



the place  
to live

## **AGENDA**

Council meeting to be held  
at Darebin Civic Centre,  
350 High Street Preston  
on Monday, 4 April 2016  
at 7.00 pm.

Public question time will  
commence shortly after 7.00 pm

# Table of Contents

Item Number	Page Number
1. MEMBERSHIP .....	1
2. APOLOGIES .....	1
3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST .....	1
4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS.....	1
5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME .....	2
6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS.....	3
6.1 FUNDING FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS .....	3
6.2 DAREBIN RAIL LEVEL CROSSING REMOVALS.....	9
6.3 AMENDMENT C156 – REQUEST OF MINISTERIAL AMENDMENT FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTIAL ZONE.....	14
6.4 PROPOSED DOG OFF LEAD AREA IN JOHNSON PARK NORTHCOTE .....	20
7. CONSIDERATION OF RESPONSES TO NOTICES OF MOTION AND GENERAL BUSINESS.....	26
7.1 DAREBIN PUBLIC TOILET STRATEGY ADOPTION.....	26
8. NOTICES OF MOTION.....	32
8.1 MURALS AT RUBIE THOMSON RESERVE AND SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD.....	32
9. URGENT BUSINESS .....	33
10. GENERAL BUSINESS.....	33
11. RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS.....	33
11.1 ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS HELD.....	33
12. REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS.....	40
13. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL.....	40
14. CLOSE OF MEETING .....	41

---

# Agenda

---

## 1. MEMBERSHIP

Cr. Vince Fontana (Mayor) (Chairperson)

Cr. Gaetano Greco

Cr. Tim Laurence

Cr. Bo Li

Cr. Trent McCarthy

Cr. Steven Tsitas

Cr. Angela Villella

Cr. Oliver Walsh (Deputy Mayor)

Cr. Julie Williams

## 2. APOLOGIES

## 3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

## 4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

<b>Recommendation</b>
-----------------------

**That** the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 21 March 2016 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

## 5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

**PLEASE NOTE:** Questions from the public must be submitted prior to the commencement of Council meetings.

- Questions can be submitted online up to 4.00 pm on the day of the meeting:
  - At [darebin.vic.gov.au/publicquestiontime](http://darebin.vic.gov.au/publicquestiontime); or
  - By email to [PQT@darebin.vic.gov.au](mailto:PQT@darebin.vic.gov.au)
- Question can also be submitted in person:
  - At the counter of the Preston Customer Service, 274 Gower Street, Preston until 5.00 pm on the day of the meeting
  - At the Council Chamber from 6.45 pm to 7.00 pm on the day of the meeting

Council officers are available to assist residents in the preparation of questions between 3.00 pm and 5.00 pm on the day of the Council meeting. For assistance please call (03) 8470 8888 and you will be directed to the appropriate department.

No questions will be accepted after 7.00 pm on the night of the Council meeting.

Questions that relate to items that are listed on the Agenda cannot be responded to.

The Mayor will read the question and provide a response. If a question cannot be answered at the meeting, a written response will be prepared and forwarded to the person raising the question.

Residents do not need to attend the meeting for a question to be answered.

A period of up to 30 minutes will be set aside to enable the Chairperson to read out the questions submitted by the public in accordance with the above guidelines and to provide responses.

## 6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

### 6.1 FUNDING FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

**Author:** Manger Children, Families and Community

**Reviewed By:** Director Community Development

#### Report Background

The report outlines the current funding provided to Neighbourhood Houses, as well as that provided to the Darebin Volunteer Information and Resource Centre and Darebin Community Legal Centre and Darebin Ethnic Communities Council (DECC), and the financial considerations for a CPI increase commencing 2016/2017. The report also outlines a request from the Alphington Community Centre to increase their funding to parity with the other Houses to respond to their existing and emerging service gaps.

#### Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 1 February 2016, Council resolved:

*'That Council:*

*....*

- (4) *Receives a further report in time for the 2016/2017 budget process regarding the funding arrangement for neighbourhood houses and the potential to look at a CPI based increase per annum.'*

#### Previous Briefings

Briefings on the funding provided to Neighbourhood Houses and other Community organisations were provided in 2015 for the 2015/2016 budget process.

#### Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 2: Healthy and Connected Community

#### Summary

Neighbourhood Houses, Darebin Volunteer Information and Resource Centre (DIVRS), the Darebin Community Legal Centre and DECC are currently funded on annual service agreements to deliver a range of services to Darebin's most disadvantaged residents. No increase to the annual funding has been applied since July 2014. The application of a 2.5% increase as part of the 2016/2017 budget would require an additional \$9,973.

Further to this, to respond to the existing and projected service needs for their catchment area, Alphington Community Centre (ACC) is seeking an increase in their annual funding to parity with the other Houses, commencing 2016/2017. Further resources would be required if ACC was to also receive a funding increase effective 2016/2017.

**Recommendation**

**That** Council:

- (1) Apply a 2.5% funding increase for the Darebin Neighbourhood House Network, Darebin Volunteer Information and Resource Centre, Darebin Community Legal Centre and Darebin Ethnic Communities Council for the 2016/2017 year, with subsequent increases to be based on CPI.
- (2) Increase Alphington Community Centre's funding from 50% to 75% of the per annum amount allocated to other Houses from 2016/2017.

---

**Introduction**

Neighbourhood Houses receive funding from a variety of sources for coordination and program delivery. Coordination funding for Neighbourhood Houses in Darebin is primarily through the State Government's Department of Health and Human Services Neighbourhood House Coordination Program (NHCP). This funding varies, with Houses receiving between 10 and 40 hours per week. All houses are required to run programs for twice the amount of hours they are funded.

Since July 2014, Council funding has been provided to Neighbourhood Houses on a financial year basis (1 July to 30 June) through one annual lump sum payment. All organisations are required to report to Council on an annual basis illustrating how their organisation supported the strategic goals outlined in the Council Plan. Subsequent funding agreements are not negotiated without the receipt of this annual report.

The funding provided by Council is a contribution to overall administration and program delivery. In addition to annual operational funding, Neighbourhood Houses operate out of Council facilities under a lease agreement at a cost of \$52 per house per annum. Effective 1 July 2016, the water and sewage costs for all seven Houses will also be funded by Council, approximately \$6,000 per annum.

Council also provides \$104,545 (GST excluded) annual funding to the Darebin Volunteer and Resource Service (DIVRS) for overall administration and program delivery. In addition, Council provides approximately \$44,000 per annum for the rental of their premises on High Street Preston, making the total amount provided to DIVRS approximately \$148,545.

Annual funding is also provided to the Darebin Community Legal Centre (DCLC) to deliver weekly legal outreach in East Reservoir and at the Northland Youth Centre. In 2014/2015 this outreach program supported over 110 clients and provided over 50 residents with information and referrals.

Darebin Ethic Communities Council (DECC) is provided with \$25,000 on an annual basis to deliver a range of agreed activities as outlined in the service agreement and action plan.

**Issues and Discussion**

Changes in State funding has impacted the capacity of Neighbourhood Houses to deliver programs for the Darebin community. An annual CPI increase in Council funding has been identified by the Network as a key strategy to retain and grow service provision to meet community need. Similarly, DIVRS and the DCLC continue to respond to a growing community demand with their funding.

In 2014/2015 the organisations received a CPI increase of 2.5%. In 2015/2016 no CPI was applied. The table below outlines the amount currently allocated in the 2016/2017 budget, and the total budget required if a 2.5% CPI was applied.

Agencies (GST Not Inc.)	Current budget	2.5% CPI per annum			
		2016/2017	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
DIVRS	104,545	107,158	109,837	112,583	115,398
Darebin Community Legal Centre	13,636	13,976	14,326	14,684	15,051
DECC	25,000	25,625	26,265	26,922	27,595
	<b>\$143,181</b>	<b>146,760</b>	<b>150,429</b>	<b>154,190</b>	<b>158,045</b>
<b>Neighbourhood Houses (No GST applied)</b>					
Jika Jika	37,342	38,275	39,232	40,213	41,218
Span	37,342	38,275	39,232	40,213	41,218
PRACE	37,342	38,275	39,232	40,213	41,218
Preston	37,342	38,275	39,232	40,213	41,218
Thornbury	37,342	38,275	39,232	40,213	41,218
Alphington	17,713	18,155	18,609	19,074	19,551
Reservoir	51,500	52,787	54,107	55,459	56,846
	<b>255,923</b>	<b>262,317</b>	<b>268,879</b>	<b>275,601</b>	<b>282,491</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$399,104</b>	<b>\$409,077</b>	<b>\$419,308</b>	<b>\$429,791</b>	<b>\$440,536</b>

The table below outlines the total additional resources required each year if a 2.5% CPI is applied annually. An additional \$102,296 will be required over the next four years.

	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
<b>Additional resources required</b>	\$9,973	\$20,204	\$30,687	\$41,432

### Alphington Community Centre

Located on the Darebin/Yarra border, Alphington Community Centre (ACC) provides services to residents in both municipalities. As highlighted above, ACC currently receives 50% of the amount of funding from Council on an annual basis. The rationale regarding this structure was that the House was also funded by Yarra City Council, receiving approximately \$40,000 pa, however as outlined in **Appendix A** (Alphington Community Centre budget request for parity of funding) over 75% of ACC's catchment area are Darebin residents.

As outlined in **Appendix A**, over the past 5 years ACC has seen a marked increase in the need for programs, in particular youth programs, activities for residents with a disability and activities for seniors. Further to this, as the predominant household structure in ACC's catchment is singles or couples without children, the centre has seen an increase in requests for formal and informal social programs where people can build connections and feel included.

In addition to the existing need, population forecasting for the ACC attachment is expected to grow significantly over the coming 20 years, increasing by an estimated 5,000 to 5,500 people. The current funding of ACC does not provide the capacity to respond to the existing and future needs.

To adequately respond and further the centres' ability to deliver Council's strategic goals, ACC is seeking parity funding to other neighbourhood houses. As noted previously an estimated 75% of ACC's catchment area is Darebin.

### Options for Consideration

#### Option One

Increase ACC's funding from 50% to 75% of the per annum allocation provided to other Houses in the DNHN.

Provide a 2.5% CPI increase per annum to all organisations, commencing 2016/2017.

#### Option Two

Retain funding at the current level with no CPI increase or increase to ACC funding.

#### Option Three

Provide a CPI increase or an increase to ACC funding.

### Financial and Resource Implications

The table below outlines the amount currently allocated for these organisations in the 2016/2017 budget, and the total budget required if a 2.5% CPI was applied. In total this would require an additional \$9,973.

<b>Agencies (GST Not Inc.)</b>	<b>2016/2017</b>	<b>2.5% CPI</b>
DIVRS	104,545	107,158
Darebin Community Legal Centre	13,636	13,976
DECC	25,000	25,625
	<b>\$143,181</b>	<b>146,760</b>
<b>Neighbourhood Houses (No GST applied)</b>		
Jika Jika	37,342	38,275
Span	37,342	38,275
PRACE	37,342	38,275
Preston	37,342	38,275
Thornbury	37,342	38,275
Alphington	17,713	18,155
Reservoir	51,500	52,787
	<b>255,923</b>	<b>262,317</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$399,104</b>	<b>\$409,077</b>

Further resources would be required if funding to ACC is also increased to \$28,006 effective in the 2016/2017 budget.

### **Risk Management**

To ensure the proper and transparent use of funds, all organisations are required to provide an evaluation and acquittal report at the end of each financial year. All reports for the 2014/2015 year have been received.

### **Policy Implications**

#### **Economic Development**

Neighbourhood Houses strongly support Goal 1: Vibrant City and Innovative Economy, offering a range of accredited training, volunteering and learning opportunities to help improve the employment outcomes for residents and training opportunities to support small business and enterprises.

#### **Environmental Sustainability**

The Neighbourhood House Network and DIVRS support a number of priorities under Council Plan Goal 3. Sustainable and resilient neighbourhoods through a number of community education programs which promote awareness, behaviour change leadership and develop pride around environmental issues.

#### **Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion**

The Darebin Neighbourhood House Network, DIVRS, DECC and DCLC all deliver services that aim to support Darebin's most disadvantaged residents as outlined in the Equity and Inclusion Policy. All agencies strongly support the 2013-2017 Council Plan Goal 2: *Healthy and Connected Communities* and *2013-2017 Health and Wellbeing Plan*.

#### **Other**

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

#### **Future Actions**

- Implementation and review of the 2015/2016 Service Agreements
- Implementation of the 2015/2016 DNHN Action Plan.

#### **Consultation and Advocacy**

- Coordinator Community Wellbeing
- Coordinator Equity and Diversity
- Darebin Neighbourhood House Network

**Related Documents**

- Alphington Community Centre budget request for parity of funding (**Appendix A**)
- Council Minutes - 4 May 2015 and 1 February 2016

**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.

## 6.2 DAREBIN RAIL LEVEL CROSSING REMOVALS

**Author:** Manager City Development

**Reviewed By:** Director Assets and Business Services

### Report Background

In January 2016, the State Government formally announced its commitment to commence construction works in 2018 on three level crossing removals in Darebin, namely:

- Grange Rd, Fairfield;
- Bell St, Preston; and
- High St, Reservoir.

This is a welcome announcement and follows years of Council-led advocacy to the State Government to prioritise the removal of dangerous level crossings in Darebin. These level crossings significantly hinder the flow of traffic, impede pedestrian and cyclist mobility, disconnect communities, constrain productivity and undermine the expansion and improvement of public transport services along the South Morang and Hurstbridge lines.

Council understands that community consultation will shortly commence at all three locations (between March and April 2016) with door knocks, letter box drops and pamphlets distributed to commuters at stations. The consultation will be led by the Level Crossing Rail Authority (LXRA) - the State Government Authority established to manage and deliver these projects.

This Report details the LXRA timelines for consultation at all three locations and how Council will be promoting this, to ensure wide notice and broad community involvement.

Council Officers are working closely and constructively with the LXRA and other stakeholders – such as landholders and institutions adjacent to the level crossing removal sites - to ensure community benefits and public investment from these significant projects are maximised. This work, through the “Darebin Connect” project, will enable Council to arrive at an informed evidence based view on level crossing removal options in order to advocate for the best options on our community’s behalf. This is achieved through the following:

- Investigating the urban design, public realm, safety and connectivity opportunities and enhancements that can be achieved through level crossing removal at all the sites and advocating for exemplary design and community outcomes with the LXRA;
- Promoting LXRA consultation activities and opportunities for community involvement through Council’s news channels; and
- Investigating the feasibility of additional grade separations to occur along the South Morang corridor to test if there can be greater economies of scale and to ensure that the grade separations being undertaken by the LXRA future proof further grade separation projects. This scope of works will consider broader urban development, transport and community improvements opportunities.

Officers will report back in late May on the progress of these activities and will continue to keep Council informed of the LXRA consultation activities in coming months.

### Previous Council Resolution

This matter has not previously been the subject of a Council resolution.

### Previous Briefing(s)

- 22 February 2016
- 15 March 2016

### Council Plan Goals

- (1) Promote an innovative, vibrant and thriving economy with physical infrastructure that is both well maintained and appropriately regulated.
- (2) Develop a strong physical, social and economic environment that supports and enhances the health and well-being of all Darebin residents.

<b>Recommendation</b>
-----------------------

#### That Council:

- (1) Note the work underway through the 'Darebin Connect' project to maximise the public and community benefits from the level crossing removal projects at Grange Rd, Fairfield, Bell St, Preston and High St, Reservoir and to investigate the feasibility of additional grade separations along the South Morang rail corridor in Darebin.
- (2) Note the anticipated consultation activities by the State Government Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA) and the opportunities for community involvement.
- (3) Note that Officers will report back in April and late May on the progress of 'Darebin Connect' and will continue to keep Council informed of the LXRA consultation activities in coming months.

---

### Introduction

- The State Government's announcement to remove three level crossings in Darebin by 2018 presents as a unique opportunity to deliver significant investment in Darebin that will provide a lasting legacy for future generations to come.
- As such, Officers are working to maximise the public investment and community benefits from these significant projects through the "Darebin Connect" project.
- This Project includes the following activities:
  - Investigating urban design, public realm, safety and connectivity opportunities and enhancements that can be achieved through level crossing removal at all sites and presenting a set of design principles and outcomes for Council's consideration;
  - Promoting the LXRA consultation opportunities and opportunities for community involvement through Council's news channels; and
  - Investigating the feasibility of additional, simultaneous grade separations to occur along the South Morang corridor – beyond the planned separation of the Bell Street, Preston and High Street, Reservoir crossings.
- The intent of the project is to enable and facilitate broad reaching community based outcomes from the grade separations to ensure their full potential can be achieved

## Issues and Discussion

### *LXRA Consultation Activities*

- Community consultation and communications activities for Grange Road, Bell Street and High Street will be conducted by the LXRA.
- The LXRA have advised that activities will take place over four phases, with Grange Rd commencing first and Bell St and High St, Reservoir activities commencing and occurring around 1-2 months after Grange Rd.
- Dates for workshops are not yet scheduled and only rough timeframes are currently available.
- Council has offered to promote the LXRA consultation activities. Once dates are confirmed, we will be including this information in the Darebin Community News, Council's Facebook page and website.
- The four phases of consultation consist of the following:

#### Phase 1 – “Register your interest” (March-April 2016)

- Letter Drops (directly affected residences and wider community)
- Pop-up sessions (key community locations such as train stations and trading strips)
- Trader drop-ins
- Stakeholder briefings

#### Phase 2 – “Tell us what is important to you” (May-June 2016)

- Community sessions
- Trader sessions
- Pop-up sessions
- Stakeholder briefings

#### Phase 3 – “Options Presentation” – Possible Options presented (August 2016)

- Community sessions
- Pop-up sessions
- Stakeholder briefings

#### Phase 4 – “Recommended option announced” (November – February 2017)

- Community sessions
- Pop-up sessions
- Stakeholder briefings
- Media announcement
- Newsletter

*Rail Feasibility Study – “Darebin Connect”*

- Council is also investigating the feasibility of additional, simultaneous grade separations to occur along the South Morang corridor – in addition to the planned separation of the Bell Street, Preston and High Street, Reservoir crossings.
- This Feasibility Study will explore if there is a case to ‘bundle’ additional crossing removals along the South Morang line to make more effective use of limited state resources and to maximise community outcomes. Equally important is to ensure that the grade separation projects at Bell Street and Reservoir are not undertaken in a manner that adds complications to additional grade separations happening at adjacent level crossings along the South Morang line. The study is expected to be finalised by late May 2016.
- This Study supports and builds on the previous Council initiative undertaken in 2013 and 2014, with Moreland City Council, to explore a regional approach to level crossing removals.
- The additional rail crossing removals would provide a range of expected benefits for Darebin and in particular, central Preston, including:
  - Significant improvements in east-west motor vehicle, cyclist and pedestrian movements,
  - Improvements to pedestrian amenity and safety and
  - Support anticipated growth in both the La Trobe National Employment Cluster in East Preston and the northern growth corridor.
- The Study will ultimately assist Council to formulate an advocacy position to the State Government concerning the additional level crossings and to understand the wider opportunities that this investment presents for urban renewal and increased community outcomes in Darebin.
- Officers will report back to Council on the outcome of this work in May.

**Options for Consideration****Financial and Resource Implications**

- The budget for current activities for ‘Darebin Connect’ comes from within existing Strategic Land Use Planning allocations for 2015/2016.
- Future allocations and resourcing will be considered as part of the 2016/2017 budget as appropriate.

**Policy Implications****Economic Development**

The level crossing removals in Darebin represent an investment of around \$400 million in the municipality. The crossing removals are likely to have a range of flow on economic benefits for the municipality and will facilitate improved economic productivity and lead to significant public realm improvements.

**Environmental Sustainability**

The level crossing removals in Darebin are expected to have a range of improvements for environmental sustainability, including:

- Improvements to pedestrian and cyclist mobility; and

- Facilitate the expansion and improvement of public transport services along the South Morang and Hurstbridge lines.

### **Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion**

There are no factors in this report which impact on human rights, equity and inclusion.

### **Other**

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

### **Future Actions**

- Officers report in late April on the urban design, public realm, safety and connectivity opportunities and enhancements that can be achieved through level crossing removal at all sites and present set of urban design principles and outcomes for Council's consideration; and
- Officers report to Council on the progress of "Darebin Connect" and on the LXRA program of activities in May 2016 with a view to formulating an advocacy position to put to the State Government.
- Officers continue to engage with the LXRA and key stakeholders to ensure the views of the community and landholders are considered in their plans and activities in Darebin and to ensure wide spread promotion of opportunities to be involved in LXRA consultation activities.

### **Consultation and Advocacy**

#### Internal Consultation:

- Public Realm
- Transport
- Community Development
- Economic Development
- City Development
- Communications and Marketing

#### External Consultation:

- Level Crossing Removal Authority (LXRA)
- Public Transport Victoria (PTV)
- VicTrack

### **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.

**6.3 AMENDMENT C156 – REQUEST OF MINISTERIAL AMENDMENT FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTIAL ZONE**

**Author:** Manager City Development

**Reviewed By:** Director Assets and Business Services

**Report Background**

This report outlines the justification for Amendment C156 which aims to ensure a balanced application of the new residential zones is achieved in the municipality. Council has responded to all of the requirements for a Ministerial Amendment in a manner that is reasonable to increase the area of Neighbourhood Residential Zone in the Municipality.

**Previous Council Resolution**

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

**Previous Briefing(s)**

- Council Briefing 15 February 2016 and
- Council Briefing 15 March 2016

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

- Council Plan 2013-2017 Goal 1: A vibrant city and innovative economy. Promote an innovative, vibrant and thriving economy with physical infrastructure that is both well maintained and appropriately regulated.
- Endorsed Strategy: Darebin Housing Strategy 2013.

**Summary**

- Darebin Planning Scheme Amendment C156 has been prepared and is proposed as a new request for a Ministerial Amendment.
- This follows Council writing to the Minister and a meeting held between the Mayor, CEO and the Minister in relation to Amendment C152 and the refusal to deliver a zoning arrangement that would have better protected 65% of residential land from more intense development.
- Following the meeting with the Minister, Council has been offered the opportunity to address the issues raised by the Residential Zones Standing Advisory Committee (RZSAC) in relation to its consideration of the first residential zones roll-out through amendment C144.
- This led to a third process for the implementation of the new residential zones in Darebin that will potentially see an increase in Neighbourhood Residential Zone (NRZ1) in Darebin to approximately 30% of residential land (up from the current 11.5%).

- The Amendment is based on a previous Planning Scheme Amendment C144, which was completed as the first step in a staged approach to introduce the New Residential Zones as part of the Residential Zones Standard Advisory Committee (RZSAC) Stage 1 process. A number of areas were not supported for the NRZ due to their superior public transport access and the perceived lack of justification for a special identified character.
- This planning scheme amendment is proposed without further public exhibition and is proposed to be submitted directly to the Minister for Planning for consideration.
- The Ministerial Amendment process would avoid the costs of a full planning scheme amendment.
- The State Government initiatives Plan Melbourne Refresh and the state government's residential zones review are relevant to this Ministerial Amendment as it assists to address more urgent gaps, errors and inconsistencies in the application of NRZ1 to Darebin.
- Having exhibited under Amendment C144, full notice is not required given Council has already been through a number of public exhibition processes including C138 and C144, hence eliminating the costs of a full planning scheme amendment.
- This Briefing Paper outlines the details of the proposed Ministerial Amendment C156 and the rationale for the amendment for Council's consideration and endorsement.
- Amendment C156 will be presented to Council in an upcoming Council Meeting with a recommendation to adopt the amendment and forward all required documents to the Minister's office for consideration under Section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

### Recommendation

**That Council:**

- (1) Endorse proposed Amendment C156 to the Darebin Planning Scheme.
- (2) Endorse the attached map *Amendment C156 – Existing and Proposed NRZ1* (attached as **Appendix A**) as the revised zone interpretation of the Darebin Housing Change Framework from the *Darebin Housing Strategy 2013*.
- (3) Endorse the *Amendment C156 – Rationale Report* as the key supporting document to Amendment C156 as attached in **Appendix B**.
- (4) Request the Minister for Planning to introduce Amendment C156 to the Darebin Planning Scheme under Section 20(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, to rezone additional areas of the municipality in accordance with **Appendices A, B, and C** of this report.
- (5) Authorise the Manager City Development to make minor alterations and corrections, where necessary, to Amendment C156 prior to lodgement with the Minister for Planning.
- (6) Request the Minister for Planning to consult with Council officers on any changes proposed to the documents submitted as part of Amendment C156.
- (7) Authorise the Manager City Development to make changes to the Amendment in consultation with the Minister for Planning.

## Introduction

Proposed Ministerial Amendment C156 is part of Council's ongoing implementation of the new residential zones which were introduced by the previous State Government. It proposes an increase in the amount of NRZ1 across the municipality by applying this zone to areas with characteristics such as an intact neighbourhood character, consistent subdivision pattern, presence of Heritage Overlays, remoteness from transport and activity centres and environmental sensitivity. This amendment also addresses the issues raised by the RZSAC in relation to a number of locations not being supported for inclusion in the NRZ through Amendment C144.

## Issues and Discussion

Amendment C156 proposes to apply the NRZ1 to additional residential land in the municipality. This work follows on from previous amendments, in particular Amendment C144, the Stage 1 implementation of the New Residential Zones in Darebin. The RZSAC did not support Council's application of the NRZ to 19 of the proposed additional 20 precincts. The amendment will potentially see the increase in NRZ land to 29.9% per cent of lots and 33.6% of residential land in the municipality.

### *What has informed Amendment C156?*

The Amendment has been informed by the following:

- Ministerial correspondence and State Government officer advice over the past few months;
- The recommendations of the RZSAC Stage 1 Darebin Report;
- A desktop and site inspection for all precincts included in Amendment C144 and assessment against the key criteria;
- Inclusion of errors and inconsistencies between the approved Amendment C144 and the RZSAC recommendations; and
- The Housing and Population Report, April 2014 (prepared by DTPLI). This report was written at the time of Amendment C144 and indicated that housing supply would not have been impacted by the proposed application of 36% NRZ.

Amendment C156 is also being prepared in the midst of *Plan Melbourne Refresh* and the residential zones review process. In regards to the latter, a series of 'State of Play' reports to inform this process has revealed that the justification and rationale for implementing the zones between councils varied significantly. As reported to Council on 7 December 2015, these State Government initiatives are welcomed; however, some of the inconsistencies, gaps and errors for the implementation of the new residential zones in Darebin must be addressed.

### *Supporting information*

The Amendment C156 package includes the following documents:

- Amendment C156 – Proposed Zone Map (**Appendix A**);
- Amendment C156 Rationale Report (including Analysis of Precincts Table) (**Appendix B**);
- Amendment C156 Explanatory Report (**Appendix C**).

The Rationale Report has been prepared in support of the amendment and is presented for endorsement. The purpose of the Rationale Report is to provide an overview of the Amendment, explain the methodology used to apply the NRZ and provide justification for the Amendment. It responds in detail to the criteria from the '*Ministerial Powers of Intervention in Planning and Heritage Matters*' Practice Note which is required to support a request for Ministerial Amendments.

#### *Request for Ministerial Amendment*

Darebin has approached the introduction of new residential zones in a responsible and evidenced based manner, with regard to the criteria set by State Government. The proposed application of the NRZ1 as part of Amendment C156 (and previously C144) is the result of considered analysis of the criteria provided by the State Government through *Practice Note 78*, known facts about the building typologies in Darebin, data on developments patterns and consideration of future housing needs. The revised 16 precincts as nominated on the C156 map display a high level of intactness of dwelling stock and distinguishable urban character that justify the application of the NRZ.

Council considers that a full planning scheme amendment process is not appropriate with the current Amendment C156 proposal given that Council has already been through a number of public processes, including the exhibition and panel proceedings associated with Amendments C138 and C144.

#### *The need for ongoing work*

As part of the detailed analysis of this amendment process, officers have identified areas where the preferred neighbourhood character remains largely intact and open space and/or vegetation forms an important character of the area. As the NRZ1 does not protect existing dwellings from demolition, a future strategic study planned to commence in 2016/2017 will propose to further investigate these areas for potential inclusion in the Neighbourhood Character Overlay (NCO). The NCO would seek (amongst other recommendations to be made by any future strategic work) to encourage, where appropriate, retention of older dwellings that contributed to the valued character of the area. This future amendment will require significant strategic justification and a full public exhibition process.

### **Options for Consideration**

#### *Option 1:*

Pursue Amendment C156, requesting a Ministerial Amendment to introduce further NRZ into the Darebin Planning Scheme. This would serve as an interim situation pending further strategic work aimed toward increasing the levels of protection for Darebin's residential areas, beyond the 30% proposed in this planning scheme amendment.

#### *Option 2:*

Defer Council decision until the Managing Residential Development Advisory Committee reports on the application of zones is finalised and reported to Council.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

The work described in this report is outside the current work program and budget for the Strategic Planning Unit. This will be assessed depending on Council determination.

## Risk Management

### *Failure to endorse Amendment C156 by Council*

Most of the neighbourhoods affected by Amendment C156 are in the General Residential Zone 2 and Council will have less control over what development can occur in these neighbourhoods over time.

### *Amendment C156 could be refused by the Minister:*

In response to this, C156 is seen as a stage in the continued refinement of residential planning controls. The Strategic Planning Unit proposes further strategic work into Neighbourhood Character and the residential zones including a full planning scheme amendment in the 2016/2017 Financial Year.

## Policy Implications

### Economic Development

The Municipal Strategic Statement promotes housing development which supports Darebin's economic strengths and needs, and helps facilitate development of emerging economic opportunities as identified in the *Darebin Economic Land Use Strategy 2013*.

Applying the new residential zones advances Council's strategic vision by clarifying where new housing, particularly at higher densities, should happen.

### Environmental Sustainability

The amendment will have a number of positive environmental effects:

- Providing greater certainty by identifying preferred locations for growth and identifying areas where development should be restricted
- Promoting sustainable urban growth by directing higher density residential development to preferred locations with good access to community infrastructure, services, employment and public transport.

### Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Council's position on the new residential zones ensures that Darebin remains a socially inclusive destination for existing and future residents through a reasonable distribution of all three of the new residential zones.

### Other

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

### Future Actions

- Should Council adopt the recommendation of this report, officers will send the attached documents to the Minister for Planning for consideration.

### Consultation and Advocacy

Amendment C156 is a proposed Ministerial Amendment meaning that no formal notice is deemed necessary.

Submitters to Amendment C144 and people who registered their interest in C152 have been notified of this Amendment and Council report. It is intended to keep these parties informed of any decisions made on this Amendment.

Officers have also met with staff from Department of Environment Land Water and Planning in the preparation of this amendment and will continue to liaise with these officers throughout the consideration of Amendment C156.

### **Related Documents**

- Darebin Housing Strategy 2013.
- Darebin Planning Scheme.
- Residential Zones (Stage 1) Standing Advisory Committee Report – Overarching Report.
- Residential Zones (Stage 1) Standing Advisory Committee Report – Darebin Draft Amendment C144.
- Amendment C156 Map of Existing and Proposed NRZ1 - **Appendix A**
- Amendment C156 Rationale Report - **Appendix B**
- Amendment C156 Explanatory Report - **Appendix C**
- Council Minutes – 7 December 2015

### **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.

## 6.4 PROPOSED DOG OFF LEAD AREA IN JOHNSON PARK NORTHCOTE

**Author:** Manager Economic Development and Civic Compliance

**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

### Report Background

A petition signed by 424 residents requesting the creation of an off lead area in Johnson Park, Northcote has been received by Council.

In response it was recommended that the northern area of the park, which has no formal recreational usage, be considered for designation as an off lead area and that Council invite submissions in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* from the community regarding the proposed changes.

This report is in response to the resolution dated 23 November 2016.

### Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 23 November 2015 the Council resolved:

*That Council:*

- (1) *Designate the northern area of Johnson Park as an off-lead area.*
- (2) *Write to surrounding residents and publish a public notice in local newspapers inviting submissions from the community regarding the proposed change to the off-lead designation at Johnson Park, Northcote.*
- (3) *Note submissions will be in accordance with section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 and are to be submitted by a date which is not less than 28 days after the date on which the notice is published.*
- (4) *Capital works and safety works be referred to this year's capital works budget: eg fencing and other safety treatments/child safety.'*

### Previous Briefing(s)

- 24 August 2015 - Council Briefing Session
- 15 March 2016 - Hearing of Submissions

### Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

There are a number of shared goals in the Council Plan which support the strategic direction of the Order under the *Domestic Animal Act 1994*.

#### Sustainable and Resilient Neighbourhoods

- Protect and enhance biodiversity, natural and cultural heritage assets, wildlife corridors, local forests, waterways and the built and natural heritage areas.
- Develop policies to encourage the ethical treatment of all animals and to support responsible pet ownership.

### Excellent Service

- Create a business culture that focuses on customer service and the provision of timely and meaningful responses to community needs and requests; and analyse all customer feedback, using it as an opportunity to improve the quality of our services.

### **Summary**

Letters were sent out to residents within 1 km radius of the park surrounding Johnson Park on 14 January 2016, as well as advertisements in the Preston and Northcote Leader on 12 and 13 January 2016 respectively, inviting residents to make a submission to Council's proposal to designate the northern area of Johnson Park as a dog off-lead area. Residents had until 12 February 2016 to lodge their written submissions.

Sixteen submissions have been received which includes ten against the proposal and five in support, with one submitter providing general comment regarding enforcement (neither supports or objects) for the proposal to designate the northern area of Johnson Park as off lead.

The main concerns expressed by the submitters related to the safety of children, pedestrians and cyclists using the paths through the Park. The common recommendation from the submitters was that the area would need to be fenced in order to address the identified issues. Also, seven submitters questioned whether there would be sufficient enforcement if the park were to be made off-lead. Those that were in support of the proposal suggested that an off lead park would provide for greater friendships amongst people using the park, avoid having to drive dogs to nearby off lead parks and would lead to positive health benefits.

### **Recommendation**

**THAT** Council:

- (1) Designate the northern area of Johnson Park as a dog off lead area.
- (2) Resolve the dog off lead area is fenced in order to address the concerns of residents in relation to public safety.

---

### **Introduction**

The *Domestic Animals Act 1994* provides Council with the power to enforce provisions specific to dog or cat confinement requirements under section 26 of the Act. Section 26 of the Act stipulates:

*A Council may by resolution make an order under this section which may do all or any of the following:*

- a) Prohibit the presence of dogs and cats in any public of the municipal district of the Council;*
- b) Impose all or any of the following conditions on the presence of dogs or cats in any public place of the municipal district of the Council:*
  - i. conditions as to the means of restraint of dogs or cats;*
  - ii. conditions as to the times at which the presence of dogs or cats is or is not permitted;*
  - iii. any other conditions that are specified in the order.*

Council passed an order in 2013 which designated 39 parks within the municipality as off lead (see **Appendix A**). Council may, by order of resolution, and after giving public notice invite submissions on the proposal to:

- Remove a reserve or part of a reserve; and /or
- Add a reserve or part of a reserve to the list of Designated Reserves.

The letters were sent out to residents on 14 January 2016 within 1 km radius of the park, and advertisements placed in the Preston and Northcote Leader papers on 12 and 13 January 2016 respectively inviting people to make a submission to Council's proposal to designate the northern area of Johnson Park as a dog off-lead area. Residents had until 12 February 2016 to lodge their written submissions.

The following picture identifies the proposed off lead area which would be designated by appropriate signage.



## Issues and Discussion

Sixteen submissions have been received and these included ten against and five for the proposal and one general comment regarding enforcement (neither support/objects to proposal) to designate the northern area of Johnson Park as off lead.

## Submissions

The following parties requested to be heard in support of their written submissions and were advised of the time, date and place of this meeting of Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee:

- (1) Andrew Wear
- (2) Myf Browning
- (3) Ro Packer
- (4) Robert and Anne Miller

A Hearing of Submissions meeting was held on 15 March 2016. The following parties attended and spoke in support of their written submissions.

- Andrew Wear
- Myf Browning
- Ro Packer

The submitter's main concerns relate to:

- Park being used by the community, families and local school and need to protect them.
- The proposed dog off lead area is not an equitable use of park.
- The area cannot be enforced all the time and therefore fencing would need to be installed to ensure public are protected.
- There are a number of dog of lead parks within the vicinity of Johnsons Park.
- The park is where kids ride their bikes and scooters, people relax under trees, and people socialise.
- There has been a drop in the number of kids using the park due to dogs being off lead. There have been instances where kids have fallen off their bikes.
- The dogs that are off lead are not being monitored by their owners and the dogs have left their droppings in the park.
- Proposed dog of lead area is close to children's playground.
- Many children are bitten by dogs and this is well publicised.
- 20% people are less likely to use the park if part of the park were to be made dog off lead.
- Unable to guarantee protection of children.
- Not in line with Animal Management Strategy and the Council Order.

The following parties did not request to be heard in support of their written submissions:

- (5) Annette and Ken Berryman
- (6) Dr Ian Smith
- (7) Fred, Surr and Angelika Stoll
- (8) Heather Murfet
- (9) Jane Waldock
- (10) Kate Denborough and Gordon Wilson
- (11) Margaret Irwin
- (12) Sebastian Packer-Smith
- (13) Lis Blake
- (14) Lisa and Matthew Lubbock
- (15) Emma Wyndham Chalmers
- (16) Gaye Bishop (General comments – did not object/support proposal)

The main concerns expressed by the submitters related to the safety of children, pedestrians and cyclists using the paths through the Park. The common recommendation from the submitters was that the area would need to be fenced in order to address the identified issues. Also, seven submitters questioned whether there would be sufficient enforcement if the park were to be made off-lead. Those that were in support of the proposal listed suggested that an off lead park would provide for greater friendships amongst people using the park, avoid having to drive dogs to nearby off lead parks and would lead to positive health benefits.

Copies of all (16) written submissions received were circulated separately for Councillors information at the meeting of the Hearing of Submission Committee held on 15 March 2016.

### **Addressing concerns raised by residents**

The main concerns in relation to introducing a dog off lead area can be addressed if Council were to provide a fenced in dog area. This along with adequate signage will encourage self-monitoring and policing. This has proven to be the case with the recent successful introduction of fencing around Crispe Park and the fenced in dog area at Bundoora Park.

### **Consideration of Submissions**

In accordance with section 223 of the Act, Council is required to take into consideration all submissions received in relation to the proposal and after it has made its decision, to notify all persons who made a submission of the decision and the reasons for the decision.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

If an area of the park is changed to off lead, Council would need to provide appropriate fencing to address the safety concerns of people using the three pathways adjacent to Bastings Street. The cost is estimated to be \$15,000, which is based on the cost of providing fencing at Crispe and Bundoora Parks.

New signage has already been approved and included into this year's budget for installation of new signs at all off lead parks within the Municipality.

### **Risk Management**

Providing off-lead areas in parks that are required to co-exist with children's playgrounds without adequate fencing poses an increased risk to the safety of children.

### **Policy Implications**

#### **Economic Development**

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

#### **Environmental Sustainability**

The environment and the protection of wildlife is a strong consideration in the development of any off-lead area.

**Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion**

Darebin's Equity and Inclusion Planning Tool (EIPAT) was used to assist the consultation process followed for the Order through the development of the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013-2017.

**Other**

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

**Future Actions**

Should Council resolve to create a dog off lead area in the northern part of Johnson Park the following would occur:

- Provide fencing around dog off lead area.
- Install signage.

**Consultation and Advocacy**

Information was provided via public notice in local newspapers and letters were sent to residents within a 1km radius of the park.

- Coordinator Health and Urban Protection
- Coordinator Civic Compliance
- Coordinator Leisure and Public Realm
- Manager Economic Development and Civic Compliance

**Related Documents**

- *Domestic Animals Act 1994*
- Animal Management Strategy 2013-2017
- Council Minutes – 25 November 2015
- Hearing of Submissions Committee Minutes – 15 March 2016

**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.

## 7. CONSIDERATION OF RESPONSES TO NOTICES OF MOTION AND GENERAL BUSINESS

### 7.1 DAREBIN PUBLIC TOILET STRATEGY ADOPTION

**Author:** Manager Leisure and Public Realm

**Reviewed By:** Director Community Development

#### Report Background

In 1999, a draft strategy was developed for the provision of public toilets throughout the municipality entitled "Provision and Management of Public Toilets in the City of Darebin". This draft was not adopted by Council.

The draft *Darebin Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025* has been developed following consultation with key internal stakeholders and the Darebin community. The draft Strategy is now ready for adoption.

#### Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 18 May 2015, Council resolved:

*'That Council:*

- (1) Release The Draft Darebin Public Toilet Strategy for consultation with the Darebin community and key stakeholders.*
- (2) Receive the final Darebin Public Toilet Strategy inclusive of community feedback for adoption in August 2015.'*

#### Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor briefing.

#### Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Darebin Public Toilet Strategy is led by the Darebin City Council Plan 2013 - 2017 and takes into account other relevant strategies and guiding documents including:

- City of Darebin Open Space Strategy (2010 - 2020)
- City of Darebin Playspace Strategy (2007 - 2017)
- City of Darebin Environmental Design Guidelines (ESD)
- City of Darebin Retail Activity Centres Strategy (2005)
- City of Darebin Outdoor Sports Venues Infrastructure Policy (2013)
- City of Darebin Outdoor Sports Venues Infrastructure Priority Plan (2013)
- City of Darebin Graffiti Management Strategy (2014)
- City of Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan (2014 - 2018)
- City of Darebin Community Safety Strategy (2012 - 2016)
- City of Darebin Health and Wellbeing Plan (2013 - 2017)

- City of Darebin Development and Employment (2012 - 2115)

## Summary

The City of Darebin currently has 58 public toilet facilities spread across the municipality with the oldest being the Beavers Road toilet constructed in 1925 and the newest being the All Nations Exeloo constructed in 2001. A lack of a dedicated budget for renewal and maintenance of public toilet blocks; changes in accessibility requirements; and general wear and tear over time have led to the physical deterioration of many of Darebin's public toilet facilities. The *Darebin Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025* presents key policy directions and guidelines to direct public toilet design and upgrade in Darebin up to 2025.

## Recommendation

**That** Council endorse the *Darebin Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025* and consider actions as part of future capital budget cycles.

---

## Introduction

The vision of the draft *Darebin Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025* is:

*“To enhance the liveability of The City of Darebin by investing, planning, designing and managing a cohesive network of safe, accessible, well maintained free, universal public toilet facilities.”*

This vision and resulting action plan promotes and encourages extended use of Council's parks, streetscapes and major retail precincts.

The draft *Darebin Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025* is divided into various sections, including background information and current conditions, key changes areas and action plan. These sections clearly and concisely address the current situation and look to make future changes to Darebin's public toilet network.

High level priorities for the Darebin Public Toilet Strategy are to:

- Improve the overall condition of existing public toilets.
- Increase the overall amenity of the public realm.
- Improve the overall community satisfaction with Council's implementation and management of public toilet facilities.
- Increase the quality and experience of public toilet facilities through considered, creative design outcomes.
- Provide safe, accessible and well maintained public toilet facilities.

Each section concludes with policy statements and a set of actions that will help drive capital works projects and strategy development to 2025.

## Issues and Discussion

Council approved the *Draft Darebin Public Toilet Strategy* for community consultation on 18 May 2015. Following this, the draft strategy was released for public comment using the following methods:

- Inclusion in Preston Leader in the 11 August 2015 edition.
- Inclusion in the Northcote Leader in the 12 August 2015 edition.
- Social Media posting on corporate Facebook and Twitter account on 11 August 2015.
- Email sent to key stakeholder groups on 4 August 2015.
- Corporate Website – Your Say posting 11 August through 1 September 2015.
- Extend Corporate Website – Your Say posting from 1 September through 23 September 2015 in response to article in the Northcote Leader on public toilets.
- Presentation to Active and Healthy Ageing Board September meeting.
- Presentation to Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee September meeting.
- Internal publication through email to key stakeholders.
- Community comment on the draft strategy was low. No submission was received from the Active and Healthy Ageing Board or the Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee.
- Internally, Darebin's Children Families and Community team and Strategic Planning Unit provided comments, which were integrated into the document.

## Options for Consideration

Adopt the *Darebin Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025* and provide an annual allocation for public toilets over future capital budget cycles.

## Financial and Resource Implications

Actions outlined in the draft *Darebin Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025* that have budget implications include:

- Allocating an annual budget for public toilet upgrade and design each financial year for 10 consecutive years;
- Committing to consider inclusion of Environmentally Sensitive Design and Accessible design (including the consideration of more complex needs around accessibility) into all new and renovated toilet facilities;
- Undertaking regular auditing of existing public toilet facilities from a structural, accessibility and environmental perspective; and
- Implementing new and upgraded public toilet facilities.

These implications are to be managed through existing resources along with future capital works and new initiative budget applications. Actions are divided into yearly capital works projects and have been incorporated into the ten year capital plan.

## **Risk Management**

A risk assessment will be conducted as part of every capital and design process undertaken as a result of this strategy.

## **Policy Implications**

### **Economic Development**

Public toilets with shopping strips enable customers to stay in the area longer and enhance the viability of local businesses through increased expenditure.

### **Environmental Sustainability**

The draft *Darebin Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025* has a strong focus on environmental sustainability and proposes to integrate this key value in all new and renovated public toilet facility upgrades. Possible opportunities for inclusion of environmental sustainable design technologies may include, but are not limited to:

- Use of grey or recycled water in in cisterns
- Low flow toilets
- Solar energy
- Use of natural light
- Use of low energy lighting such as LED
- Use of passive heating and cooling
- Green roof/wall
- Use of recycled or reclaimed materials
- Rain water tanks used to flush with mains backup
- Better use of waste water (such as basin water used to water gardens and parkland).

### **Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion**

Public toilet facilities to be upgraded should respond and address benefits to all users inclusive of ability level, culture, religion or background. Socially inclusive, safe and clean public toilet facilities contribute to the quality and use of the public realm including increased neighbourhood pride; providing comfortable areas to gather and recreate; as well as an increase in the aesthetics of all areas.

With increasing numbers of people in the community experiencing some kind of temporal or permanent disability, using a mobility aid or pushing a pram, it is vital that Darebin provides accessible facilities across the municipality. Providing designated, functional and flexible public toilet facilities is fundamental to ensuring that all people within the community can participate equitably in employment, recreation, retail and other community activities across Darebin.

Implementing public toilet facilities that can accommodate diverse access needs is a significant step toward the development of an inclusive community. Public toilets can be a point of civic pride for the community and Council, illustrating a commitment towards a truly equitable, accessible public realm where all people are treated with dignity.

This draft Strategy has been subject to an Equity and Inclusion Planning and Audit Tool (EIPAT) evaluation.

### Other

There are no other impacts related to this report.

### Future Actions

- That Council adopt the *Darebin Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025* and consider actions as part of future capital budget cycles.
- Create capital bids from actions in the *Darebin Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025* for consideration in future capital processes.

### Consultation and Advocacy

- Leisure and Public Realm
- Economic Development
- Parks Maintenance
- Infrastructure Maintenance and Support
- Facilities Maintenance
- Community Wellbeing
- Community Safety
- Aged and Disability
- Active and Healthy Ageing Board
- Sexuality, Sex and Gender Diversity Advisory Committee

### Related Documents

The draft *Darebin Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025* aligns to the *Darebin City Council Plan 2013-2017* and takes into account other relevant strategies and guiding documents including:

- Draft Darebin Public Toilet Strategy - **Appendix A**
- City of Darebin Open Space Strategy (2010 - 2020)
- City of Darebin Playspace Strategy (2007 - 2017)
- City of Darebin Environmental Design Guidelines (ESD)
- City of Darebin Retail Activity Centres Strategy (2005)
- City of Darebin Outdoor Sports Venues Infrastructure Policy (2013)
- City of Darebin Outdoor Sports Venues Infrastructure Priority Plan (2013)
- City of Darebin Graffiti Management Strategy (2014)
- City of Darebin Access and Inclusion Plan (2014 - 2018)
- City of Darebin Community Safety Strategy (2012 - 2016)
- City of Darebin Health and Wellbeing Plan (2013 - 2017)
- City of Darebin Development and Employment (2012 - 2115).
- Council Minutes – 18 May 2015

**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. NOTICES OF MOTION

**Note:** This Notice of Motion was deferred from the Council Meeting held on 21 March 2016.

### 8.1 MURALS AT RUBIE THOMSON RESERVE AND SMITH STREET, COLLINGWOOD

**NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 275**

**CR. TRENT MCCARTHY**

Take notice that at the Ordinary meeting to be held on 21 March 2016, it is my intention to move:

***That Council:***

- (1) *Express dismay at the ongoing vandalism and tagging of the 'Youth' mural at Rubie Thomson Reserve, Northcote and the 'Northcote Women' mural in Smith Street, Fitzroy.*
- (2) *Consults with Megan Evans, Eve Glenn and other artists associated with these murals along with Darebin residents, Darebin Arts Ambassadors, Yarra City Council (specifically in relation to the 'Northcote Women' mural located in Fitzroy) and other stakeholders to explore the potential for restoration, recreation and/or re-imagination of each mural, drawing on Council's experience with the Northcote Koorie mural in St Georges Road. Councillors should also be invited to participate in this consultation process.*
- (3) *Receives a report on the results of this consultation process and the options available to Council by August 2016.*

**Notice Received:**

**7 March 2016**

**Notice Given to Councillors:**

**11 March 2016**

**Date of Meeting:**

**4 April 2016**

## 9. URGENT BUSINESS

## 10. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

## 11. RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

### 11.1 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:

- Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee – 2 March 2016
- Councillor/CE Briefing Session – 7 March 2016
- Councillor Strategic Workshop – 7 March 2016
- Darebin Interfaith Council Committee Meeting – 9 March 2016
- Councillor Briefing Session – 15 March 2016
- Darebin Child Friendly Advisory Committee – 23 March 2016

<b>Recommendation</b>
-----------------------

**That** the record of the Assembly of Councillors held on 2, 7, 9, 15 and 23 March 2016 be noted and incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.



## ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

<b>ASSEMBLY DETAILS:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee
	<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 2 March 2016
	<b>Location:</b>	Red Room, Darebin Council
<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Councillors:</b>	Cr. Vince Fontana (Mayor) Cr. Gaetano Greco
	<b>Council Staff:</b>	Mandy Bathgate, Stuart McFarlane, Jackie Mansourian, Chris Meulblok, Wendy Dinning, Therese Ceniti, Ella Hinkley Jenaya Katsamonitis (Aboriginal Trainee)
	<b>Other:</b>	Representatives of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee; Wurundjeri Council Representative -Uncle Ron Jones.
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>		Alan Brown, Nazaree Dickerson Nicole Bloomfield

The Assembly commenced at 4.00 pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1.	3KND Radio Possible Relocation Update	No disclosures were made
2.	Darebin Education Committee- Healing Walk	No disclosures were made
3.	Darebin Tourism Strategy	No disclosures were made
4.	Recognise Campaign/Constitutional Reform	No disclosures were made
5.	Re-visioning Histories/ Heritage Interpretations	No Disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 6.00 pm

<b>RECORD COMPLETED BY:</b>	<b>Officer Name:</b>	Stuart McFarlane
	<b>Officer Title:</b>	Aboriginal Officer, Equity and Diversity



## ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

<b>ASSEMBLY DETAILS:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Councillor/CE Briefing Session
	<b>Date:</b>	Monday, 7 March 2016
	<b>Location:</b>	Function room
<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Councillors:</b>	Councillors Vince Fontana, (Mayor), Oliver Walsh (Deputy Mayor) Gaetano Greco. Tim Laurence, Bo Li, Trent McCarthy, Steven Tsitas, Angela Vilella, Julie Williams
	<b>Council Staff:</b>	Rasiah Dev
	<b>Other:</b>	Nil
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>		Nil

The Assembly commenced at 5.30 pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1.	Preston Girls Secondary College: A part of the premises is being offered to Council for community use while reopening the school is being considered.	No disclosures were made
2.	'Northern Horizon' Infrastructure plan for the Northern Melbourne is being reviewed by the eight councils.	No disclosures were made
3.	Weekend Councillors Workshop: Issues raised are being reviewed for Councillors feedback.	No disclosures were made
4.	Future of Improvement Works to Sullivan Memorial Reserve	No disclosures were made
5.	General Questions and Answers	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 6.00 pm

<b>RECORD COMPLETED BY:</b>	<b>Officer Name:</b>	Rasiah Dev
	<b>Officer Title:</b>	Chief Executive



## ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

<b>ASSEMBLY DETAILS:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Councillor Strategic Workshop
	<b>Date:</b>	Monday 7 March 2016
	<b>Location:</b>	Conference Room, Darebin Civic Centre
<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Councillors:</b>	Cr. Vince Fontana (Mayor), Cr. Oliver Walsh (Deputy Mayor), Cr. Steven Tsitas, Cr. Gaetano Greco, Cr. Bo Li, Cr. Trent McCarthy, Cr. Julie Williams, Cr. Angela Vilella, Cr. Tim Laurence
	<b>Council Staff:</b>	Rasiah Dev, Patti Wenn, Gavin Cator, Steve Hamilton, Katrina Knox, Jacinta Stevens, Nick Matteo (6.00 pm to 6.15 pm), Darren Rudd and Yvonne Rust (6.00 pm to 6.32 pm)
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>	<b>Other:</b>	

The Assembly commenced at 6.00pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1.	Social/Affordable Housing Program	No disclosures were made.
2.	Update on Northland Urban Renewal Plan (NURP) Redevelopment – Concept and Timeline	No disclosures were made. Cr Tsitas absent from 6.17 pm to 6.30 pm. Cr Walsh left the meeting at 6.28 pm
3.	Multi Sports Stadium/Women's Sports	No disclosures were made.

The Assembly concluded at 6.32pm

<b>RECORD COMPLETED BY:</b>	<b>Officer Name:</b>	Katrina Knox
	<b>Officer Title:</b>	Director Community Development



## ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

<b>ASSEMBLY DETAILS:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Darebin Interfaith Council Committee Meeting
	<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 9 March 2016
	<b>Location:</b>	Conference Room, Level 1/350 High Street, Preston
<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Councillors:</b>	Cr. Gaetano Greco Cr. Tim Laurence
	<b>Council Staff:</b>	Cesar Diaz, Darren Aziz Cooper
	<b>Other:</b>	Darebin Interfaith Committee representatives
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>		None

The Assembly commenced at 6 pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1.	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies	No disclosures were made
2.	Hosting Venue's Welcome	No disclosures were made
3.	New Members Welcomed	No disclosures were made
4.	2016 Victorian Interfaith Networks Conference	No disclosures were made
5.	Next Meeting and Closure	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 1:00 pm

<b>RECORD COMPLETED BY:</b>	<b>Officer Name:</b>	Aziz Cooper
	<b>Officer Title:</b>	Interfaith Development Officer



## ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

<b>ASSEMBLY DETAILS:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Councillor Briefing Session
	<b>Date:</b>	Monday 15 March 2016
	<b>Location:</b>	Conference Room, Darebin Civic Centre
<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Councillors:</b>	Cr. Vince Fontana (Mayor), Cr. Oliver Walsh (Deputy Mayor) Cr. Steven Tsitas Cr. Gaetano Greco, Cr. Bo Li, Cr. Tim Laurence (from 6.21pm).
	<b>Council Staff:</b>	Rasiah Dev, Patti Wenn, Katrina Knox, Darren Rudd, Leah Mosel, Joanna Cuscaden
	<b>Other:</b>	Ian Woodcock
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>		Cr. Trent McCarthy, Cr. Angela Villella, Cr. Julie Williams.

The Assembly commenced at 5.39 pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1.	Level Crossing Removal Project - Update	No disclosures were made. Cr. Walsh absent from 5.49pm to 5.51pm and 5.59pm to 6.01pm. Cr. Fontana absent from 6.10pm to 6.12pm. Cr. Tsitas left the meeting at 6.12pm
2.	Darebin Public Toilet Strategy	No disclosures were made.
3.	Proposed Amendment C156 – Residential Zones Stage 3	No disclosures were made.
4.	Adams Reserve – Response to Petition	No disclosures were made.
5.	Beautifications Works in Darebin Parklands	No disclosures were made.
5.	Community Development Updates: DVIRS Lease; Safe Schools Coalition and Community Chef Contract	Cr. Li declared an interest in the Community Chef contract item due to his position as a member of the Board of Regional Kitchen.

The Assembly concluded at 6.29 pm

<b>RECORD COMPLETED BY:</b>	<b>Officer Name:</b>	Katrina Knox
	<b>Officer Title:</b>	Director Community Development



## ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

<b>ASSEMBLY DETAILS:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Darebin Child Friendly Advisory Committee
	<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 23 March 2016
	<b>Location:</b>	Jade Room, Intercultural Centre, Preston
<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Councillors:</b>	Cr. Trent McCarthy, Cr. Julie Williams
	<b>Council Staff:</b>	Linda Harman, Cheryl Hermence, Patrick Buchanan, Stephanie Preston, Yvonne Rust, Vicky Guglielmo, Mary Harvey, Emma MacDonald
	<b>Other:</b>	Community Representatives on the Darebin Child Friendly Advisory Committee
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>		Jody Brodribb

The Assembly commenced at 10.00 am

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1.	Darebin Child Friendly City Draft Framework	No disclosures were made
2.	Darebin Child Friendly City Draft Action Plan for Framework	No disclosures were made
3.	Feedback from Child Friendly Cities and Community Network Meeting	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 11.30 am

<b>RECORD COMPLETED BY:</b>	<b>Officer Name:</b>	Emma MacDonald
	<b>Officer Title:</b>	Business Support Officer

## 12. REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

<b>Recommendation</b>
-----------------------

**That** Council note the Reports by Mayor and Councillors.

## 13. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

Nil

**14. CLOSE OF MEETING**