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AGENDA

Hearing of Submissions Committee Meeting to be held
at Darebin Civic Centre,
350 High Street Preston
on Thursday, 15 June 2017
at 7.00pm.

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Agenda

1. MEMBERSHIP

Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) (Chairperson)

Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor)

Cr. Steph Amir

Cr. Tim Laurence

Cr. Trent McCarthy

Cr. Lina Messina

Cr. Susanne Newton

Cr. Susan Rennie

Cr. Julie Williams

2. APOLOGIES

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Hearing of Submissions Committee Meeting held on 27 March 2017 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

5. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

5.1 PROPOSED BUDGET 2017/2018

Author: Management Accountant

Reviewed By: Director Corporate Services

Report Background

Council is required to adopt a Budget for each financial year. Prior to adopting the Budget in its final form, Council is required to place the Proposed Budget on public display inviting submissions and then after considering all submissions Council can formally adopt a Budget for the financial year.

This report provides details of the submissions made on the Proposed 2017/2018 Budget.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 8 May 2017, Council resolved:

'That any person who makes a written submission in relation to the proposed 2017/2018 Budget or in relation to the granting of a rate rebate to pensioners and requests to be heard in support of the written submission, be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at a meeting to be held in the Council Chamber, Darebin Civic Centre, 350 High Street Preston at 7.00 pm on Thursday 15 June 2017.'

Previous Briefing(s)

- Councillor Briefing – 16 December 2016
- Councillor Briefing – 2 February 2017
- Councillor Briefing – 16 February 2017
- Councillor Briefing – 16 March 2017
- Councillor Briefing – 30 March 2017
- Councillor Briefing – 20 April 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

- Goal 6 - Open and Accountable Democracy

Summary

At its meeting on 8 May, Council resolved to give public notice of its intention to adopt the Proposed 2017/2018 Budget at a meeting of Council to be held on 22 June 2017.

Prior to adopting the Budget in its final form Council placed the Proposed Budget on public display inviting submissions by Thursday 8 June 2017 with any person requesting to be heard in support of their written submission to be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at 7.00pm on 15 June 2017.

Sixty-one submissions have been received including eight submitters requesting to be heard in support of their written submission.

The submissions in total are requesting an estimated \$5.26 million for capital works projects and \$1.02 million for operating projects.

Following the Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting, a report in relation to all submissions received will be submitted for consideration at the meeting of the Council scheduled for 22 June 2017.

Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Officers prepare a report for the Council Meeting on 22 June 2017 addressing the written submissions received and verbal presentations heard in respect of the Proposed Budget 2017/2018.
 - (2) Thank presenters and all submitters for addressing the Committee in support of their written responses.
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Introduction

At its meeting on 8 May 2017, Council resolved to give public notice of its intention to adopt the Proposed 2017/2018 Budget at a meeting of Council to be held on 22 June 2017. Further notice has been given to adopt the Proposed 2017/2018 Budget at a meeting of Council to be held on 22 June 2017. A public notice was placed in The Age on 10 May 2017 with copies in the Northcote Leader and Preston Leader on 16 and 17 May respectively.

Those persons wishing to make a submission in relation to the Proposed 2017/2018 Budget were invited to do so by Thursday 8 June 2017 with any person requesting to be heard in support of their written submission to be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at 7.00pm on 15 June 2017.

Issues and Discussion

2017/2018 Proposed Budget

The 2017/2018 proposed budget is currently reporting an underlying surplus of \$5.40 million. Any amendment to the proposed budget based on the submissions would need to ensure that an underlying surplus is retained.

At the time of preparing this report (Friday 9 June 2017), sixty-one written submissions have been received in relation to the Proposed Budget 2017/2018. The following eight submitters have requested to be heard in support of their written submissions:

- Serena O'Meley (resident) – Submission # 1
- Anne Laver (resident) – Submission # 3
- Colleen Duggan (SPAN Community House) – Submission # 10
- David Furniss (Austin Health) – Submission # 13
- Zak Gruveski (Preston Lions Football Club) – Submission # 14
- Olaf Ciolek (Resident) – Submission # 21
- Juliet Hall (Resident) – Submission # 25

- Miranda Sharp (Melbourne Farmers Markets) – Submission # 29

Copies of all submissions have been circulated separately to Councillors for their information.

Community Submissions

#	Submitter	Issue	Budget Implication
1	Serena O'Meley	Planning and master planning for the Ruthven Primary School site Habitat rehabilitation at the Lakeside Secondary School site Council to campaign and protect the Strathallan Open Space from development	No additional financial impact No additional financial impact No additional financial impact
2	Mannie De Saxe	Increased budget for footpath repairs, bench seating and shelters for elderly residents	No additional financial impact
3	Anne Laver	Implementing a charge to developers who seek a waiver for parking spaces Allowance made for one public car park in each ward close to shopping centres Increase in CCTV cameras along major streets	N/A Development of appropriate overlays would be required and sites would need to be identified, planned, and costed to provide for additional parking. This work has not been completed at this point. \$50,000 to \$1,000,000 (\$50,000 for each single location point)
4	Rueben van Bommel-Misrachi	1. Targeted project for Leinster Grove with the introduction of one way give points 2. Funding for an off road path/ bridge on the eastern side of the municipality 3. Segregated bike lanes on East-West road corridors in particular Arthurton Road/ Separation Street, Murray Road and Broadway 4. Charging for on street parking in Darebin. In particular High Street Northcote, High St Thornbury and Arthurton Road and Normanby Avenue	\$50,000 (study, consultation and preliminary plans) \$80,000 (Planning and Design) \$150,000 (study and community consultation - \$50,000 each location) \$130,000 (not including installation, maintenance, licences and operational costs)
5	Gabby McLeish	Supporting the redevelopment of Northcote Aquatic Centre	No additional financial impact
6	Christine Prosser	Supporting the redevelopment of Northcote Aquatic Centre and local parks	No additional financial impact
7	Kat Lavers	Supporting the 2017/2018 Budget in particular the prioritisation of sustainability measures and environmental initiatives	No additional financial impact

8	Darebin Environmental Reference Group	Supporting the environment	No additional financial impact
9	Christen Erlandsen	Inequitable distribution of budget between wards Concern over developer contribution and open space levy not charged Increased resources in Planning Enforcement Increased resources for Heritage Improve Planning Information Systems	No additional financial impact No additional financial impact \$250,000 N/A N/A
10	Colleen Duggan	Requesting an increase in the base funding contribution for Neighbourhood Houses	\$78,890
11	Whitlam Malkoun	Zwar Park enhanced amenity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New Pavilion - Essential Maintenance - Perimeter Fencing - Scoreboard 	\$1,348,000
12	Geoffrey Richards	Additional safety lighting to Storey Reserve and the connection walkway	\$100,000 - \$250,000 (depending on scope, the proximity of existing electrical source, type of soil and type of lighting required) This does not include maintenance and running costs.
13	Margarita Herouvim (Austin Health)	Partnership proposal for the Wellness Walk and Research run with the Austin Hospital and Olivia Newton-John Centre	\$25,000 plus promotional and marketing support
14	Zak Gruveski	Upgrade of the flood lighting at BT Connor Reserve (Pitch #1) Council undertake a planning/scoping exercise for the replacement of the pavilion	\$500,000 \$2,000,000
15	Don Meadows	Supporting the funding for the Merri creek bridge in the 2017/2018 Budget	No additional financial impact
16	Shelley Brunt		
17	Tony Rodwell		
18	Luisa Ermacora		
19	Hannah Clement		
20	Shannon Lang		
21	Olaf Ciolek		
22	Lucy Holt		
23	Charles Camilleri		
24	Helen McDonald		
25	Juliet Hall		

26	Brydie Quinn		
27	Travis McGregor		
28	Meg Montague	Opposing the Merri Creek Bridge works Undertake planned and reasoned process for assessing works on roads and bridges	N/A
29	Miranda Sharp (Melbourne Farmers Market)	Funding for the infrastructure works at the Melbourne Innovation Centre and the Communal Food Hub in Alphington	\$120,000
30	Dr Chris Williams		
31	Bec Yule		
32	Nick Rose		
33	Graeme Martin		
34	Sharlee Gibb		
35	Kristen Anne Larsen		
36	Serenity Hill		
37	Anna Robert		
38	John Bradford		
39	Antony Perri		
40	Marion Gray		
41	Emmy Nicol		
42	Joel Becker		
43	Oscar Perri		
44	Angie Chong		
45	Matthew Wilkinson		
46	Helen Stagoll		
47	Jen Skate		
48	Eve Recht		
49	Michelle Surowiec		
50	Michelle Fidler		
51	Prudence Rothwell		
52	James Garriock		
53	David Williamson (Melbourne Innovation Centre)	Partnership proposal for a 'Future Darebin Start-up Accelerator'	Option 1: \$40,000 or Option 2: \$77,000
54	Donna Swan (Reservoir Neighbourhood House)	Support to replace the current security system with a key pass system at the Reservoir Neighbourhood House	\$10,000 to \$150,000

55	John Berriman	Council to allocate funds to support a campaign to save the Strathallan Open Space from development	No additional financial impact
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Organisational Submissions

#	Issue	Budget Implication
56	Victorian Grants Commission – estimate to be received for 2017/2018 is less than previous preliminary recommendation	\$71,000
57	Employee costs – increase in expenditure due to realignment of staff with contract staff	\$397,621
58	Materials and services – decrease in external contracts due to realignment of temporary staff	\$80,483 savings
59	Other expenditure – decrease in expenditure due to realignment of temporary staff	\$40,043 savings
60	User fees – increase in fees based on current trend analysis	\$6,325 savings
61	Statutory fees and fines – increase in statutory planning fees based on current trend analysis	\$270,770 savings

Options for Consideration

Council can either agree to include all, some or none of the submissions made to the Proposed 2017/2018 Budget.

Financial and Resource Implications

No changes have been made to the proposed budget arising from these submissions. The submissions in total are requesting an estimated additional \$5.26 million for capital works projects and \$1.02 million for operating projects.

Risk Management

If Council does not give due consider to the budget submissions, the risk will be that the community may see Council as not taking the submissions process seriously.

If Council agrees to fund any given submission and Council cannot deliver, it raises community expectations which Council cannot meet.

Policy Implications

Economic Development

The 2017/2018 Proposed Budget includes approximately \$1.1 million for economic development activities including the Green Business Expo, continuing the rollout of WiFi in retail strips, activation of vacant shops, working with local trader and business associations to help them improve business performance to develop and implement regional economic growth.

Environmental Sustainability

The 2017/2018 Proposed Budget continues Council's funding of environmental operations in a range of areas including waste collection, recycling services, street cleaning, litter collection, park and sporting field maintenance and improvements in the context of drought, water-saving and energy efficiency measures.

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

The Proposed Budget has been prepared using key principles of social inclusion, fairness and equity. These principles determine how Council proposes to raise income and allocate expenditure to fund services and infrastructure.

Around 11,000 eligible Darebin pensioners will receive Council's \$150 rate rebate and one free animal registration.

Other

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

Future Actions

Following the Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting, a report in relation to all submissions received will be submitted for consideration at the meeting of Council scheduled for

- 22 June 2017 for the adoption of the 2017/2018 Budget.

The report will include a management response to the issues raised in the submissions.

Consultation and Advocacy

- Budget Managers
- Managers
- Directors
- Public

Related Documents

- Council Minutes 8 May 2017
- Public Advertisement in The Age on 10 May 2017

Attachments

- 2017/2018 Budget Submissions (**Appendix A**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover

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.

5.2 PROPOSED COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 AND ACTION PLAN 2017/2018**Author:** Coordinator Council Plan and Performance**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance

Report Background

Council is required by the *Local Government Act 1989* ('the Act') to prepare a Council Plan ('the Plan'). The Act requires that the Plan contain the strategic objectives of Council, strategies for achieving those objectives and indicators to monitor the achievement of those objectives. Further, the Council Plan is required to include a Strategic Resource Plan containing, among other things, a series of standard financial statements.

Following the development of a Council Plan, Councils are required to publish a public notice of the right to make a submission in relation to the adoption of a Council Plan, and of the right to appear at (or be represented at) a meeting in support of that submission.

This report provides details of the submissions made on the Proposed Council Plan 2017-2021 and Action Plan 2017/2018.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 8 May 2017, Council resolved:

'That Council:

- (1) Formally adopts the draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (Appendix A), the Action Plan 2017-2018 (Appendix B) and the Strategic Resource Plan (Appendix C) and place it on public exhibition for a period of 28 days in accordance with sections 125 and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.*
- (2) Notes that any person who makes a written submission in relation to the proposed Council Plan and requests to be heard in support of the written submission, be heard by Councils Hearing of Submissions Committee at a meeting to be held in the Council Chamber, Darebin Civic Centre, 350 High Street, Person at 7pm on Thursday 15 June 2017.'*

Previous Briefing(s)

- Councillors Workshop – 16 December 2016
- Councillor Briefing – 6th March 2017
- Councillor Briefing – 27th March 2017
- Councillor Briefing – 26th April 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

- Goal 6 - Open and Accountable Democracy
 - Strategy 6.1 Good Governance

Summary

After extensive consultation with residents, businesses and other stakeholders, Council has developed a proposed Plan where it outlines the priorities and vision that will guide its four year term. The City of Darebin faces a number of challenges in the coming years and the Plan sets out how Council will address them. For the first time at Darebin, there is also an Action Plan that sets out in more detail how the objectives of the Plan will be achieved.

At its meeting of 8 May, Council resolved to give public notice of the proposed Plan, Action Plan and associated Strategic Resource Plan on public exhibition according to section 223 of the Local Government Act. Responses to the proposed Plan closed at midnight on Thursday 8 June 2017. In addition to the legal guidelines on public exhibition, the proposed plans were on display in the Shire Hall, available online with an electronic submission form and promoted via social media and at Darebin Libraries.

Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Officers prepare a report for the Council Meeting on 22 June 2017 addressing the written submissions received and verbal presentations heard in respect of the proposed Council Plan 2017-2021 and Action Plan 2017/2018.
 - (2) Thank presenters and all submitters for addressing the Committee in support of their written responses.
-

Introduction

At its meeting of 8 May 2017, Council resolved to give public notice of its intention to adopt the proposed Council Plan 2017-2021 and the proposed Action Plan 2017-2018. This intention was advertised in 'The Age' on 10 May and in the Preston and Northcote Leader newspapers.

Council placed the proposed Plan and Action Plan on public display inviting submissions by midnight, Thursday 8 June 2017. Any person who requested to be heard in support of their written submission was invited to attend Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at 7.00pm on 15 June 2017.

Issues and Discussion

By the closing of submissions (midnight 8 June 2017), 37 written submissions have been received and the following five submitters have requested to be heard in support of their written submissions. These are:

- Alan Hale (resident)
- Anne Laver (resident)
- Robert Stopajnik (resident)
- Clare Glover (resident)
- Daniel Gloag (resident)

Copies of all submissions have been circulated separately to Councillors for their information

Options for Consideration

All written responses, whether in the post, via email, or through an electronic form, are presented as attachments to this report.

Consideration of Submissions

In accordance with sections 129 and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council is required to take into consideration all submissions received in relation to the proposed Plan and after it has made a decision, notify all persons who have made a submission of the decision and the reasons for the decision.

Council has established the Hearing of Submissions Committee to hear and report to Council on submissions received under section 223 of the Act.

Financial and Resource Implications

The Council Plan will take the form of both an online website and a small paper summary document. The estimated cost for the production of the plan, for distribution to all staff and the provision of suitable quantities made available to the public, is approximately \$30,000. Provision for this amount has been included as part of the 2016/2017 Council Plan and Performance Unit's operational budget.

Risk Management

If the Plan and Strategic Resource Plan are not adopted by Council by the due date, then under Section 125(6) of the Act, the State Government must be notified and details of the failure must be displayed in Council's Annual Report.

Policy Implications

Economic Development

The draft Plan has a specific goal that addresses Council's commitment to support and attract local businesses and industries.

Environmental Sustainability

The draft Plan has a specific goal that acknowledges that there is a climate emergency and outlines the strategies that are planned to mitigate its effects and reduce its causes.

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

The needs and inclusion of groups identified in the Equity and Inclusion policy such as; disadvantaged individuals and communities including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, refugees, people with little or no English, isolated and elderly people, people with disabilities, homeless people, and people living in poverty, have been considered in the development of the Plan.

Other

The proposed 2017-2021 Plan is a statement of Council's policy direction across all areas of operation. Following its adoption, it will influence the development of all future Council policy, and will inform Council's decision-making on an ongoing basis.

Future Actions

The proposed Plan will be considered for adoption by Council at a Special Meeting on 22 June 2017 after the consideration of written submissions and verbal presentations heard by the Hearing of Submissions Committee.

Consultation and Advocacy

In addition to the legal guidelines on public exhibition, the proposed plans were on display in the Shire Hall, available online with an electronic submission form and promoted via social media and at Darebin Libraries.

All staff were invited to provide feedback on the plan.

Related Documents

- Council Minutes - 8 May 2017
- Public Advertisement in The Age on 10 May 2017

Attachments

- Emailed submissions to draft Council Plan and Action Plan (**Appendix A**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover
- Online submissions on Draft Council Plan and Action Plan public exhibition (**Appendix B**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover

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.

6. CLOSE OF MEETING