new category
- (5) Community Group of the Year

Applications for nominations opened on February 1 and will close on July 31.

The awards are only loosely related to the proposed Welcome to Darebin event, which is a new event, designed in response to Darebin no longer delivering citizenship ceremonies. It is being designed to welcome new citizens. The community awards are a long standing entity within Darebin and have been rebranded. It is anticipated that post the Community Awards, the award winner could have a role to play in the Welcome to Darebin Event. This will be further developed.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 21 August 2017, Council resolved in part:

'That Council':

- (1) 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.
- (2) 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.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

Consultation with the following organisations was undertaken to design the new categories of the community awards:

- Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee
- The Wurundjeri Tribe Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council Aboriginal Corporation

Further consultation included:

- Darebin Aboriginal Contact Officer
- Darebin Ethnic Community Council
- Equity and Diversity Coordinator
- Arts Participation Coordinator

- Manager, Creative Culture and Events (substantive)

Communications

- A comprehensive communications plan has been developed and has already commenced to source nominations.
- The Darebin Community News (December /January edition) promoted the Darebin Community Awards.
- The Expression of Interest to seek four community representatives will be distributed once Council endorses the Terms of Reference.
- Key messages are:
 - Celebrating new categories.
 - Recognising the achievements of our community members who have made an outstanding contribution to the Darebin community.

ANALYSIS

Alignment to Council Plan / Council policy

Goal 5 - Involving our diverse community

5.3 We will be responsive and respectful to the current and emerging aspirations of Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

- Darebin Aboriginal Action Plan 2012 - 2015 (extended until 2017 and under review)
- Darebin Anti-Racism Strategy 2012-2015 (extended until 2017 and under review)
- Darebin Equity and Inclusion Policy 2012-2015 (extended until 2017 and under review)

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

- Increased social media advertising of the Expression of Interest process will be undertaken
- The Awards ceremony will follow the single use plastic guidelines

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

The new awards categories progresses human rights, equity and inclusion outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, including the recognition of First Nations people to participate in Australian society as equals with a distinct status and culture that can be celebrated within the diversity of the nation.

Cultural Considerations

Council Officers consulted with the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee, The Wurundjeri Council and the Darebin Ethnic Committee to ensure that all cultural considerations were factored into the new awards.

Economic Development Considerations

Economic Development has been consulted and there is no specific considerations. The business team will assist to promote the EOI and the awards nominations process.

Financial and Resource Implications

The Darebin Community Awards and selection of new Committee Members will be delivered within existing budgets and staffing levels.

Legal and Risk Implications

Strict timelines are required to be met in order to deliver the Awards ceremony on 24 August

DISCUSSION

The role of the Darebin Community Awards Advisory Committee is to select the award recipients. The committee will consist of the following:

- The Mayor of the day, to act as the Chairperson
- Two members of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC)
- A representative of the Darebin Ethnic Communities Council (DECC)
- Four Community Representatives
- One Council officer (for administration purposes only)

DACC members will be appointed by experience and longevity on advisement by the Darebin Aboriginal Contact Officer. It's intended that Council will continue to provide Aboriginal members of the committee with a sitting fee of \$60.00, as has occurred in the past.

Once endorsement for the Terms of Reference is received, advertising will commence for the four community representatives. The Committee's membership will not exceed eight.

Nomination for appointment of members will be through an Expression of Interest process, which will then be reviewed by an internal selection panel, which comprises of the Mayor and Council officers and will provide recommendations to Council for endorsement.

Appointments to the Committee will be for a period of two years. Three months prior to the end of the term, the Council's Civic Events and Engagement Officer will review appointments and a subsequent expression of interest process will be undertaken. Members will have the option to reapply for a further two years (once only).

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Endorse the Terms of Reference for the Darebin Community Awards

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

- Council endorsement of the updated Terms of Reference – 30 April
- Advertising for Expressions of Interest for four new Darebin Community Awards Committee members will commence - 2 May.
- Recommendations to Council of Committee Members – 2 July
- Nominations for awards close – 31 July
- Committee members will meet to select the award recipients – August
- Awards ceremony to be held on 24 August.

Communication

Promotion of the opportunity to be part of the selection committee for the Darebin Community Awards will include the following communication channels:

- Mayor's message
 - Corporate social media channels
 - Advertise in local media
 - Send EOI to registered interested parties
 - Various Council owned department newsletters
 - As the officer has spoken at many community forums, three unsolicited Expressions of Interest have been received.

Timeline

- A three week Expression of Interest process will be undertaken to source community representatives for the Committee.
- Work with Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and Darebin Ethnic Communities Council to select representatives.
- Review Expressions of Interest and provide recommendations to Council for endorsement.
- A report will then be put forward to Council for endorsement of Committee members on 2 July.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Council Minutes – 21 August 2017

Attachments

- Darebin Community Awards - Terms of Reference (**Appendix A**)

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.

8.7 RESCHEDULING PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING FOR JUNE 2018**Author:** Coordinator Council Business**Reviewed By:** General Manager Governance and Engagement

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to reschedule the June Planning Committee meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Due to Councillor and Chief Executive Officer obligations, rescheduling the date from 18 June 2018 to 25 June 2018 will enable Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer to be present at the meeting.

Section 89 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) requires Council to provide public notice for cancellation and/or a new date for meetings of Council and Special Committees comprised solely of Councillors. The revised Planning Committee meeting date will be advertised in the Age and the Northcote and Preston Leader newspapers in accordance with the Act.

Recommendation

That Council reschedules the Planning Committee meeting, to be held in the Council Chamber at Darebin Civic Centre at 6.00pm, from 18 June 2018 to 25 June 2018.

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

At its Special Council meeting on 13 November 2017, Council resolved dates for Council and Special Committee meetings and Councillor Briefing Sessions for the new mayoral term.

Previous Council Resolution

At its Special Council meeting held on 13 November 2017, Council resolved:

That:

- (1) *Ordinary meetings of the Council be held in the Council Chamber at Darebin Civic Centre (or other venue as determined) at 6.00 pm on 20 November, 4 December, 18 December 2017, 5 February, 26 February, 19 March, 9 April, 30 April, 21 May, 12 June, 2 July, 23 July, 13 August, 3 September, 24 September, 15 October and 5 November 2018.*
- (2) *A special (statutory) meeting of the Council be held at the Preston City Hall at 6.30 pm on Monday 26 November 2018.*
- (3) *Meetings of the Planning Committee be held in the Council Chamber at Darebin Civic Centre at 6.00 pm on 11 December 2017, 12 February, 13 March, 16 April, 14 May, 18 June, 16 July, 20 August, 17 September, and 22 October 2018.*
- (4) *Meetings of the Hearing of Submissions Committee be scheduled as required and that public notice of those meetings be given in accordance with section 89 of the Local Government Act 1989.*

- (5) *Meetings of the Bundoora Homestead Board of Management to be held at the Bundoora Homestead on dates and times to be determined in due course.*

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

Chief Executive Officer

Communications

The revised Planning Committee date will be advertised in the Preston and Northcote Leaders in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

ANALYSIS

Alignment to Council Plan / Council policy

Goal 6 - A well governed Council

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

Not applicable.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

Not applicable.

Cultural Considerations

Not applicable.

Economic Development Considerations

Not applicable.

Financial and Resource Implications

There will be a small cost associated with advertising the new date for the Planning Committee meeting.

Legal and Risk Implications

Nil

DISCUSSION

Due to Councillor and Chief Executive Officer obligations, rescheduling the date from 18 June 2018 to 25 June 2018 will enable Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer to be present at the meeting

OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Nil

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**Details**

Not applicable

Communication

The revised Planning Committee meeting date will be advertised in the Preston and Northcote Leaders in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Timeline

Not applicable

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- *Local Government Act 1989*
- Special Council Minutes – 13 November 2017

Attachments

Nil

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.

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

Nil

10. NOTICES OF MOTION**10.1 RUTHVEN STATION****Councillor: Gaetano GRECO****NoM No.: 345**

Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 30 April 2018, it is my intention to move:

That Council:

Notes;

- (1) That according to the 2017 RACV and Leader News On Track survey Ruthven Station was ranked as the second worst station in Victoria.*
- (2) That car parking facilities around the station are grossly inadequate and posing a safety risk to pedestrians and commuters.*
- (3) Due to insufficient parking commuters are parking on the footpath and in nearby residential streets causing congestion.*
- (4) That Council raised the inadequacy of car parking facilities at the station with state government transport authorities at the time of the welcomed removal of travel zones which has caused the increase in patronage from Ruthven Station. However little was done by the transport authorities to foresee the parking problem we have today.*

And

- (5) Resolves to write to the Minister for transport Jacinta Allan and Robin Scott, Local Member for Preston inviting them to visit Ruthven Station and request that;*
 - a) Car parking facilities be immediately improved as a matter of urgency to alleviate and appropriately manage car parking at the station and neighbouring streets.*
 - b) The State government provide additional funds to upgrade the poor run down state of Ruthven Station as part of the Reservoir rail crossing removal project.*

Notice Received: 11 April 2018

Notice Given to Councillors 23 April 2018

Date of Meeting: 30 April 2018

**10.2 WORKFORCE CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND LEADERSHIP
IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT****Councillor: Gaetano GRECO****NoM No.: 346**

Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 30 April 2018, it is my intention to move:

That Council:

- (1) *Writes to the Race Discrimination Commissioner, Dr Soutphommasane congratulating him on his initiative for releasing his latest report - Leading for Change - which demonstrates that there is limited cultural diversity in positions of leadership in Australia.*
- (2) *Highlights to the Commissioner the omission in the report regarding cultural diversity in leadership positions within local government organisations and recommends that a similar report be compiled for the local government sector.*
- (3) *Writes to the Minister for Local Government, Marlene Kairouz and the Minister for Multiculturalism, Robin Scott requesting that the state government produce a comprehensive report on workforce diversity and leadership in local government in Victoria.*
- (4) *Receives a report in July 2018, with updated data reflective of our workforce diversity including salary classifications, current processes in place for staff to identify diversity, proposed actions that will enable Council to gain a more accurate picture of the diversity of our workforce and also inform Council of the policies and practices currently in place to attract employees from diverse backgrounds, and suggested targets and strategies that Council can adopt in addressing the gaps in the workplace.*

Notice Received: 17/04/2018**Notice Given to Councillors 23/04/2018****Date of Meeting: 30 April 2018**

10.3 **COMPREHENSIVE AND PROGRESSIVE AGREEMENT FOR
TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP (CPTPP)****Councillor:** **Susanne NEWTON****NoM No.:** **347**

Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 30 April 2018, it is my intention to move:

That Council:

- (1) *Write to the Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, the Hon Steven Ciobo MP; the Shadow Minister on Trade and Investment, Jason Clare MHR; Senator Sarah Hanson-Young, Australian Greens Finance and Trade Spokesperson; Senator Rex Patrick, Nick Xenophon Team spokesperson on Trade; Independent Senator Derryn Hinch; and Member for Batman Ged Kearney, urgently seeking support for an independent assessment of the economic, health and environmental impacts of the CPTPP on local government.*
- (2) *Approach Moreland and Yarra Council's to explore the possibility of a joint submission to oppose the legislation supporting the CPTPP.*
- (3) *Prepare a submission for the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties; and the Senate Enquiry on the potential impact of the proposed CPTPP on local government.*
- (4) *Implement a communications plan to support the City of Darebin's position.*

Notice Received: **09/04/2018****Notice Given to Councillors** **23/04/2018****Date of Meeting:** **30 April 2018**

11. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Nil

12. RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

12.1 ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS HELD

An Assembly of Councillors is defined in section 3 of the *Local Government Act 1989* 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:

- Preston Business Advisory Committee – 11 April 2018
- Darebin Ratepayers Group – 12 April 2018
- Darebin Disability Advisory Committee and Active and Healthy Ageing Board – 16 April 2018
- Climate Emergency Darebin Advisory Committee – 19 April 2018

Recommendation

That the record of the Assembly of Councillors held on 11, 12, 16 and 19 of April 2018 and attached as **Appendix A** to this report, be noted and incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.

Related Documents

- *Local Government Act 1989*

Attachments

- Assembly of Councillors - 30 April 2018 (**Appendix A**)

13. REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

Recommendation

That Council note the Reports by Mayor and Councillors.

14. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

The Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to section 77(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act), has designated the following items to be confidential:

14.1 Recyclables Services Contract

This item is designated confidential because it is a contractual matter pursuant to section 89(2)(d) of the Act.

CLOSE OF MEETING

Recommendation

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 items designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer.

RE-OPENING OF MEETING

Recommendation

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

15. CLOSE OF MEETING