

| # | Issue | Officer comments | Officer recommendation |
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| | Lower Merri Creek Trail/ Capital City Trail | | |
| 1 35 | <p>Proposal for infrastructure improvements to the Lower Merri Creek Trail and some of its parts that also serve as the Capital City Trail.</p> <p>Development of design for the Lower Merri Creek Trail from Sumner Park to Heidelberg Road.</p> <p>The first will assist a design project probably led by Moreland for the upstream section through to Green Reserve, Northcote. \$45k is recommended.</p> <p>Development & design of Merri Creek Trail section between Cunningham Street, Northcote and McLachlan Street, Northcote.</p> <p>An amount of \$85k is recommended for the Darebin components of functional design in 20/21. Department of Transport will be approached in the meantime to lead and fund design and the Darebin allocation may not be called upon in its entirety should discussions with Department of Transport prove fruitful.</p> <p>This additional budget item could be supported from the \$581k funding recently provided to Council by the Federal Government.</p> | <p>The goals of improving biodiversity and cycling infrastructure in this area and across the City are shared by Council.</p> <p>Council's budget provides for programs to improve both biodiversity (through rewilding and planting in multiple locations) and cycling and walking infrastructure in Darebin, however there are a large number of higher priority projects in the City. Therefore, funds for work on the specific projects outlined in the submission is not included in the 2020-21 budget because they have been assessed as lower priority than other needs.</p> <p>In regard to this proposal Council could express in-principle support for some of the project elements to the State Government and request that the State explore the opportunity to lead and finance a preliminary opportunities and constraints study to determine the viability and limitations of this proposal. Some feasibility issues would need to be assessed and there are complexities. This project likely has at minimum a five-year delivery timeframe. Complexities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirement for multiple, complex approvals which can take up to two years; • The need for coordination and agreement from multiple stakeholders including Moreland Council and a variety of State Government agencies. • The need for complex engineering design to minimise impact on biodiversity as well as balance the passive nature of the linear reserve with transport needs; • Significant community engagement will likely be required. • Important cultural heritage sites in the area. <p>Other related activities in the nearby area include regular community planting along Merri Creek and on 29 June 2020 Council decided to advocate for a temporary protected bicycle lanes to be implemented by the Victorian State Government at Westgarth Street between South Crescent and Rucker Street - this would connect South Crescent to the Merri Creek Trail</p> | Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21. |
| | Rates | | |
| 2 7.1 7.3 12 14 16 17 23 26 27 53 54.1 56 | <p>Why is the council proposing to increase rates by 2% when the community is going through an unprecedented crisis?</p> | <p>Council must continue to make informed and responsible decisions to ensure its long-term financial sustainability and ensure that financial performance is in line with the Victorian Auditor General key risk indicators whilst being agile enough to respond to the unprecedented impact of Coronavirus.</p> <p>Financial modelling shows that by not applying the 2% rate increase, over the next five years there will be a reduction in rate revenue of \$13M and over ten years, \$28M. The impact to rate payers in applying the rate increase for 2020-21 is on average \$1.00 per week. Council has also considered support offered by Commonwealth and State Government including the two payments of \$750.00 for pensioners.</p> <p>Council has also forecasted that overall revenue will be reduced by approximately \$18M for 2020/2021 due to the impact of COVID-19 and Council is now required to use its cash reserves to support the community-wide (residential and business) deferment of rate payments for 14 months to the total of \$94M. Darebin Council is only one of three Councils offering a 14-month rate deferment period.</p> <p>Council must maintain cashflow solvency during the financial year and consider the impact of rate deferment and short-term financial sustainability.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>No change recommended.</p> |
| 16 | <p>Many residents are facing extraordinary financial stress at the moment in particular residents in the Southern part of Darebin who are already paying very large amounts cannot afford to have the amounts automatically increased when incomes have been reduced and many people have lost their jobs.</p> | <p>Refer above</p> <p>In addition, the proposed rate increase will enable Council to provide targeted financial relief and support to our community through the COVID-19 \$11.3M Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package and strategically direct investment into the \$34M capital works program which also acts as an economic stimulus and will provide much needed support to our community, particularly in the areas that need it the most. The revenue raised through the proposed rate increase does not cover the financial impact of COVID-19.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>No change recommended.</p> |

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| | <p>Council should consider reducing discretionary spending rather than continue to put residents under financial pressure by automatically increasing rates as a matter of course.</p> | <p>Council has also forecasted that overall revenue will be reduced by approximately \$18M for 2020/2021 due to the impact of COVID-19 and Council is now required to use its cash reserves to support the community-wide (residential and business) deferment of rate payments for 14 months to the total of \$94M. Darebin Council is only one of three Councils offering a 14-month rate deferment period. Council must maintain cashflow solvency during the financial year and consider the impact of rate deferment and short-term financial sustainability. Council must continue to make informed and responsible decisions to ensure its long-term financial sustainability and ensure that financial performance is in line with the Victorian Auditor General key risk indicators whilst being agile enough to respond to the unprecedented impact of Coronavirus.</p> | |
| 22 | <p>I am so very worried that by deferring rate payments for 13 months for ratepayers with financial stress, whilst increasing rates (one of the few councils to raise rates) you are only deferring truly financially stressed ratepayers from defaulting on their rate payments. These defaults are going to happen and will negatively impact your budgeted income. You have not provided evidence you have factored this into your budget.</p> <p>Ratepayers cannot be asked to take on further financial burden, while \$63.5M has been earmarked for the Northcote Swimming and Recreation Centre refurbishment. It is immoral to spend this amount of money on a vanity project while there will be increasing demands in the community for support for mental health, the homeless and the elderly, as the economy deteriorates. Where is the money going to come from to pay for these services or will you simply not provide them?</p> | <p>Council is strong in its belief that proposing a 2% rate rise is both a responsible and responsive approach to COVID-19. The financial impact of not applying the rate increase will have a significant cumulative impact on Councils long term financial sustainability. Financial modelling shows that by not applying the 2% rate increase, over the next five years there will be a reduction in rate revenue of \$13M and over ten years, \$28M. The impact to rate payers in applying the rate increase for 2020-21 is on average \$1.00 per week. Council has also considered support offered by Commonwealth and State Government including the two payments of \$750.00 for pensioners.</p> <p>The proposed rate increase will enable Council to provide targeted financial relief and support to our community through the COVID-19 \$11.3M Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package and strategically direct investment into the \$34M capital works program which also acts as an economic stimulus and will provide much needed support to our community, particularly in the areas that need it the most. The revenue raised through the proposed rate increase does not cover the financial impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>Council must maintain cashflow solvency during the financial year and consider the impact of rate deferment and short-term financial sustainability. Council must continue to make informed and responsible decisions to ensure its long-term financial sustainability and ensure that financial performance is in line with the Victorian Auditor General key risk indicators whilst being agile enough to respond to the unprecedented impact of Coronavirus.</p> <p>In support of the rate rise as discussed in 1), and in response to COVID-19, Council responded immediately with the Darebin City Council COVID-19 \$11.3M Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package (the Package) which aims to provide immediate and ongoing support to our community including local businesses. The Package includes purpose-built social and business/economic development programs targeting those in our community who need it most, now.</p> <p>The Package includes waiver of fees and charges, deferring rate payments for 14 months (up to \$94M) with no penalty interest through its COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy (Council is only one of three Councils across Victoria who are offering this support); and the development of new partnerships and programs established with non-government organisations and the not for profit sector. Examples of some of the programs featured in the Package include over \$1M to support local people experiencing homelessness and family violence, supporting 6 Neighbourhood Houses in delivering thousands of meals to the Darebin community, an additional \$1M to support local businesses, financial grants to 35 community sporting clubs and \$200,000 to support the arts and culture organisations in Darebin. Council engaged over 400 local small businesses in the development of the business and economic development initiatives. Full details of the Package on are Councils' website.</p> <p>Council is also offering non-financial support and has engaged over 400 local small businesses in the development of the Business Resilience and Recovery Package.</p> <p>Council's budgeted capital work program of \$34M is not insignificant and focuses on projects that can generate local jobs and act as an economic stimulus. We have stayed committed to investing in the public infrastructure the community needs, responding to COVID-19, the climate emergency and supporting those most in need, particularly those who are already disadvantaged. As an example, major capital</p> | <p>Noted. No change recommended.</p> |

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| | | <p>projects for 20-21 include the Multi-Sports Stadium (\$6.7M), Northcote Aquatic Recreation Centre (\$3M), Hardiman Synthetic Hockey Pitch (\$2.3M), Reservoir Leisure Centre (\$800K) and Road Rehabilitation Design and Construction program (\$1.5M).</p> | |
| 40 | <p>Request for waiver of Rates raised against Community Entities/Organisations re application of the LG Act & C & R Lands Act.</p> | <p>Under the Culture and Recreational Lands Act 1963 (CRLA) Section 4 (1), Council is able to set a separate rating structure for cultural and recreational lands, after having reasonable regard to the services provided and having regard to the benefit derived from such recreational lands.</p> <p>The Act effectively provides for properties used for outdoor activities to be differentially rated and if land is 'recreational lands' within the meaning of the CRLA, Council is able to charge such amount as Council thinks 'reasonable'.</p> <p>For the ten entities falling within the CRLA in the 2019-20 rating year, Council applied a 50% discount to an amount that would otherwise have been applied if that property was rated under the Local Government Act 1989.</p> <p>Council's is of the opinion that the rate revenue collected from the ten CRLA is fair and reasonable and will not reduce the applied discount or waive any rates liabilities.</p> | <p>Noted. No change recommended.</p> |
| | <p>Operating Surplus</p> | | |
| 2 6 6.1 12 38 | <p>Council is disclosing a surplus of \$3.72 million. Don't you think you could provide a reduction in the rates instead?</p> | <p>The proposed reduced operating surplus of \$3.7M, has been prepared in consideration of ensuring all operational obligations are met; the \$11.3M Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package is implemented immediately; the COVID-19 Hardship Policy is implemented immediately (deferred rates of \$94M); the \$18M overall reduction in revenue is considered; cash reserves are not eroded; and that Council must maintain its financial sustainability in line with the Victorian Auditor General key risk indicators.</p> | <p>Noted. No change recommended.</p> |
| | <p>Traders</p> | | |
| 2 12 | <p>I note there are rate deferrals for traders, waving of fees for street furniture and other support in the \$10million relief package. Why was rates relief for traders not considered by council?</p> | <p>In addition to the \$11.3M Community and Business Recovery Package, Council endorsed a temporary financial hardship policy that allows all ratepayers, including those traders that are experiencing financial hardship, the option to defer their rate payments until June 2021 with no interest. This is a 14-month period for rate payment deferral. Council is also offering non-financial support and has engaged over 400 local small businesses in the development of the Business Resilience and Recovery Package.</p> <p>The Package includes waiver of fees and charges, deferring rate payments for 14 months (up to \$94M) with no penalty interest through its COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy (Council is only one of three Councils across Victoria who are offering this support); and the development of new partnerships and programs established with non-government organisations and the not for profit sector.</p> <p>Examples of some of the programs featured in the Package include over \$1M to support local people experiencing homelessness and family violence, supporting 6 Neighbourhood Houses in delivering thousands of meals to the Darebin community, an additional \$1M to support local businesses, financial grants to 35 community sporting clubs and \$200,000 to support the arts and culture organisations in Darebin.</p> <p>Finally, Council has just provided \$535k in business grants for 156 local businesses, with a second tranche of \$400k for business grants in 2020-21.</p> | <p>Noted. No change recommended.</p> |

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| | <p>Cost Shifting Staffing/Salaries Operational expenses Community support</p> | | |
| 7.1 | <p>1) The State & Commonwealth cost shifting must be quantified and expressed clearly to enable ordinary ratepayers such as me to fully understand the actual impact on the Darebin revenue.</p> <p>The Draft Budget does not indicate the proposed salary increases for Darebin Council's senior executive staff. Surely as a gesture of solidarity with the ratepayers who have been and will continue to be financially impacted by the pandemic, the very fortunate Council employees should contribute as many have done in the private sector?</p> <p>2) I believe that 2020-21 is shaping up to be a year of extraordinary financial and personal anguish for many in Darebin. Why do we see no reflection of this in the Draft Budget?</p> <p>3) Where are the big new public works projects with policies to favour the recruitment of Darebin residents?</p> | <p>1) An example of cost shifting is in the state funding provided to Council's libraries. Council's libraries were originally funded 50:50 by State and Local Government. Victorian Government funding has since declined to just 17 per cent of public library operating costs, with councils now contributing 83 per cent of the total cost.</p> <p>The Indexation of financial assistance grants from the Commonwealth was frozen for three years from 2014, resulting in a \$200 million black hole in Victorian council budgets. While indexation was restored to the grants in the 2017 Federal Budget, the three-year freeze permanently reduced the base level of grants to councils – for Darebin this amount was \$600k or 12 per cent. Government grants are usually indexed to CPI or less, while council costs rise in line with construction and material costs, and wage costs. This means that grants are lower than actual costs incurred by councils to deliver many services, leaving councils to fund the gap from rates revenue.</p> <p>2) Council has also forecasted that overall revenue will be reduced by approximately \$18M for 2020/2021 due to the impact of COVID-19 and Council is now required to use its cash reserves to support the community-wide (residential and business) deferment of rate payments for 14 months to the total of \$94M. Darebin Council is only one of three Councils offering a 14-month rate deferment period. Council must maintain cashflow solvency during the financial year and consider the impact of rate deferment and short-term financial sustainability. Council must continue to make informed and responsible decisions to ensure its long-term financial sustainability and ensure that financial performance is in line with the Victorian Auditor General key risk indicators whilst being agile enough to respond to the unprecedented impact of Coronavirus.</p> <p>In response to COVID-19, Council responded immediately with the Darebin City Council COVID-19 \$11.3M Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package (the Package) which aims to provide immediate and ongoing support to our community including local businesses. The Package includes purpose-built social and business/economic development programs targeting those in our community who need it most, now.</p> <p>The Package includes waiver of fees and charges, deferring rate payments for 14 months (up to \$94M) with no penalty interest through its COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy (Council is only one of three Councils across Victoria who are offering this support); and the development of new partnerships and programs established with non-government organisations and the not for profit sector. Examples of some of the programs featured in the Package include over \$1M to support local people experiencing homelessness and family violence, supporting 6 Neighbourhood Houses in delivering thousands of meals to the Darebin community, an additional \$1M to support local businesses, financial grants to 35 community sporting clubs and \$200,000 to support the arts and culture organisations in Darebin.</p> <p>Council engaged over 400 local small businesses in the development of the business and economic development initiatives. Full details of the Package on are Councils' website.</p> <p>3) Council's budgeted capital work program of \$34M is not insignificant and focuses on projects that can generate local jobs and act as an economic stimulus. We have stayed committed to investing in the public infrastructure the community needs, responding to COVID-19, the climate emergency and supporting those most in need, particularly those who are already disadvantaged. As an example, major capital projects for 20-21 include the Multi-Sports Stadium (\$6.7M), Northcote Aquatic Recreation Centre (\$3M), Hardiman Synthetic Hockey Pitch (\$2.3M), Reservoir Leisure Centre (\$800K) and Road Rehabilitation Design and Construction program (\$1.5M).</p> | <p>Noted. No change recommended.</p> |

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| | 4) Why has Darebin Council proposed such an insensitive and 'business as usual' budget for 2020/21? | 4) Based on the significant changes highlighted in points 1), 2) and 3) above, the Annual Budget 2020-21 is not considered 'a business as usual budget' and through its consultation with over 400 small business, new partnerships established with non-government organisations and the not for profit sector, waiver of fees and charges and deferment of over \$90M of revenue and income, Council believes that the budget is not insensitive but responsive to community need. | |
| 7.3 | <p>1) Cost shifting by State & Commonwealth Government are very vague drivers not evident in the Draft Budget and must be quantified and expressed clearly to enable ordinary ratepayers to fully understand the actual impact on the Darebin revenue.</p> <p>2) Few ratepayers or indeed Councillors will fully understand this 2020/21 Draft Budget. More notes and footnotes are required to reassure ratepayers that Council commitments are being met in this 2020/21 budget.</p> | <p>1) An example of cost shifting is in the state funding provided to Council's libraries. Council's libraries were originally funded 50:50 by State and Local Government. Victorian Government funding has since declined to just 17 per cent of public library operating costs, with councils now contributing 83 per cent of the total cost.</p> <p>The Indexation of financial assistance grants from the Commonwealth was frozen for three years from 2014, resulting in a \$200 million black hole in Victorian council budgets. While indexation was restored to the grants in the 2017 Federal Budget, the three-year freeze permanently reduced the base level of grants to councils – for Darebin this amount was \$600k or 12 per cent. Government grants are usually indexed to CPI or less, while council costs rise in line with construction and material costs, and wage costs. This means that grants are lower than actual costs incurred by councils to deliver many services, leaving councils to fund the gap from rates revenue.</p> <p>2) The format and disclosures made in the Annual Budget document are in accordance with the Better Practice Guide (BPG) which accompanies the Local Government Model Budget 2020-21 (Model Budget).</p> <p>The Model Budget and BPG are developed to assist councils in the preparation of financial statements for inclusion in their annual budget. In accordance with the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 the financial statements in a Council annual budget must be in the form set out in the Local Government Model Financial Report (LGMFR).</p> <p>Council acknowledges that annual budget documentation can be hard to understand and aims to use the covering Council report, Hearing of Submission process and invitations to contact Council to discuss the budget as ways to explain what is in the budget, why it is developed in the way it is, and what the outcomes will be from the budget.</p> | Noted. No change recommended. |
| 26 | Given the impact of COVID-19 to property values post 1 January 2020, it is (i) unconscionable to set valuations as per the General Revaluation dated 1 January 2020, (ii) and poor financial practice to assume a revenue base on valuations as per the General Revaluation dated 1 January 2020 | <p>The General Valuation date is set by the Valuer-General Victoria and they have advised all Councils that no changes have been made to requirements under the Valuation Best Practice Specifications Guidelines as a result of the coronavirus (COVID- 19). The 2020 general valuation has a relevant date of 1 January 2020 and is therefore based on market conditions at, and immediately before, that date.</p> <p>There is no basis under the Valuation of Land Act 1960 (the Act) for valuers to consider coronavirus (COVID-19) impacts when assessing statutory values for the purposes of the 2020 general valuation.</p> | Noted. No change recommended. |
| 27 | 1) Why has total staff reduced from 898 to 892 over the year (page 30)? Shouldn't government organisations like Darebin be trying to retain their staff and ongoing employment for the community? Is there a reduction in services and if so, what are they or are you doing the same for less? | <p>1) The reduction in FTE relates to causal positions and this is mainly due to the impact of COVID-19 and the temporary closure of some of Councils services for part of the 2020-21 financial year. During COVID-19, Council has made a concerted effort to retain all employees including casuals. Some casuals have accessed the State Government's JobSeeker program as it is more viable for their personal situations. No employees have been stood down during the COVID-19 pandemic. To support the commitment to retaining the workforce, Council has also redeployed over 170 employees who have been directly affected by the temporary closure of Council services due to COVID-19.</p> <p>In addition to no stand downs and redeployment, Council has applied for additional resources through the State Governments, Working for Victoria program, and is seeking over 200 local and Melbourne-based people who have become unemployed through the pandemic to undertake and support capital, non-capital and operational activities across the municipality, and to support the Darebin City Council's \$11.3M COVID-19 Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package.</p> | Noted. No change recommended. |

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| | 2) In light of the reduction in staff numbers, why has the total costs for staff employee costs increased significantly, rising from \$83,008 to \$88,337. This is a 6.4% increase, above CPI with lower staff numbers? | 2) The amount of \$83.008M is based on 2019-20 forecast which includes savings realised throughout the year due to the time taken to recruit for vacant positions. In addition to this, due to COVID-19 impacting Council services that were forced to temporary close or services that experienced a significant downturn in activity, vacant positions were not recruited for. Both of these factors contributed to the forecast being below the 2019-20 budget figure of \$88.112M. If you compare the budget 2020-21 figure of \$88.337M, there is only a slight increase of \$225K or 0.3%. The increase also includes additional grant funded positions and positions to undertake work previously outsourced to contractors and consultants. | |
| | Budget Process | | |
| 3.1 & 11.1 17 | Why Council did not follow the previous process of consulting with the Community in Oct/Nov of the first half of the financial year? | <p>Council made a determination late 2019 to not undertake the same level of consultation as the previous year. Consultation had only just concluded before the next round of consultation was due to commence. Council felt that it was not timely to start the budget consultation period again so soon.</p> <p>In addition to this, due to the outbreak of COVID-19, the community consultation process had to be restricted which meant Council was unable to hold opportunities for officers to meet with the community face-to-face. This year, Council has received more submissions than last year which indicates that communications and online opportunities have reached the community.</p> | Noted. No change recommended. |
| 7.2 | In previous years budget considerations have been at Ordinary Council Meetings where ratepayers raised issues and asked questions. Why is the process in 2020 different? I consider this 2020 process to be undemocratic. | <p>Due to the timing of the process to place this year's budget on exhibition and the planned date when it is proposed to be adopted – both these meetings have been scheduled as Special Meetings of Council. Council's Governance Local Law allows there to be a 'Public Question time' only at Ordinary Council Meetings. This is consistent with the previous Local Law.</p> <p>Notwithstanding this, the public exhibition of the budget is in itself an annual process to allow interested persons to comment on and / or ask questions about the draft budget through submissions. This process also enables submitters to present to the Hearing of Submissions Committee (Council) and speak directly in support of their submission for two minutes. In addition to this, Council formally responds in writing to their submission which ensures that all questions and statements are responded to prior to the draft Budget being adopted. This goes to the core of our commitment to transparent and accountable decision making.</p> <p>At an Ordinary Council Meeting, if officers are unable to answer a public question, it is taken on notice which could result in a question being answered after the draft Budget is adopted.</p> | Noted. No change recommended. |
| | Aged Friendly Darebin | | |
| 6.2 7.0 7.4 | <p>In the 2020/21 draft budget the proposed aged care expenditure by Council is \$5,230,000, a slight increase on the projected 2019/20 expenditure of \$5,211,000. This indicates to a proposed decrease in actual aged care service delivery in 2020/21.</p> <p>The only direct reference to aged care or to the general well-being of older folk, who make up a significant proportion of the Darebin population, is in the Mayor's introduction in the notes to the draft budget:</p> <p>Age Friendly Darebin: A gardening service trial will commence in the current year and continue until November 2020. The Flexible Meals Model trial will run in 2021 to inform a possible future tender.</p> | <p>This submission aligns with the Council Plan 2017-2021, with Aged Friendly Darebin continuing to be one of our flagship initiatives. The implementation of Year Two of the Age Friendly Darebin is a key action in the 2020-21 Council Plan Action Plan.</p> <p>Council continues to prioritise, invest and progress AFD initiatives into facilities, programs and services which promote the health and wellbeing of older people. All Year 2 AFD initiatives are fully funded for 2020-21. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$5.2M in the Aged and Disability operational budget (inclusive of AFD initiatives). Funding for other AFD initiatives and activities mainstreamed and integrated across other departmental operational budgets. <p>In 2020-21, Council funding is in the budget to provide a range of new services and programs in line with the Towards Age Friendly Darebin report, recommendations and the Year 2 plan including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive Ageing Service, this service continues to support older people and their carers to navigate My Aged Care and other aspects of the service system, including advice on what to look for in Home Care Packages. | Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget. Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21 as it is fully funded. |

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| | <p>On 22 July 2019, Council considered the final report of the Age Friendly Darebin Review and committed to a budget of \$500,000 to implement 93 of the Review's recommendations.</p> <p>What has happened to the myriad of Age Friendly Darebin commitments and projects that are not yet implemented and why are only two Age Friendly Darebin projects mentioned in the notes to the draft?</p> <p>How can a measly \$19,000 increase in the 2020/21 aged care budget cover the increased cost of aged care service delivery PLUS the cost of Age Friendly Darebin commitments?</p> <p>Why is the Aged Friendly Darebin commitment not shown as a separate budget item?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Care Packages trial, this is continuing to enrol suitable clients transitioning from Council's Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) services to Home Care Packages. This service will continue to enrol eligible clients until September 2020 with access for enrolled clients continuing to March 2021. • Gardening and lawnmowing program, the 6 months trial commenced in May 2020 and will to run until November 2020 and we will evaluate its effectiveness and make recommendations to Council. • Senior Citizens Action Plan: to reinvigorate our Senior Citizen's Centres and their use. • Flexible Meals Model to develop holistic and individual response for eligible clients – this is presently out for tender. • The Service Improvements Plan will continue to work with clients and staff to improve services through more flexible approach to service delivery. • Homeshare • Street seats for collaboration with older people • Footpath audit • Outdoor tailored exercise programs • Arts programs targeting older makers and patrons • Volunteer program trial. <p>Further, our initiatives resulting from COVID 19 responding to the needs of older people will continue to be funded and implemented for FY21 – including: Community Navigation service, ensuring the emergency needs of older people are being met, social connection programs to address social isolation and loneliness, adaption of some of our recreation programs etc.</p> <p>Finally, in line with this alignment and its commitment for an Age Friendly municipality, at its meeting on 9 June 2020, Darebin Council approved the offer Commonwealth's offer of contract extension of Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP), therefore in 2020-21 Council will continue to deliver all the current suite of the CHSP.</p> <p>A full report on AFD Year 1 implementation and Year 2 action plan is to be presented at an upcoming Council meeting.</p> | |
| | <p>Capital Program</p> | | |
| <p>28</p> | <p>1) Why is there a cut in the capital budget program in the 20-21? Which sporting clubs will be affected by this reduction because of the capital works and what support is council going to give to sporting clubs to bounce back, in addition to not paying fees to the council?</p> | <p>1) Darebin and all other Victorian Councils are required by the Victorian Auditor General to make decisions that ensure the financial sustainability of the Council. The reduction in the capital works program to \$34 million is to ensure that council maintains its financial sustainability, is in line with the Victorian Auditor General key risk indicators and is agile enough to respond to the unprecedented impact of Coronavirus.</p> <p>The \$34 million capital works program is focused on projects that can generate local jobs and act as an economic stimulus. Council have stayed committed to investing in the public infrastructure the community needs, responding to the climate emergency and supporting those most in need, particularly those who are already disadvantaged.</p> <p>In the adopting the draft 2020-21 budget for public consultation at the Special Council meeting on 13 May 2020, consideration was given regarding capital projects in the draft budget, with the budget including the following major projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full delivery of KP Hardiman Pavilion and lighting upgrade (\$2.3m) • delivery of BT Connor over two financial years (\$500k included for FY21) • Intercultural Centre • RLC (\$800k) | <p>Noted. No change recommended.</p> |

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| | <p>2) What support is council going to give to sporting clubs to bounce back, in addition to not paying fees to the council</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NARC (\$3m) • MSS (\$6.7m). <p>Applications for State Government funding for MSS, KP Hardiman Pavilion and BT Connor Pavilion are pending and expected to be announced in July/August 2020. Officers are in regular contact with the impacted clubs for each of these projects and are confident that they are aware of the impacts and we are working with them to ensure that their needs are well met. There have been no key risks identified by the clubs through this engagement.</p> <p>2) In addition to the waiver of ground use fees and charges for 9 months from 1 March 2020 to 31 December 2020, Council's Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package includes \$100K to go towards one off grants to the 24 winter sports clubs and 11 that operate all year round, to enable clubs to restart activities.</p> | |
| | <p>NARC and RLC</p> | | |
| <p>3</p> | <p>The consultation process for the proposed redevelopment of the Northcote Aquatic & Recreation Centre. Many older residents who may not be on social media or be tech literate, and the high numbers of people from non-English speaking migrant backgrounds; why was the public consultation period so short at less than 3 weeks, and only accessible through online portals and Facebook and only available in English?</p> <p>What steps were made to ensure a fair and equitable consultation process for the proposed redevelopment of Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre.</p> | <p>The recent consultation on the NARC concept design follows significant consultation undertaken for the development of the Council Plan which identified the redevelopment of NARC as one of Council's Big Actions.</p> <p>Further consultation was then undertaken as part of the master planning and feasibility study with several thousand participants in the process.</p> <p>The consultation most recently conducted had to amend the methodology to take account of the mandatory COVID-19 shutdowns recognising that face to face consultation could not occur during this time.</p> <p>Despite the restrictions, a wide range of interviews and workshops with key stakeholder community groups were still achieved.</p> <p>Information on how to find the dedicated NARC project webpage was advertised via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website – Council and YMCA • Social media – Council, Darebin Leisure and YMCA • Leader articles • Resident letter box drops within a 1km radius of the site (4,500 residences) • Email to existing facility user groups, members, and key stakeholders <p>Feedback on the proposed concept plans was received via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online survey via the project page • Hard copy • Email • Phone and virtual meetings via MS Teams <p>Throughout the 4-week consultation period, a total of 401 completed surveys were received and over 1,000 hits on the Your Say website per day.</p> <p>Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with 81% of the 401 survey respondents rating the proposed new designs as good – excellent. While 95% respondents stated they strongly support Council's aim to achieve 6 Star Green Star rating through ESD initiatives proposed.</p> <p>The design process is continuing, utilising the community feedback that has been received to further define and shape the project. Changes made as a result of the community consultation will be done so ensuring that the project is delivered within budget.</p> <p>A full report on the consultation findings will be considered at the Council meeting on 20 July.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>No change recommended.</p> |

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| 23 | Please also allocate more funds to the Reservoir Leisure Centre, as opposed to so much being spent at Northcote. | <p>There is an allocation of \$800K in the 2020-21 budget to complete the investigations which are underway to determine what redevelopment option should be pursued. These funds will also see the continuance of the program of improvement works on site that have been underway for the past 2 years.</p> <p>RLC is projected to receive \$16.8M over the next 5 years which includes urgent repair and maintenance works in the 2020-21 budget, as well as a completing a study, that is currently underway, that is investigating opportunities for the redevelopment of the RLC to enhance the health, wellbeing and socio-economic outcomes to the East Reservoir area. The findings will be presented to Council later this year which will assist with further planning and scope of a redevelopment option that best meets the community needs in the years to come.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| 4 | <p>1) Was there an indicative \$63.5m price goal in the 2019 architectural tender, prior to the quantity report in late 2019?</p> <p>2) Regarding the process used to determine if NARC was the best choice of project to do first, while the redevelopment of Reservoir Leisure Centre is not considered for an upgrade,</p> <p>3) What type of feasibility report has been conducted to determine this? Is it measured purely on building life?</p> <p>4) Does the Council have a Return on Investment report NARC available to the public?</p> | <p>1) The project budget of \$63.5million is the total project cost and was derived from the quantity surveyors estimate that formed part of the tender information package and was used for the engagement of the principal design consultant.</p> <p>2) There are two key reasons for the different timing of these two major projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 2018 NARC feasibility study found that the facility was at its end of life and that the building could not be renewed. The age and condition of the facility meant that the choice for Council was to either renew the facility or plan to close the facility within the next 5 years. - The 2019 RLC feasibility study found that the facility needed investment but was sound – therefore a range of options were open to Council as to the how to invest in the facility so it could continue to provide community benefit. <p>3) The feasibility studies conducted for both facilities consider a range of factors (not just building condition). The studies have both included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community consultation with users and non-users - Stakeholder engagement - An assessment of current use patterns - Industry trends analysis (including service and facility provision and use patterns and trends) - An assessment of facility provision in the surrounding areas - Financial modelling (over a ten-year period) <p>4) Ten-year financial models were included in the NARC Feasibility Study that was made available to the public as part of a report to the Council meeting on the 24 September 2018.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>No change recommended.</p> |
| 5 | 1) Why did council refuse to consider potential economies of scale by doing an Omnibus Contract on the two pool projects? | <p>1) The two projects are at very different stages:</p> <p>The key issues include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NARC and RLC are at different project and timeline stages, to combine them will significantly delay NARC and greatly increase risk to delivery. • The existing NARC is at the end of its lifecycle with maintenance/upkeep costs of \$200 - \$500K per annum with potential closure and service disruption. • RLC is at the early options stage and lags at least 3 years behind NARC. • There are community and reputational risks if NARC was to be delayed to accommodate a combined design and construction approach. • NARC needs to proceed to offset construction escalation costs and reduce upkeep costs. Further delaying NARC creates a risk that the facility condition would be such that the facility would have to close, creating a significant service provision gap. • The economy of scale for a combined construction appear limited, due to geographic separation of the projects. • There is greater risk of project failure using one contractor, for example there is a much higher risk of the contractor becoming insolvent or delivering poor construction. • Combining the two projects creates a risk to maximising external funding as the projects in effect compete for the same funding dollar. | <p>Already funded in budget and additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | <p>2) I note that on 8th of April 2019, the council rejected a \$35m pool redevelopment at Reservoir without an officer report and without a single word of debate before the vote. Why did the majority of councillors decide to reject a full development of Reservoir Leisure Centre?</p> <p>3) I note that the council have no debt at the moment. I also note that the capital works is slated to be cut by \$20m. Have council's debt ratio been taken into consideration when budgeting for the 3 large projects; Multisports Stadium, NARC and RLC?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combining projects creates a risk to Council resources to be able to deliver two major projects at the same time. • Closure of both aquatic centres to design and construct concurrently would result in Council having no Council run aquatic centre offer for a period of time. Staging the design and construction over both sites ensures residents and visitors are able to access an aquatic centre somewhere in the municipality. • It is unclear how the market might respond to a single contract to design and construct 2 large aquatic centres concurrently. It may be attractive to some design and construction contractors (and result in savings) but equally might deter others due to the size and risks associated. Whether a construction saving would materialise could only be confirmed through a competitive market test. <p>2) <u>In April 2019 the following motion was put and lost:</u></p> <p>That Council notes the above-average Diabetic illness and cancer rates in the northern postcodes of our city and resolves to transform the Reservoir Leisure Centre into a best practice 'Health and Wellbeing Aquatics Centre' and includes in the 2019–20 Budget and Council's Strategic Resource Plan a revised long-term capital works plan of \$36 million for the long-term redevelopment of the Reservoir Leisure Centre into a Health and Wellbeing Aquatic Centre.</p> <p>This motion was put to Council prior to the completion of the RLC Feasibility study.</p> <p><u>In September 2019:</u> The results of the RLC Feasibility Study were considered at a briefing.</p> <p>The RLC options analysis, investigated and costed four possible redevelopment options for the centre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Option 1 \$3.5M - Option 2 \$15.9M - Option 3 \$32M - Option 4 \$55M <p>These costs are construction costs only.</p> <p>Officer recommendation in the briefing was that a combination of options 2 and 3 would best suit the community need a would require further investigation.</p> <p>This further investigation did not occur and the feasibility report did not proceed to council. Instead in <u>November 2019</u>, two resolutions pertaining to the RLC were passed by Council (below). These resolutions requested further investigation to be undertaken to inform decision making on any RLC redevelopment. The further investigations were to understand the health, wellbeing and socio-economic impacts that could be leveraged from the RLC.</p> <p>3) Darebin and all other Victorian Councils are required by the Victorian Auditor General to make decisions that ensure the financial sustainability of the Council. Council is proposing in 2021-22 to borrow \$12M and in 2022-23 \$34M to fund the three large projects. Council's debt ratio at all times over the term of the borrowings is rated a low risk within the Victorian Auditor General key risk indicator relating to Indebtness.</p> | |
| <p>5.1 & 63</p> | <p>1) Reassessment of Development plans for NARC and RLC in relation to Assessment of Accessibility: Using the Darebin City Council's Health and Wellbeing report as a baseline to assess the accessibility of health services and facilities in the City of Darebin on a need basis.</p> <p>2) Reassess parking allotment around NARC, and the impact of the limited parking on accessibility for all Darebin residents and pool users and how that affects point 1.</p> | <p>1) The new facility will be able to address current access, design and safety risks to patrons to also enable the following to occur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce barriers to participation in priority populations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Newly arrived Australians – inclusion of quiet room (for prayer) and spaces designed for specific programming needs ○ Older adults – addition of warm water pool and additional program spaces ○ Aboriginal communities – programming inclusions and employment opportunities ○ People living with a disability – dedicated changing places and accessible toilet/change spaces, warm water pool for therapeutic and rehabilitation purposes, Universal design principles applied to building design ○ Women and girls – spaces designed for women's only programming ○ LGBTIQ people – gender neutral change facilities ○ NDIS clients – warm water pool and additional gym facilities <p>2) The concept plans for the new facility propose that the car park will remain in its current position, with no additional parking bays on site. This allows for the retention of high value trees within the car park, along with minor upgrades to increase safety for pedestrians.</p> | <p>Already funded in budget and additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | <p>3) Reassess the cost of the NARC project against ALL similar projects in other municipalities, including the recent Rosebud Leisure Centre construction and development, and not exclusively compared with projects in other municipalities which are similar only in cost to the current drafted budget plans for NARC.</p> <p>4) Assessment based on population and demographics to factor on cost of pool per resident.</p> <p>5) Omnibus contract to assess economic scale benefits from doing 2 recreation centre development projects at the same time, also assessing and taking into account return on investment of both projects to maximise outcome per resident per dollar spent.</p> | <p>As the new facility has an ambitious target to be rated 6 Star Green Star under the Green Building Code of Australia, Council will be promoting sustainable transport options and improving accessibility and safety to the current car park by proposing to include the following design and traffic management features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New entry and exit to car park • Electric vehicle charging stations • Car ride sharing parking • Raised pedestrian (wombat) crossings throughout the car park • Increased secure bicycle parking • Pick up / drop off zone • Bus parking on Victoria Road <p>3) Rosebud Aquatic Centre is currently under construction with a proposed completion date of November 2020 and a total project cost of \$47.8M. This is a greenfield site, and therefore has very few limitations on design and no demolition costs required within the budget. East Keilor Aquatic Centre is currently under construction with proposed completion in early 2021. The total project cost is \$52.9M. Due to site constraints, this project has a much smaller footprint than NARC with no outdoor landscaping. While no two projects are the same, NARC's budget is in line with current projects of a similar scope such as the full redevelopment of Kew Recreation Centre reported to be \$67.5 million and redevelopment of St Albans Leisure Centre budgeted at more than \$60 million. NARC is striving to become the first indoor aquatic facility in Australia to reach a 6 Star Green Star Rating. This rating has an impact on the up-front capital cost of the project; however, this outweighs the long term operational and environmental benefits. 95% of respondents from the concept design community consultation strongly supported the Environmental Sustainable Design initiatives proposed – this is overwhelming positive for Council and the project</p> <p>4) The project is designed to meet health and wellbeing demands arising from the continued Darebin population growth which is expected to grow from 169,533 in 2016 to 230,118 by 2041, equating to a significant 35% increase. The proposed centre incorporates additional facilities which are currently not on offer within the existing building to the local Darebin community, for people to enjoy for the next 50 years to come.</p> <p>5) On 6 November 2019, two resolutions pertaining to the RLC were passed by Council. These resolutions requested further investigation to be undertaken to inform decision making on RLC future options. The further investigations were to understand the health, wellbeing and socio-economic impacts that could be leveraged from the RLC. This work is under way and it is anticipated that it will be completed towards the end of the third quarter of the 2020 calendar year.</p> | |
| 11 | <p>For such a big capital project, there are a number of older residents who may not be on social media or able to access online portals, as well as high numbers of people from non-English speaking migrant backgrounds; why was the public consultation period so short at less than 3 weeks, and only accessible through online portals and Facebook and only available in English?</p> | <p>The first stage of engagement conducted for the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre included extensive community consultation which contributed to a feasibility study. The consultation in mid-April 2020 was the second stage of engagement which is why the engagement period was shorter. The second stage of engagement sought feedback on the proposed concept designs which included a focus on the use and experience of the facility.</p> <p>Residents within 1km radius of the facility received information via post letting them know about the engagement opportunity and the different ways to provide their feedback which, due to the restrictions created by the COVID-19 pandemic, could not include face-to-face sessions. In addition to the online method, residents were invited to provide their feedback via phone, and could also request for a hard copy version of the survey. Residents who received information via post were also invited to call our multilingual line if they required the information to be translated to another language and the online project page included an automatic translations function to translate the text on the page to other languages. There were also translated materials available on the online project page in different languages.</p> | <p>Noted. No change recommended.</p> |
| 8 | <p>1) In the Darebin Health and Wellbeing plan, there are 4 points set out to serve as guidelines in Council's overall goals for the city, the first of these being "Create</p> | <p>1) The three major projects have been identified, prioritised and scoped from a number of sources (including community consultation) to determine the need, scope and how they will be delivered. The Health and Wellbeing Plan is one of many data sources that has been considered in the development of these projects. Furthermore, as the projects are delivered, the Health and Wellbeing Plan will also</p> | <p>Already funded in budget and additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | <p>equitable, healthy and sustainable neighbourhoods” and further points expressing the need for these goals to be met for “ALL DAREBIN PEOPLE”. Was this report considered in the draft budget for redevelopment of NARC, Multisports Stadium, and RLC?</p> <p>2) Northcote is slated to get a \$63.5 mil aquatic centre, whilst there are no current quantity reports for RLC (question) and no plans to look at a commercial feasibility report until later this year. The city’s expenditure is currently heavily skewed towards Northcote. Why does the baseline of spending not reflect on the risk factors to health and wellbeing of Northcote and Reservoir, as per the statistics that are found in the Darebin Health and Wellbeing plan?</p> <p>3) Why is the council rushing in capital expenditure on projects like NARC and the multi-sport complex in the middle of the biggest health crisis our country has ever seen? What’s the reasoning behind immediate commencement as an emergency item, particularly when facilities such as these have been deemed non-essential and were amongst the first to be closed in government lockdown?</p> | <p>influence how such facilities are activities (in practice which will help to determine ensure things like the food and drinks sold at the facilities are healthy).</p> <p>2) The funding for the RLC and NARC projects has been determined by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 2018 NARC feasibility study found that the facility was at its end of life and that the building could not be renewed. The age and condition of the facility meant that the choice for Council was to either renew the facility or plan to close the facility within the next 5 years. - The 2019 RLC feasibility study found that the facility needed investment but was sound – therefore a range of options were open to Council as to the how to invest in the facility so it could continue to provide community benefit. In 19/20 \$1Million has been invested in progressing the planning for the facility and investing in facility upgrades to improve the customer experience and facility operations. - On 6 November 2019, two resolutions pertaining to the RLC were passed by Council. These resolutions requested further investigation to be undertaken to inform decision making on RLC future options. The further investigations were to understand the health, wellbeing and socio-economic impacts that could be leveraged from the RLC. This work is under way and it is anticipated that it will be completed towards the end of the third quarter of the 2020 calendar year. <p>3) - The COVID-19 crisis has not accelerated the leisure major projects (RLC, NARC and MSS) and continue as identified in the Council Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuing with these projects has been identified as appropriate to meet the community need for the facilities that they will deliver, furthermore the delivery of the projects will also assist in the community recovery through the creation of jobs both through their construction and their activation. - The use restrictions placed on these facilities have been mandated by State and Federal governments, which Council must comply with. A return to service delivery (within the guidelines) has already commenced and has been positively received by community members. | |
| 9 & 10 | <p>1) Regarding 20% contingency that the CEO has put on capital works, why was the decision not brought to the council before it was issued by the CEO?</p> <p>2) Is there a 20% contingency on the new Northcote Pool and Multi-sports Stadium?</p> | <p>1) Very few of the projects in Council’s capital works program has a contingency applied to it, and those that do, have a typical contingency of 10%. This is an industry standard, is consistent with projects delivered in the local government sector and reflects the complexity of projects that Council plans for delivery in 2020-21. On a very rare occasion, a contingency of 15% might be applied where significant project risks demand it – e.g. where soil is identified as contaminated</p> <p>2) Any contingency applied is dependent on the project stage. Council hasn’t yet made a decision about a contingency for the construction of the Multi Sports Stadium or the construction of the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre. Typically, these large, high-risk construction projects may attract a construction contingency of 10%.</p> | <p>Noted. No change recommended.</p> |
| 14.1 | <p>1) I am also concerned that the RLC is not receiving a significant upgrade like NARC is, rather it just seems like it will be patched up. This seems like a waste of money since RLC is in need of a significant upgrade and eventually something will have to be done to improve the facility?</p> <p>2) I also think the concession fees are too high in comparison to what those on low incomes are earning. Facilities like the RLC need to be accessible to the entire community</p> | <p>The 2020-21 Budget includes \$800K to continue the redevelopment and refurbishment works and \$50,000 for equipment, plus operational costs as the facility does not return a profit to Council.</p> <p>1) A facility condition audit of the RLC was conducted in 2017 and found that while the facility was tired and in need of improvements, it was structurally sound and (with investment) it could successfully continue to service the community. The result of this audit was tested via a peer review, which confirmed the findings.</p> <p>In the last two financial years, there has been approximately \$1M per annum spent on upgrading and improving the RLC.</p> <p>2) A benchmarking of fees for facilities in the area was conducted in 2019 and concluded that the RLC fees are lower than neighbouring facilities. The RLC feasibility study found that just over 50% of all memberships access one of concession fees available.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget. Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | equitably and the concession rate is only a little bit less than the full rate which is grossly unfair? | The RLC does not return a profit to Council, running at an annual average operating loss (deficit) of just under \$460K per annum over the last six years. | |
| 9.1 & 18 | <p>Are there plans to include increased parking space in and around NARC?</p> <p>Many Darebin residents enjoy the use of swimming facilities, and with RLC in the state of disrepair that it is, this centre will surely see huge numbers of Darebin residents from North of the city wishing to make use of it. How will Council ensure that there will be adequate parking for "ALL DAREBIN PEOPLE"?</p> | <p>The 2020-21 budget includes \$3M for Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre.</p> <p>The concept plans for the new facility propose that the car park will remain in its current position, with no additional parking bays on site. This allows for the retention of high value trees within the car park, along with minor upgrades to increase safety for pedestrians.</p> <p>As the new facility has an ambitious target to be rated 6 Star Green Star under the Green Building Code of Australia, Council will be promoting sustainable transport options and improving accessibility and safety to the current car park by proposing to include the following design and traffic management features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New entry and exit to car park ▪ Electric vehicle charging stations ▪ Car ride sharing parking ▪ Raised pedestrian (wombat) crossings throughout the car park ▪ Increased secure bicycle parking ▪ Pick up / drop off zone ▪ Bus parking on Victoria Road | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| 21 | Overspend on the NARC, to the detriment of Reservoir Leisure Centre, its users, and ratepayers from Reservoir? | <p>The project is costed at \$63.5 million which includes design, demolition, construction, landscaping and fit out of equipment. While no two projects are the same, this budget is in line with current projects of a similar scope such as the full redevelopment of Kew Recreation Centre reported to be \$67.5 million and building of a replacement St Albans Leisure Centre budgeted at more than \$60 million. Currently the project is still tracking on budget.</p> <p>The Reservoir Leisure Centre (RLC) is currently still in the very early options stage. An options study was presented to Council at a briefing on 30 September 2019 but did not proceed to Council for consideration.</p> <p>On 6 November 2019, two resolutions pertaining to the RLC were passed by Council. These resolutions requested further investigation to be undertaken to inform decision making on RLC future options. The further investigations were to understand the health, wellbeing and socio-economic impacts that could be leveraged from the RLC. This work is under way and it is anticipated that it will be completed towards the end of the third quarter of the 2020 calendar year.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| 22.1 | <p>Revise the Northcote Swimming and Recreation Centre (NARC) refurbishment so that costs are reduced significantly.</p> <p>The pool needs to be functional but not does not need to have such an extravagant and expensive refurbishment. For these reasons I cannot endorse your 20/21 draft budget.</p> | <p>Council is investing \$63.5M to ensure NARC will continue to service the community for the next 50 years. This investment will ensure Darebin residents have access to a range of contemporary aquatic and leisure services and programs in a state of the art and environmentally sustainable facility.</p> <p>The \$63.5M cost for the renewal of NARC is spread across the life of this multi-year project. The immediate spend on the renewal of NARC is projected to be \$3M in the 20/21 budget, to continue the design phase of the project. This does not impact Council's ability to support Darebin's residents and local businesses and organisations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The project is costed at \$63.5 million which includes design, demolition, construction, landscaping and fit out of equipment. While no two projects are the same, this budget is in line with current projects of a similar scope such as the full redevelopment of Kew Recreation Centre reported to be \$67.5 million and building of a replacement St Albans Leisure Centre budgeted at more than \$60 million.</p> <p>The facility is nearing its end of life. Investigations found that the existing facility could not be renovated or re-used and hence a full redevelopment is required.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| 26.1 | <p>The Northcote Aquatic Recreation Centre and Reservoir Leisure Centre work for reported period should include benchmarking of other like facilities (particularly financials), not just schematic design completion and the detailed design commencement.</p> | <p>The 2020-21 budget includes \$3M for Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre and \$800K for Reservoir Leisure Centre.</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of architectural designs, the following process has been undertaken for both Northcote Aquatic & Recreation Centre and Reservoir Leisure Centre:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility studies using specialist architects, engineers and recreation consultants • Cost estimates from quantity surveyors • Options analysis with cost benefits • Sport & recreational consultants produced benchmark component schedules for the NARC & RLC facilities using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Benchmarking against other aquatic centres ○ Stakeholder & community stakeholder feedback of key requirements ○ Modelled community needs <p>A benchmarked comparison of current projects in other municipalities are Kew Recreation Centre \$67.5 Million, St Albans Leisure Centre \$60 Million.</p> <p>NARC has a projected budget very similar to the other centres currently under construction but with the significant advantage of being a 6 Star Green Building, we believe the first of its type in Australia.</p> | <p>Noted. No change recommended.</p> |
| 27.1 | <p>The Northcote multi-million dollar pool is overpriced and possibly the most expensive pool in the state. We don't need the bells and whistles just the basics. What will Reservoir Leisure receive, \$63m too?</p> | <p>The 2020-21 budget includes \$3M for Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre and \$800K for Reservoir Leisure Centre.</p> <p>Council is investing \$63.5M to ensure NARC will continue to service the community for the next 50 years. This investment will ensure Darebin residents have access to a range of contemporary aquatic and leisure services and programs in a state of the art and environmentally sustainable facility.</p> <p>The \$63.5M cost for the renewal of NARC is spread across the life of this multi-year project. The immediate spend on the renewal of NARC is projected to be \$3M in the 20/21 budget, to continue the design phase of the project. This does not impact Council's ability to support Darebin's residents and local businesses and organisations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The project is costed at \$63.5 million which includes design, demolition, construction, landscaping and fit out of equipment. While no two projects are the same, this budget is in line with current projects of a similar scope such as the full redevelopment of Kew Recreation Centre reported to be \$67.5 million and building of a replacement St Albans Leisure Centre budgeted at more than \$60 million.</p> <p>Some repair and minor upgrade works are currently taking place at Reservoir Leisure Centre (RLC). While NARC may appear ok to the eye in some regards, the facility is nearing its end of life, which is why these works have been prioritised over RLC. The overall condition of RLC is better than NARC, as identified in building audits, however there is also a longer-term plan to redevelop RLC in the future.</p> <p>RLC is projected to receive \$16.8M over the next 5 years which includes urgent repair and maintenance works in the 2020/21 budget, as well as a completing a study, that is currently underway, that is investigating opportunities for the redevelopment of the RLC to enhance the health, wellbeing and socio-economic outcomes to the East Reservoir area. The findings will be presented to Council later this year which will assist with further planning and scope of a redevelopment option that best meets the community needs in the years to come.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget. Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| 28.1 | <p>Pease provide me with breakdown of \$63 million on the Northcote pool. How does it compare with cost to other pools built in other parts of the city around Melbourne?</p> | <p>The \$63.5M cost for the renewal of NARC is spread across the life of this multi-year project. The immediate spend on the renewal of NARC is projected to be \$3M in the 20/21 budget, to continue the design phase of the project. This does not impact Council's ability to support Darebin's residents and local businesses and organisations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> | <p>Noted. No change recommended.</p> |

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| | | <p>The project is costed at \$63.5 million which includes design, demolition, construction, landscaping and fit out of equipment. This cost plan is based upon on concept designs and the plan is high level, conservative and includes 5% design and 10% construction contingencies.</p> <p>The project is still in its design phase; when the design phase is completed, the construction costs will be tested and confirmed through the public tender process.</p> <p>While no two projects are the same, this budget is in line with current projects of a similar scope such as the full redevelopment of Kew Recreation Centre reported to be \$67.5 million and building of a replacement St Albans Leisure Centre budgeted at more than \$60 million.</p> <p>Council is investing \$63.5M to ensure NARC will continue to service the community for the next 50 years. This investment will ensure Darebin residents have access to a range of contemporary aquatic and leisure services and programs in a state of the art and environmentally sustainable facility.</p> | |
| 30 | <p>The Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre is screaming out for renewal. The dilapidated nature of the pool is a real turn off. It does not seem hygienic or safe and seems like it is constantly in a state of maintenance.</p> <p>Please make sure this renovation really happens, and please make sure that it is bigger, better, cleaner and more sustainable.</p> | <p>Council is investing \$63.5M to ensure NARC will continue to service the community for the next 50 years. This investment will ensure Darebin residents have access to a range of contemporary aquatic and leisure services and programs in a state of the art and environmentally sustainable facility.</p> <p>The \$63.5M cost for the renewal of NARC is spread across the life of this multi-year project. The immediate spend on the renewal of NARC is projected to be \$3M in the 20/21 budget, to continue the design phase of the project.</p> <p>More information relating to the project can be found at https://www.yoursaydarebin.com.au/NARC. This project page shows the proposed concept designs for the new facility, and the sustainability initiatives to target a 6 Star rated building, which would be the first indoor aquatic facility within Australia. Note at this stage, however all external funding opportunities will be explored.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget. Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| 45 | <p>Put money into the budget 2020-21 for upgrades of Reservoir pool.</p> <p>A petition was attached to this submission.</p> | <p>The Reservoir Leisure Centre (RLC) is currently still in the very early options stage.</p> <p>On 6 November 2019, two resolutions pertaining to the RLC were passed by Council. These resolutions requested further investigation to be undertaken to inform decision making on RLC future options. The further investigations were to understand the health, wellbeing and socio-economic impacts that could be leveraged from the RLC. This work is under way and it is anticipated that it will be completed towards the end of the third quarter of the 2020 calendar year.</p> <p>The \$800k allocation in the 2020-21 budget will be used to continue the improvement works that are underway as well as to commence the design work for the redevelopment option chosen by Council as a result of the health, wellbeing and socio-economic impacts study.</p> <p>Council will continue to investigate any funding opportunity should, one a rise.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget. Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| 51 | <p>Upgrade Reservoir with 25 metre and 50 metre pools.</p> <p>We the undersigned residents call on Darebin Council to consider a full \$36 million upgrade of Reservoir Leisure Centre in the 2020 Council budget. The Reservoir Leisure Centre needs to be urgently upgraded to catch up with the current Northcote Aquatic Centre that already has both a 25 metre indoor pool and a 50 metre outdoor pool.</p> <p>The \$63.5 million Northcote Pool mega project should be scaled back and the Auditor General should fully investigate the costing blowout.</p> <p>A petition was attached to this submission.</p> | <p>The Reservoir Leisure Centre (RLC) is currently still in the very early options stage.</p> <p>An options study was presented to Council at a briefing on 30 September 2019 which investigated 4 possible redevelopment options.</p> <p>On 6 November 2019, two resolutions pertaining to the RLC were passed by Council. These resolutions requested further investigation to be undertaken to inform decision making on RLC future options. The further investigations were to understand the health, wellbeing and socio-economic impacts that could be leveraged from the RLC. This work is under way and it is anticipated that it will be completed towards the end of the third quarter of the 2020 calendar year.</p> <p>The \$800,000 allocation in the 20/21 budget will be used to continue the improvement works that are underway as well as to commence the design work for the redevelopment option chosen by Council as a result of the health, wellbeing and socio-economic impacts study.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget. Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | | Although any funding opportunity that does arise will be investigated. | |
| | Crispe Park | | |
| 13 | Engage in further discussion with the Crispe Park dog walking community and Reservoir Sporting Club about potential solutions to provide more lighting cover the cost during winter. | <p>Officers advise that while Crispe Park lighting is a worthy project, there are higher priorities for community safety projects including in Activities Centres such as in Reservoir (Edwardes St, Broadway and Johnson St), based upon issues of disadvantage and more significant safety concerns. Safety complaints relating to activity centres include concerns such as poor lighting, antisocial activity, crime and drug use, which are broader than our understanding of current concerns at Crispe Park. Our approach to improving community safety prioritises areas where a range of issues should be addressed in neighbourhoods of disadvantage. We have recently submitted to a State Government Community Safety Infrastructure grant round for Activity Centre related matters in Reservoir.</p> <p>An initial safety audit has been completed for Crispe Park which recommends improving lighting. The audit is sufficient to progress with lighting improvements if budget were to be allocated.</p> <p>However, we would recommend a more comprehensive whole-of-place audit/review of Crispe Park in consultation with local residents and club members to assess the factors contributing to safety at this park. This would inform the plan for future improvements - as the research into safety in public spaces is that mixed approaches, rather than one intervention alone are likely to more effective at improving perceptions of safety and preventing crime.</p> <p>Investigations in response to this submission have confirmed that the site is well utilised by dog walkers (and their dogs) and that additional lighting on site would improve access, use and perceptions of safety on the site.</p> <p>The sports club have noted issues with dog poo not being picked up at times and this has an impact on their use of the sports field. The site has two dog poo bag dispensers which are well located, there is also signage regarding dog owner responsibilities on site. There is an active Reservoir Dogs Crispe Park Facebook page that could be engaged to help send responsible pet ownership messages to the local community. Users both walk and drive to the site, site visits confirmed that participation drops off significantly at sundown.</p> <p>Possible source of external funding is the Public Safety Fund https://www.crimeprevention.vic.gov.au/publicsafetyinfrastructure</p> <p>However, this fund is not currently open to applications. Lighting at Crispe park could be a candidate for this grant scheme fund but would be considered alongside other safety projects (which may be a higher priority than this one) according to its relative merits and benefits and having designs and costs for the project would assist in any funding application.</p> <p>The design has been included in the 20-21 operational work plan to complete design and costings in-house, noting this is within current staffing resources and budget. Completed design and costings would assist seeking external funding via grants for the project. Whilst this project has not been designed and costed accurately, based on similar projects delivered elsewhere, \$50,000 should cover nstallation including a \$5K contingency.</p> | Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21 |
| | Northcote Golf Course | | |
| 15 | How much of my Darebin rates goes into supporting the lockdown of the land currently occupied by the Northcote Golf Club? I'm thinking it is time that this beautiful piece of land was made accessible as a public park. | <p>The recommendation is provided on the basis that Council consider a comprehensive report at 3 August 2020 Council briefing, which includes examining the future strategies for greater activation of Northcote and Bundoora golf courses. This report will consider a range of factors including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Northcote Public Golf Club NPGC is managed by via a contract due to expire in 2022. • Over the past 6 years, this facility has cost Council an average of \$135,400 per annum. | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the 12 months period prior to the COVID-19 restrictions, 18,500 rounds of golf were played at this facility. In the 6-month period prior to COVID-19, 41% of visitors to the NPGC were from Darebin and an average of 14% of the participants were female, with 86% of players male. A small investment of \$5K has recently been made to modify the course to allow for "Foot Golf", a modified game using a large ball, which is kicked from hole to hole. This is an innovative concept that is likely to increase the number and range of participants and activation of the space, drawing on the users of Mayer Park (soccer) and other local Clubs. The implementation is due to commence in July 2020. This is forecast to see an increased participation in the space with up to 20 local sporting clubs participating in the activity in the first 12 months, with forecast growth to 40 clubs by year 3. In addition to the sporting clubs, the activity is open for schools, community groups and casual users. Financially, the activity is estimated to deliver increased revenue of approximately \$9K in the first year with growth to \$22K by year three. Estimate that the work needed to conduct consultation and further investigation would be \$150,000. This would include commissioning expert advice to undertake cost estimates for facility improvements on a range of possible use alternatives. Council officers will continue to work with the contracted operator on ways in which the facility can increase use and access by the community while the existing operational contract is in place which would achieve incremental increases in use patterns but not wholesale change as advocated in this submission. | |
| | Edwards Park Lake | | |
| 17.2 | <p>The pollution of Edwards Park Lake is of growing concern to many residents not only in the neglected North of our City but to all both in Darebin and outside.</p> <p>Will you revisit this issue and solve the problem of who is polluting the lake, dealing with them decisively, and finance a solution so that the Lake can become again a feature of our City?</p> | <p>The aspiration to enable the lake to be used in other ways is shared by Council, however achieving this would be expected to require significant investment over many years and likely decades and could not be achieved by Council alone. Ongoing advocacy is provided for in the Budget in 2020-21 as part of the operating budget.</p> <p>Council has written to the Victorian Minister for Water, seeking funding of \$280K to undertake a specialist feasibility analysis and options assessment to improve water quality in Edwardes Lake to a standard that would allow water-based recreation in 2019. The Minister advised that Council should continue participation in the Yarra Integrated Water Management Forum and pursue collaboration and funding opportunities through this Forum, which Council is doing, along with making direct representations to water agencies and departments.</p> <p>Council considered a detailed report on this matter on 6 April 2020 and resolved</p> <p>"That Council:</p> <p>(1) Notes the findings of water quality monitoring at Edwardes Lake and that it is not currently feasible to improve water quality to a level that allows water-based recreation at Edwardes Lake and therefore to ensure public safety continues to manage the lake without recreation activities.</p> <p>(2) Makes adjustments to maintenance and management of water at the lake to improve water quality but notes that these would not enable recreation.</p> <p>(3) Continues to advocate for improved water quality outcomes in Darebin's waterways and waterbodies by working with other relevant agencies.</p> <p>Since Council's decision in April 2020 on this matter, Darebin City Council successfully secured funding through Melbourne Water's Living Rivers grant program for two projects that will help progress water quality improvements in Darebin:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first is to carry out a Wetland Asset and Maintenance Audit in late 2020 and early 2021. This project will check that Darebin's wetland and lake assets are functioning correctly and identify anything that requires fixing and refine ongoing maintenance requirements. Edwardes Lake, and | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | | <p>the stormwater treatment wetlands upstream of the lake, will be assessed as part of this audit project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The second will investigate the opportunity for an option for developers to contribute to regional water sensitive urban design projects rather than installing specific infrastructure on site in new developments. This could help create a funding stream for water quality improvements across the City that in the long run could enable important regional level improvements. <p>Council's budget provides for maintaining water quality in Edwardes Lake and the upstream Leamington Street wetland by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring sediment levels and removing sediment when these levels exceed design specifications Ensuring that high flow and low flow weirs are maintained to the design specifications Ensuring all associated drainage lines and bypass valves are clear and operational Replacing vegetation where necessary, and planting additional vegetation <p>Since 2009, it is estimated that Council has spent approximately \$600K managing sediment levels and ensuring that the lake and wetlands are functioning to their 'as constructed' design specifications.</p> <p>Edwardes Lake receives water from Edgars Creek. Only 20% of the Edgars Creek catchment is within the Darebin City Council municipality. Additional improvements to water quality in both Edgars Creek and Edwardes Lake, to a level that would allow water-based recreation, would require significant investment by a number of agencies including Whittlesea City Council, the Victorian state government, Melbourne Water, the EPA and Yarra Valley Water.</p> | |
| | KP Hardiman Hockey Pitch | | |
| 19 | The Hockey Victorian Association has indicated the current lighting and poor field quality KP Hardiman are substandard - unfit for night matches, which during winter happen every night of the week. As a result, we risk injury and frequently lose players to clubs in other councils. | <p>The 2020-21 Budget includes \$2.3M for KP Hardiman Synthetic Hockey Pitch Redevelopment and the scope includes full redevelopment of hockey field and new lighting infrastructure to 350 lux.</p> <p>A report is scheduled for the Ordinary Council meeting of 20 July 2020 which will recommend Council award a contract to construct both the synthetic pitch and lighting upgrade.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | Zwar Park | | |
| 25 to 25.7 | Remove old and outdated infrastructure and replace it with gender inclusive sport facilities at Zwar Park. | <p>The assessments undertaken in 2019, as part of the draft Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework did not find this facility to be in the category of highest priority for investment. The scoring matrix used in the for the draft Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework assesses each facility on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fit for purpose and functionality (condition, DDA, ESD and sports association guidelines) Participation outcomes Need and community benefit. <p>The 20-year Capital Works plan has been developed using the outcomes of the draft Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework, HP Zwar pavilion upgrade is listed for schematic design in 2035-36 and construction in 2036-37.</p> <p>Works completed at the facility in the last 2 years include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toilets made all gender friendly by replacing all urinals with cubicles The public toilet building was converted to a change space Storage upgrade (shelving) Carpet replacement and painting | <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fencing • Scoreboard • Landscaping (retaining wall next to building rebuilt) • Synthetic wicket relayed. <p>Bringing forward the HP Zwar pavilion for upgrade would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be in contradiction to the findings of the draft Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework that uses an evidence base of facility condition need and potential community benefit to inform and identify investment priorities • Require projects assessed as having greater condition needs and being able to leverage greater community benefit, to be delayed bringing forward this project. <p>The cost of schematic and detailed design would be \$250K based on initial cost estimates.</p> | |
| | D.R. Atkinson Reserve Pavilion | | |
| 34 | <p>Budget submission attached for the extension and upgrade of D.R. Atkinson Reserve Pavilion as per "Darebin Outdoor Sports Infrastructure framework" - February 2020. The pavilion is currently allocated to the Northern Raiders Gridiron Club.</p> <p>The facilities are not suitable for female participation.</p> | <p>The assessments undertaken in 2019, as part of the draft Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework did not find this facility to be in the category of highest priority for investment, ranking 10th highest on the scoring matrix.</p> <p>The 20-year Capital Works plan has been developed using the outcomes of the draft Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework, DR Atkinson pavilion upgrade is listed for detailed design in 2028-29 and construction in 2029-30.</p> <p>Bringing forward the DR Atkinson pavilion for upgrade would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be in contradiction to the findings of the draft Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework that uses an evidence base of facility condition need and potential community benefit to inform and identify investment priorities • Require projects assessed as having greater condition needs and being able to leverage greater community benefit, to be delayed bringing forward this project. <p>Council is currently submitting a grant submission to SRV through the COVID Stimulus Package that would see the construction of a new female friendly pavilion and lighting at IW Dole Reserve. If Council were successful in their bid, the Northern Raiders Gridiron Club would be a suitable Club to move to the new facility. The club have indicated that they would support such a relocation, which would see them housed in a \$2.8M purpose built, female friendly and accessible pavilion, meeting the needs they have described in their budget submission.</p> <p>Ideally projects of this scale should run over three years to allow for concept design, then detailed design and then construction.</p> <p>The additional cost to begin the design process would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020-21 – Concept design and consultation \$20,000 • 2021-22 – Detailed design \$104,000 • 2022-23 – Construction \$1,050,000 | Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21. |
| | Lighting at G H Mott Reserve | | |
| 49 | Sports Ground Lighting at G H Mott Reserve for Darebin Falcons | <p>As assessed by the Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework (OSIF) recently adopted by Council, lighting at WH Mott is <u>not</u> the next item on the priority listing (currently shown for design and then construction in years 8 and 9).</p> <p>The higher priority lighting projects are McDonnell West and John Hall, noting that designs for John Hall have been completed in 19/20. KP Hardiman is also a priority for construction, as advised this should be achieved in 20/21 with the pitch resurface.</p> <p>There are light poles at WH Mott, which allow for some night use. However, the existing lights do not cover the whole site and due to age of the infrastructure are a lower Lux level than would be used by today's expected standards. The use at Mott means that there is pre-season (summer) training at Mott Reserve 5</p> | Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21. |

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| | | <p>nights a week for the Northern Falcons, Darebin Falcons and Northcote City up until March (then clubs return to their home sites). During winter, the Clubs use Mott Reserve for daytime overflow matches.</p> <p>Construction of the John Hall lighting has been included in a recent State Government grant application for the SRV Stimulus Grants, which should be announced by late July 2020 noting that this is likely to be highly competitive. This grant round required projects to be fully designed and “shovel ready”. The package of lighting works put forward for the SRV Stimulus Grants included: Donath Reserve East (soccer pitches 6 and 8), IW Dole reserve, JE Moore Reserve North and John Hall Reserve. If this application is successful, we will have no designs for lighting left in the bank.</p> <p>Should Council be successful in its grant submission through SRV’s Stimulus Program, it would see the construction of 4 sports field lighting projects (already designed) in 2020/21. This would allow for WH Mott lighting to move up the priority list and be considered for design by 2023/24.</p> <p>Bringing forward the WH Mott Lighting for upgrade would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be in contradiction to the findings of the draft Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Framework that uses an evidence base of facility condition need and potential community benefit to inform and identify investment priorities • require projects assessed as having greater condition needs and being able to leverage greater community benefit, to be delayed bringing forward this project. • require design and delivery within one year as there is currently no completed designs for this project. | |
| | B.T. Connor | | |
| 68 | <p>Preston Lion FC – Pavilion works at B.T. Connor</p> <p>With the release of the draft 2020-21 Council budget, a budget amount of \$500,000 has been allocated for the pavilion redevelopment. This is significantly short of the anticipated \$3.2 million.</p> | <p>The total project is estimated to be \$3m and is currently planned to be delivered over 2 financial years.</p> <p>To support the community business and resilience package and manage the budget as a whole, this project has been scheduled to be delivered over two financial years. Scheduling the project over two years does not compromise or effect the SRV funding application that has been lodged to support this project (for \$500K).</p> <p>Initially the project was costed at \$3.2M, further refinement of the project and testing of the costings have been successful in reducing the total project spend to \$3M without compromising the outcome.</p> <p>The project is fully documented and ready to commence the tendering process (which would take a minimum of 3 months to complete). The timing of the caretaker period will also affect the timing of when the contract can be awarded.</p> <p>If there were no constraints on the budget as a whole or on delivery, this project would be recommended to proceed ASAP and within one financial year. However, if the project was fully funded in 20-21, construction could not start until late 2020 and completion of works could not be guaranteed in a time that would not impact on next season, primarily because of COVID-19 (significant delays on materials delivery are currently being experienced).</p> <p>Furthermore, if this project is to be brought forward to be fully funded in 20-21, \$2.5m would need to be found to fund the project.</p> <p>Officer’s acknowledge and verify that the impact on the club as described in the submission will cause significant disruption to next year’s season and that on top of the COVID-19 disruptions this impact is significant. To minimise this disruption of construction during the playing season, portable facilities will be provided.</p> <p>A funding application has been lodged to SRV via the World Game Facilities Fund for this project. If successful, Council could receive \$500K towards this project. Funding announcements have been delayed due to COVID-19 but are currently expected to be released in July.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | | The Club have confirmed their contribution of \$100,000 for the project. | |
| | Bill Lawry and Oldis Gardens | | |
| 33 | <p>The BLOG (Bill Lawry and Oldis Gardens Master Plan) has largely been abandoned (despite years of funding) and needs urgent re-visiting. The barbed-wire-fenced oval specifically has been an invaluable community hub now that the local tenants (football and cricket clubs) have been unable to monopolize the space.</p> <p>Please have this noted, if not specifically, in general terms.</p> | <p>Additional planting as part of Council's rewilding program is planned in 2020-21 but other improvements to BLOG are not proposed in the Budget for 2020-21 because other locations have been assessed as higher priorities.</p> <p>Council does have plans to continue to implement the master plan over time. Council's current assessment identifies the following projects as the next highest priority although neither is recommended for delivery in 2020-2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared user path: \$100,000 • Outdoor gym: \$75,000. <p>Council's 2020-2021 capital works budget proposes continuing the redevelopment of the Bill Lawry Oval pavilion and has made provision for the engagement of an architect for design services through funding carried forward from 2019/2020. It is hoped that community spaces will be provided in the new pavilion once constructed.</p> <p>In regard to use of the sportsground by other users, Council aims to make open spaces multi-use wherever possible, however formal sport is not always complementary with other uses on the same grounds. In this case, we do expect the sports users to return after COVID19 and the sporting uses are the priority on the sportsground itself.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | Donath/Dole | | |
| 36 | <p>Donath/Dole Master Plan</p> <p>Improvements between ovals 3 and 4 are poor. There is only 1 table, there is no BBQ area for people to cook. There is no shelter for people to sit out of the sun. The seats facing oval is a waste as there no sports played on it. If the CRG added a shelter (like between ovals 1 and 2 and a BBQ area, a water fountain and some more tables you might find some residents may use this area.</p> <p>The pathway finishes between ovals 3 and 4, this pathway should continue all around 4 and finish at oval 1 and oval 1 pathway should be finished also. The pathway on Donath East extend only goes to Lambassa Avenue (I believe this pathway was going to meet up with Dole Avenue.</p> <p>The Southern end of the park you will need to have a couple pathways to run south to north on Donath East to meet up with the pathway running at the Northern End. This would encourage people to use these pathways.</p> | <p>A number of improvements are proposed at Donath and Dole Reserves in 2020-21.</p> <p>Works in 2020-21 provided for in the budget are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the footpath link from Lambassa Grove in Donath Reserve through to Cheddar Road and across to Dole Reserve. • A signalised crossing will be constructed to allow safe pedestrian and cycling access between the two reserves. • New planting and revegetation will be done as part of the Re-Wilding Darebin program. The Re-Wilding program will begin in earnest on the north-east corner of Dole Reserve. <p>The Donath & Dole Masterplan identifies the space between ovals 3 and 4 as 'informal open spaces – grassed areas that are informal to accommodate a variety of activities', to contrast with the more activated spaces with BBQs and shelters. The recent and planned improvements to the park in this location are in line with the master plan intent and therefore officers do not recommend adjusting the design in this area of the park.</p> <p>Over and above the funds proposed in the budget, the additional works identified in this budget submission would require additional funding of around \$250,000.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | Strathallan Golf Course | | |
| 41 41.1 48 | <p>Strathallan Open Space is held by La Trobe University, there remains the risk that at some future point in time, the land will again be subject to the threat of being earmarked by LTU for Residential Development rather than use of this land as an Open Space.</p> | <p>The Strathallan Open Space is expected to remain as public open space for future generations due to its the Public Park and Recreation zoning which provides the strongest available zoning control.</p> <p>With regard to Council having the capacity to acquire the land from La Trobe University, there are still a number of issues to resolve with regard to the land valuation of the main parcel of land at 100 Main Drive Bundoora with one of those issues being the figure of \$1.5M as that valuation is still to be reviewed and certified by the Valuer-General Victoria. The current valuation is significantly higher than \$1.5M.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | Clements Reserve | | |

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| 67 | <p>Purchase of three small but important pieces of land within Clements Reserve as part of the 2020-2021 Darebin budget process.</p> <p>The last Open Space valuation of the three small parcels of land within the reserve took place in 2015 and is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-11 McMahan Road, \$40,000 • Rear 32-34 Clements Grove, \$25,000 • Rear 22 Clements Grove, \$30,000 | <p>There is merit in considering acquisition of these sites, and progress towards consideration of this is provided for in the budget, however capital costs associated with this would be expected in future financial years and do not need to be provided for in this budget. The estimated cost of acquisition is higher than estimated in 2015 and is now estimated at \$1 million to \$2 million for all three sites.</p> <p>Strategically, we recommend that these sites stay as open space in the long run and that council work to ensure they are protected and their biodiversity value enhanced (through long term state government commitment and protections, or through acquisition). As such the sites have strategic merit for acquisition.</p> | <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | Penders Park | | |
| 57 | <p>Penders Park Playground and Toilets</p> <p>We strongly encourage Council to ensure that implementation of Stage 2 works incorporates refurbishment of the toilets to be clean and accessible for all abilities as a key priority of this project.</p> | <p>Penders Park is proposed in the budget to receive a large investment in open space improvements next year. The budget includes \$300K for stage 2 of the Penders Park All Abilities Playspace.</p> <p>Construction of changing places facilities across Darebin have been prioritised according to usage needs and Penders Park is not near the top of the list and therefore the budget does not include funding for the toilet block. An additional \$450k would be needed to upgrade the toilet block and include a full changing places facility.</p> <p>Improved maintenance on the existing toilet facilities has been agreed which will see more thorough cleaning, new toilet roll dispensers, assistance to the rough sleepers at the site, graffiti removal and the possibility of new flooring to improve the amenity of the toilets.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | Disc Golf Course | | |
| 65 | <p>Disc Golf Course Proposal for City of Darebin</p> <p>A sport much like ball golf played with flying discs or frisbees:</p> | <p>The recommendation is provided based on the request that Council consider a comprehensive report being prepared for the 3 August 2020 Council briefing, which includes examining the future strategies for greater activation of Northcote and Bundoora golf courses. Funding this specific initiative would be an ad-hoc decision without this broader strategic view.</p> | <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | Intercultural Centre | | |
| 20 | <p>Suggestions about moving Darebin Intercultural Centre (DIC) to the old town hall and areas near there, it seems to have disappeared in this budget. What happened to it being your flagship of multiculturalism?</p> | <p>The 2020-21 Budget includes an allocation of \$1M to the Preston Precent Project, including funding for the Intercultural Centre. The request has already been addressed in the budget. The submitter simply required clarification around it.</p> <p>Work on the relocation of the Intercultural Centre continues to progress. A request for tender is currently out to engage an architect for this project.</p> <p>A Community Reference Group is being established to guide and inform the concept design phase of the relocation project.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | Improvement of Oakhill Village area | | |
| 24 | <p>Improvement of Oakhill Village area of Preston (Tyler Street and Plenty Road).</p> <p>Key considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently used a dangerous cut through from Plenty Road to top of High Street. Cars speed around the corner of Tyler Street and is extremely dangerous and | <p>The 2020-21 Budget includes close to \$40K allocated for streetscape improvements to Tyler/Plenty to support activation in the area, but this doesn't include closing the road.</p> <p>Council has previously explored whether the road could be closed and a piazza created in this location in around 2014 and it wasn't feasible because the existing bus routes can't be readily re-routed. Officers would expect the same constraint to still exist and therefore don't expect that its likely a piazza could be created.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | <p>really takes away from everything that local businesses are trying to create.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buses turning from Oakhill Avenue to Tyler Street have to turn on on-coming traffic and there has been multiple times where cars have been backed back over Plenty road, extremely dangerous! Buses should use Walsal Avenue or one of the other clearer paths. Buses using this small, tight road, just is a bad decision. • Ambulances should not be using this road as a thoroughfare, speeding down a one-way street, with speed humps, past a primary school? Not a great idea, use Wood Street or another main road. • The locals and the area is crying out for a space like this, it will put the area on the map. • Think Yarraville piazza, tables, chairs, businesses opening up to serve patrons, 'outsiders' visiting the area, W Class tram to be key backdrop to the whole project, string lighting fixed from building to building! | <p>However, if it were feasible there are benefits from an urban design point of view. Therefore, officers will re-test the challenge regarding bus routes during 2020-21 including talking to the Department of Transport and the bus operators as part of the project that is budgeted to improve the streetscape in the area. If, in the unlikely event a road closure was found to be feasible, officers would then plan for changes in future years as part of future budget considerations.</p> | |
| | <p>Fairfield Village</p> | | |
| <p>56.1</p> | <p>There was considerable work undertaken to create the Fairfield Master Plan and it would appear minimal Action has been taken.</p> <p>We would like to see a definitive Action Plan developed so Council and the Traders Association is clear moving forward.</p> | <p>Fairfield Village is an important activity centre in Darebin and in 2020-21 the budget provides for officers to work with the Fairfield Traders Association in 20-21 as part of Council's Recovery Package which outlines support through the 'Back to our Mainstreets'.</p> <p>The budget also provides for cleaning, maintenance and support with economic development including through the active space activations in vacant properties.</p> <p>There have been a number of recent upgrades in the Fairfield Village area and further works are not planned in 2020-21.</p> <p>Council has recently delivered several upgrades based on the community priorities identified in 2018 during community engagement. These priorities were based on the ideas and thoughts shared by the Fairfield Village Community Reference Group, Fairfield Traders Association and broader community groups. Recent upgrades to Fairfield include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewal of Fairfield's much-loved FIDO – lights and sound upgrade • Changes to Fairfield parking restrictions to better support the needs of businesses, residents and visitors • Installation of bicycle racks • Installation of 18 new trees in Wingrove street and railway place • Replacement of walkway signage with contemporary new designs • New directional signage to the community centre, library and toilets • Installation of a drinking fountain and bottle refill station • Installation of recycling bins • Construction of pedestrian crossings at Wingrove and Gillies streets for improved mobility and safety • Changes to loading bays in Gillies street carpark to improve access • Installation of granitic gravel to replace lifted pavers for pedestrian safety and to support an established tree • Trial of one-way vehicle traffic during school hours on Fairfield road • New kerb extensions at Wingrove and Arthur streets to improve pedestrian safety • Upgrade to lighting in walkway entrances to remove pigeon roosting sites and increase the light admitted as well as provide energy efficient lighting. • Renewal current public art mosaics in the footpath at different locations in the centre • Renewal of planting across the activity centre | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | <p>Parking - Banff Street Reservoir</p> | | |

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| 43 | <p>Give Back Our Car Spaces at Banff Street Reservoir</p> <p>Residents, traders and shoppers call on Darebin Council to remove these rubbish traps in Banff Street and restore our car spaces so we can shop locally without these ugly hazards.</p> <p>A petition was attached to this submission.</p> | <p>Officers don't recommend removing the garden beds. These were introduced in 2019, but no car spaces were removed. 21 spaces remain. Officers will check maintenance of the garden beds and address any issues, within existing budgets.</p> <p>The spaces were re-line marked to use the small area at the end of the row of spaces on Banff Street for planting 2 trees. People may have informally parked in this narrow space at the end of the row of line marked spaces but, if that was the case they would have overlapped into the ROW access, which is not safe.</p> <p>The three small trees planted on Invermay Street are within the very wide area of concrete, not in the car parking area. As the works were only completed in late 2019, it is not recommended to revisit the site or change the works. Clearly there are some issues with maintenance which should be followed up, within existing budgets.</p> <p>Officers have increased the frequency of inspections at this local and are removing rubbish as it is found. In addition, the area is now on Council's regular open space and streetscape maintenance program and should any of the landscape need treatment or replacement planting during the year, it will be delivered.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | St Georges Road median | | |
| 31 | <p>In view of the Climate Emergency Council needs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> allocate sufficient resources to ensure that the new landscape in St Georges Road median north of Arthurton Road survives as in the designated Melbourne Water M40 Landscape Plan. This will entail a revised maintenance program appropriate to the new landscape allocate sufficient resources to ensure that the mature treed avenue south of Arthurton Road survives well. <p>We are concerned about the high proportion of plastics including cigarette butts and the likelihood that they end up in the ocean via the stormwater system and the creek.</p> <p>Council needs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> press Public Transport Victoria to add litter bins and cigarette disposal bins at tram stops in St Georges Road median install bins in the median itself install bins in the footpath adjacent to every tram stop <p>In addition to the specific needs of St Georges Road median, Council needs to maintain and increase the number of trees in Darebin for carbon drawdown purposes, and to provide shade and thermal comfort for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users.</p> | <p>Council is committed to ensuring that the new landscape in St Georges Road median north of Arthurton Road survives as in the designated Melbourne Water M40 Landscape Plan and that the mature treed avenue south of Arthurton Road survives well. These activities will be managed from existing budgets in the 2020-21 financial year. Officers are currently undertaking some strategic analysis of service delivery across the parks and open space network which may result in a request for additional funding in subsequent years.</p> <p>Council will write to PTV to request the addition of litter bins and cigarette disposal bins at tram stops in St Georges Road median and at each tram stop.</p> <p>Council cannot install its own bins on these sites as Council is not the landowner.</p> <p>A meeting with local residents was scheduled for 8 July 2020 to explore what works, particularly south of Arthurton Rd, may be required in 20/21 and which can be accommodated within existing budgets. Residents and officers will begin discussions on any more significant capital investment that may be required in future years.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | Climate Emergency (incl Solar Savers) | | |
| 29 | <p>I was not able to see the Solar Saver Program within the new budget. Please would you consider adding it back in. The program is so important to addressing a range of issues including our climate crisis.</p> | <p>The 2020-21 Budget includes \$1.35M towards the Solar Saver program and is planned to prioritise low income households. It also includes offering a Bulk Buy program which is available to all households and businesses in Darebin.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| 62 | <p>DCAN would like to see a Climate Emergency lens more visible and integrated across all Council programs in this and future Council plans and Budgets. DCAN would like to see a</p> | <p>Council shares the goals of this submission although the submission generally seeks that council further accelerate work towards these goals.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> |

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| | <p>specific funding allocation for Climate Emergency work, so it can be more easily tracked and measured by the community. Initiatives.</p> <p>DCAN supports the Climate Emergency initiatives listed under the section: <i>A Sustainable City</i>. In the longer description of the Sustainable City Strategic Objective (page 11), there are only brief details on what those innovation projects will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Environment and natural resources: The Climate Emergency Plan (CEP); Natural Heritage Strategy; Sustainable Water Strategy; Sustainable Water Use Plan; Urban Forest Plan; and Waste Management Plan. •Open spaces, parks and natural environment: with maintenance of existing assets the focus. •Sustainable transport •Waste management <p>Similarly, there are only brief details given on what will be involved in the proposed Major and "Other" Initiatives under the Sustainable City Objective, namely:</p> <p>Major Initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Working with Climate Emergency Darebin (CED). •Dramatically improving walking and cycling infrastructure. •Working with Council's Nature Trust to create more open space. •Increasing our tree canopy cover and urban forest. <p>Other Initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Developing stage 1 of a Biodiversity Plan. •Beginning work on a Local Government Power Purchase Agreement for Darebin and other Victorian Councils. •Implementing the CEP with a focus on local community mobilization and advocacy work. <p><u>Solar Savers Program</u></p> <p>Council's and the State Government's programs, DCAN is proposing that next year's Budget have a focus on accelerating local businesses' uptake of solar generation. DCAN also proposes that the Council's program should shift to supporting low income households securing the benefits of solar power.</p> <p>DCAN supports the biodiversity "Rewilding" work that redeployed staff have been carrying out under Council's COVID-19 response and supports additional trees being planted under the Urban Forest program.</p> <p>Council could update its CEP plan in the next financial year to develop an equivalent plan to Moreland Council's. DCAN recommends that this be specifically mentioned as an Initiative in the final Budget for 2020/21.</p> <p>DCAN recommends that Darebin Council includes funding for the adoption or development of a calculator of Darebin LGA carbon emissions in the Budget for 2020/21 and begins annual public reporting on them by end of December 2020.</p> | <p>Council's budget includes several substantial programs to support community to act on climate and to address the climate emergency. These include Council's solar saver program, community education and mobilisation programs.</p> <p>There are a number of requests and actions in the submission. They have been addressed specifically below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>More visible CE lens and integrated across all Council programs. Specific funding allocated to CE work so it can be more easily measured and tracked by community.</i> <p>The budget includes a specific allocation for climate emergency of \$3.835 million over the 20/21 financial year. This is split between: Climate Emergency Strategy including delivery of the Power Purchasing Agreement, Climate Emergency mobilisation and the Solar Saver program.</p> <p>Many of Council's programs also embed Climate Emergency work, for example, the Cycling Program, and the building renewal program which incorporated energy efficiency.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. <i>Would hope that work on Local Government Power Purchasing Agreement was further progressed than implied by "Beginning".</i> <p>The PPA project is provided for in the 2020-21 budget. We expect tendering and selection of a provider to be completed in 2020-21 and the contract would begin.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. <i>Given that Council's target of doubling solar capacity is close to being achieved through the contribution of both the Council's and the State Government's programs, DCAN is proposing that next year's Budget have a focus on accelerating local businesses' uptake of solar generation. DCAN also proposes that the Council's program should shift to supporting low income households securing the benefits of solar power.</i> <p>The budget provides for funding of the Solar Saver program in 2020-2021, which focuses the 2020-21 Solar Saver Special Charge program on low income households only. The Special Charge program is not planned to include businesses.</p> <p>Council has launched a new Solar Saver Bulk Buy program to help other households and businesses and this is provided for in the 2020-21 budget.</p> <p>Supporting the community to save on energy bills, help local economic recovery and continue to address the climate emergency through education and mobilisation is provided for in the budget.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. <i>DCAN believes that Darebin maintaining a leadership position on the climate emergency is very important, and strongly supports funding for this advocacy work in next year's Budget.</i> <p>The budget provides for a range of advocacy work including at a community level, which will be kick-started with the green recovery forum series in July 2020. As a founding member of the Climate Emergency Australia network, Darebin will be working with other councils nationally to advocate to State and Federal governments.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <i>Council could update its CEP plan in the next financial year to develop an equivalent plan to Moreland Council's. DCAN recommends that this be specifically mentioned as an Initiative in the final Budget for 2020/21.</i> <p>This is provided for in the budget. With Darebin's current CE plan expiring in 2021, Council will start the review process of the existing CE plan in 20/21.</p> | <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | <p>DCAN also recommends the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An acceleration in the purchase of Electric Vehicles • The resourcing of all libraries to create dedicated areas (both onsite and online) for Climate Emergency resources and books. • The creation of a dedicated 'shop front' which could support the provision of information about the Climate Emergency to the community and a meeting space for climate action and environment groups. | <p>6. <i>DCAN would like to see the inclusion of the development of an equivalent initiative (Yarra's decarbonisation plan) to the City of Yarra's in the final Budget for 2020/21.</i></p> <p>The budget provides for review of the existing Climate Emergency Plan in 20/21 and this recommendation will be referred to the review team.</p> <p>7. <i>DCAN recommends that Darebin Council includes funding for the adoption or development of a calculator of Darebin LGA carbon emissions in the Budget for 2020/21 and begins annual public reporting on them by end of December 2020.</i></p> <p>Darebin has access to this information and no additional funds are needed. An LGA-based emissions calculator has already been developed and published online for no cost by Snapshot (managed by Beyond Zero Emissions) which includes Darebin. As noted on the snapshot website, updated figures will be calculated and published in the 2020/21 period.</p> <p>8. <i>An acceleration in the purchase of Electric Vehicles.</i></p> <p>The budget provides for progressive increase in the proportion of electric vehicles as fleet is replaced</p> <p>9. <i>The resourcing of all libraries to create dedicated areas (both onsite and online) for Climate Emergency resources and books;</i></p> <p>Councils libraries include a range of resources, events and activities including on climate topics. The approach currently taken is to integrate these with other programming with the aim of reaching wider audiences but officers will discuss this further with DCAN.</p> <p>10. <i>The creation of a dedicated 'shop front' which could support the provision of information about the Climate Emergency to the community and a meeting space for climate action and environment groups.</i></p> <p>While the budget doesn't include a dedicated shopfront, in regard to meeting spaces, Council has a range of bookable meeting spaces available across the City, although many are currently closed due to COVID19. Community groups can access grants to help with venue hire fees and community groups can access a range of informal meeting spaces both indoor and outdoor.</p> | |
| 37 | <p>1) That a "shop front" with meeting rooms be provided to environmental and related groups to assist community action on climate emergency and biodiversity. This should be staffed by a council officer and provide free, bookable meeting space for groups.</p> <p>2) That all major Council projects/developments include at least 2 electric car charging spots and that an electric car charging spot be planned for at all Council facilities. These should be on 100% renewable energy and be "fast charging". Also, that any new residential and commercial developments in Darebin be encouraged by council to put in electric vehicle charging spots.</p> | <p>Council's budget includes several substantial programs to support community to act on climate and to address the climate emergency. These include Council's solar saver program, community education and mobilisation programs.</p> <p>1) While the budget doesn't include a dedicated shopfront, in regard to meeting spaces, Council has a range of bookable meeting spaces available across the City, although many are currently closed due to COVID19. Community groups can access grants to help with venue hire fees and community groups can access a range of informal meeting spaces both indoor and outdoor.</p> <p>2) The budget provides for electric vehicle charging generally in line with the submission. Council has installed a number of electric vehicle-charging stations and is incorporating these into major projects. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Multi Sports Stadium (MSS) will include approximately 10 EV charging points, solar PV and will be Green Star certified. • The Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre will include EV charging infrastructure, solar PV and will be Green Star certified. | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget. Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | 3) That an advisory service be provided for residents to direct them to resources to reduce energy usage/reduce energy bills and also to advise on replacement of equipment such as gas hot water systems when they fail. | <p>Council is more limited in what it can require of developments as it operates within the State governments Planning scheme, however all new residential and commercial developments are encouraged to install EV charging infrastructure, and many do so, and Council has been advocating for stronger provisions in the planning scheme to the State Government. This work is provided for in the budget.</p> <p>3) For residents seeking advice on energy, Council has provided in the budget to put residents in touch with a range of high-quality government and community resources that provide excellent advice, but is not planning to create a specific advisory service.</p> | |
| | Preventing waterway pollution and litter. | | |
| 32 | <p>I don't think enough emphasis is given to preventing pollution and litter entering our waterways.</p> <p>What concrete measures are being put in place to upgrade storm water systems with litter traps?</p> <p>How is the Darebin council working with Melbourne water to remove litter and debris from the Darebin creek and other waterways?</p> <p>What concrete pathways are being measured to plant more trees?</p> <p>What are the results?</p> | <p>Council has a strategic plan to build more litter traps in the municipality, generally at a rate of 1-2 per year where the need is greatest. The parks team frequently remove litter from creeks and intend to write to Melbourne Water seeking further investment and assistance.</p> <p>Council's rewilding program will see a doubling of Council's typical street tree planting efforts in the 2020-21 financial year and Council's newly established rewilding program will seek to plant approximately 100,000 new trees and plants in open spaces.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | Bridges | | |
| 42 | <p>Two steel foot bridges over Darebin Creek urgently needed one at Gronn Street and the other at Clough Parade in the 2020-2021 Budget.</p> <p>These shared bridges have been in the Bundoora Park masterplan since 2013 and are urgently needed to replace the very dangerous crossing points being used to cross to Bundoora Park.</p> <p>A petition was attached to this submission.</p> | <p>These bridges have been identified as needed in the long run and are shown in the Bundoora Park Master Plan. Council supports their construction, however, considering Council's priorities and need across the City, they have not been assessed as priorities for construction in the ten-year plan for roads and bridges.</p> <p>The Bundoora Park Master Plan proposed sites for 4 bridges and one of these bridges has now been constructed at Rathcown Road.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |
| | Safe travel Cycling Infrastructure Road safety improvements | | |
| 33.1 | <p>Dangerous on-road bike paths need be given a safety treatment. As an example, Copenhagen style lanes on Westgarth Street which supports hundreds of dangerous trips per day. Victoria Street is another good example.</p> | <p>Council supports the proposed projects and has long term plans for these as outlined in Council's Streets for People corridors and State Government's Strategic Cycling Corridor network, which Council has endorsed.</p> <p>At its 29 June Council meeting Council decided to advocate for a temporary bike lane on Westgarth St, and three other State Government managed roads, and decided to progress work on temporary bike lanes on Council roads in the following locations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Install temporary bike lane at South Crescent (in sections between Victoria Road and Westgarth Street); 2. Install temporary bike lane at Cramer St between St Georges Road and Gilbert Road; and 3. Investigate temporary bike lane in further locations, including High Street between Westgarth Street and Darebin Road and Normanby Avenue to Dundas Street | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | | <p>Council decided to advocate for the following temporary protected bicycle lanes along key cycling corridors to be implemented by the Victorian State Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Heidelberg Road between Ivanhoe and Clifton Hill b) Westgarth Street between South Crescent and Rucker Street c) Station Street between Darebin Road and Railway Place d) St Georges Road between Merri Parade and Fitzroy North. <p>Victoria Road is not one of the locations currently planned for temporary installation, although a connection to Victoria Road, on South Crescent between Victoria Road and Westgarth Street is planned. The cost of temporary installation in Victoria Road would be around \$280,000.</p> <p>Permanent lanes are not proposed in the 2020-21 budget and would need to be considered in future years. To separate bikes permanently along Victoria road, a total budget would be required of around \$1.45 million over three years. The first year would be consultation, survey and design at \$150,000.</p> <p>In total Council's budget includes a cycling infrastructure improvement program to the total value of \$500,000.</p> | |
| 50 | <p>Reduced speed limit for residential streets. Investment needs to be made so, working with DoT, there is reallocation of space for walking and cycling on the high streets. These measures are important for health and so high streets are revitalised, with more space for on-street dining, walking, bicycle parking and protected bicycle lanes.</p> <p>Darebin to report on the walking and cycling infrastructure budget allocation as a per person figure, for benchmarking and to highlight its commitment to healthier, more equitable and liveable communities. Working towards aspirational figure of Dutch or Danish investment, \$20 per resident is suggested.</p> <p>Darebin is supposed to be a child friendly city (CFC), but there is no specific budget and infrastructure for projects focussed on enabling children to walk and cycle independently and the lack of routes and key gaps.</p> <p>Specific budget allocation for Child Friendly City Streets, focussed on implementing wombat or raised priority path crossings or signalised crossings, and safe, inclusive cycling routes to playgrounds and high schools. Current school travel infrastructure is generally focussed on immediate school zones and children often travel farther to high school and more high school children are looking to cycle independently. There needs to be specific budget for addressing the mixing links to routes such as the St Georges Rd path, so more children can cycle to schools such as Northcote High School. For example, east west connections are lacking:</p> <p>-the Christmas St shimmy route involves crossing the High St with an unprotected intersection and travelling eastbound, crossing four lanes of High St, doing a right turn. Once at St</p> | <p>Council shares the goals of this submission, however overall, the submission seeks that Council goes further and accelerates work compared to the cycling program and streetscape improvements proposed in Council's budget. As this is a detailed submission with lots of suggestions, some of them are provided for in the budget in part and others are not.</p> <p>Each request is addressed separately below.</p> <p><u>Support new needs for walking and cycling during COVID 19</u></p> <p>Council considered this at its meeting on 29 June and decided to take a range of measures to support community. This included progressing work on temporary bike lanes on Council roads in the following locations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Install temporary bike lane at South Crescent (in sections between Victoria Road and Westgarth Street); 2. Install temporary bike lane at Cramer St between St Georges Road and Gilbert Road; and 3. Investigate temporary bike lane in further locations, including High Street between Westgarth Street and Darebin Road and Normanby Avenue to Dundas Street <p>And, advocating for the following temporary protected bicycle lanes along key cycling corridors to be implemented by the Victorian State Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Heidelberg Road between Ivanhoe and Clifton Hill b) Westgarth Street between South Crescent and Rucker Street c) Station Street between Darebin Road and Railway Place d) St Georges Road between Merri Parade and Fitzroy North. <p><u>Create child friendly streets</u></p> <p>In addition to work to reduce speed in variation locations (see below). Council has three programs that contribute to improving safety for children, often by reducing speed through raised crossings and other measures, and by addressing missing links. These have had a particular focus on safety near schools and over the last 5 plus years have made a significant difference in safety, however there is more work to do and it is planned to continue throughout the 10-year capital plan.</p> <p>Currently works are being prioritised in areas we understand are most in need. These areas include along Darebin's strategic cycling and streets for people corridors. In 2020-21 works planned are:</p> <p>The Cycling program (\$500,000)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bracken Avenue (signs and lines) • Dundas St (line-marking) • Preston activity link (various treatments) | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | <p>Georges Rd, there is no signalised intersection to connect to the path.</p> <p>-Separation St has narrow bicycle lanes and no protected intersections at High St or St Georges Rd. Clarendon St-Normanby Avenue is also terrifying for children and all but very confident cyclists.</p> <p>- Similarly, from the west of St Georges Rd, there are signalised pedestrian crossings but in addition to being poorly designed to enable children to cycle the connections, adults and older children cannot legally use them and are again left with unprotected intersection connections.</p> <p>-On the routes themselves, Darebin needs to commit to funding the design of safe, inclusive routes i.e. protected bicycle lanes or reducing speed limits to a Safe System Speed.</p> <p>Specific budget allocation for pilot active travel corridor and bicycle street on Wales St</p> <p>Wales St is a desirable walking and cycling route to playgrounds, Northcote Plaza and community facilities, and various schools. Yet it, and adjacent perpendicular streets, are rat runs. Budget to design and implement filtered permeability so rat running, car traffic volumes reduced, so it can be a 'bicycle street'. Redesign of key dangerous intersections, such as Clarendon St-Wales St, so there are wombat crossings and safer conditions for people cycling.</p> <p>Specific budget allocation to re-do the Thornbury LATM report by O'Brien Traffic (CLARENDON LOCAL AREA TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT STUDY), which contains many engineering errors and recommendations that will deliver poor outcomes, especially in terms of inclusive, safe infrastructure.</p> <p>The report does not align with safe system thinking, has superseded advice (such as the need for warrants for zebra/wombat crossings) and recommended treatments sometimes involve unnecessary re-work of existing infrastructure.</p> <p>The recommended treatments are not only often wrong but are unimaginative (lack consideration of all the level of service requirements for cycling and walking) and are not delivering on the 'streets for people' idea.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various locations minor safety and bike parking <p>The Safe Travel program (\$350,000), projects to be constructed in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheddar Road local area • Northcote local area • Croxton West local area <p>The Walking program (\$500,000), projects to be constructed are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olive St/ Edwards St, Reservoir (raised threshold); • Cheddar / Dole Avenue (signals) • Pram ramps at Preston Polytechnic <p>The specific suggestions and locations identified by the submission have merit but are not assessed as highest priority for 2020/21. They have been referred for consideration and prioritisation as part of Council's forward program.</p> <p>The suggestion of Wales St becoming a area with filtered permeability to create a safer neighbourhood and bicycle street has merit, but has not been assessed as highest priority for 2020-21. This would be a three-year process with the first year being consultation and functional design at a cost of around \$50,000. Officers have referred it for prioritisation and consideration in future years.</p> <p>The budget does not include re-doing the Clarendon Local Area Traffic Management Study. Every few years we review a local area so that we ensure we progressively review the entire City over time. This area is not scheduled for review in 2020-21 as there are other areas with high priority.</p> <p><u>Reduced speeds for residential streets are provided for the in the budget in part.</u></p> <p>This suggestion aligns with our Safe Travel Strategy and we are currently waiting for the Department of Transport to authorise 4 applications to reduce speeds. The work program for changing speeds includes the conversion of residential streets south of Dundas Street to be converted to 40km/h by the end of 2020/21.</p> <p>To have all residential street converted as the submission requests would require both detailed technical work and sustained advocacy to the state government at an estimated cost of \$400K in 2020-21. It is likely this would need to be done over 2 years or longer.</p> <p><u>Reallocation for walking and riding in activity centres including High Street and more space for on-street dining.</u></p> <p>At its meeting of 29 June 2020, Council decided to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigate temporary bike lane in further locations, including High Street between Westgarth Street and Darebin Road and Normanby Avenue to Dundas Street, and • trial use of road spaces for footpath trading in up to 5 locations. | |
| 54 | <p>Safe pedestrian connections to schools in Alphington</p> <p>My particular concern is the safety of the intersection of Heidelberg Rd and Yarralea St.</p> <p>Darebin's <i>Walking Strategy 2018-2028</i> looks specifically at Outcomes for Schools: "Pedestrian routes and accessibility around schools will be considered as part of specific audits and safety programs."</p> | <p>1) The safety assessment will be completed in 2020-21 within the operating budget and will be coordinated with officers from Yarra City Council and representatives from the Department of Transport to identify road safety initiatives.</p> <p>Depending on the recommendations from the assessment, Council would then consider how to implement them. Some may be able to be implemented quickly within operating budgets (such as</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | <p>I would ask that provision be made in this budget for such an audit of the intersection of Heidelberg Rd and Yarralea St.</p> <p>The intersection forms part of the access route to and from Alphington P.S, Alphington Grammar, Yarralea Kindergarten and the local childcare centre in Como St. It is also part of the access route to and from Alphington train and bus stations for students attending schools in Ivanhoe, Northcote and Kew.</p> <p>At school drop-off and pick-up times, the intersection is highly congested, which highlights the deficiencies in the road design. This period of congestion leads to impatient, and frequently dangerous, driving.</p> <p>Pavements are narrow – the presence of Armaguard rails on the north-west corner of Yarralea St points to the need to protect pedestrians from vehicles mounting the kerb to gain space to turn left into Heidelberg Rd. The restricted pavement area around the pedestrian lights does not provide a safe space for groups of children waiting to cross There is no speed limit reduction in place.</p> <p>Ideally, this audit would be conducted in conjunction with Yarra City Council and could provide a basis for advocating to VicRoads for an upgrade to the intersection, making use of the existing PAO's on either side of Heidelberg Road.</p> | <p>signage), others may require advocacy to the advocacy to State Government or would be referred for consideration for construction funding in future years budgets.</p> | |
| 58 | <p>My comments concern investment in bicycle infrastructure, particularly safer roads for cyclists.</p> <p>An area which badly needs investment is the trail up from the main Darebin trail to Bundoora Park and Reservoir. Imagine Bundoora Park with great bike trails you could take a kid on like Ruffy Lake Park in Manningham.</p> <p>We need to see more dollars spent on intersections and making bike passage safe - this goes for almost every major intersection on High Street.</p> | <p>Council shares the goals outlined in this submission and has proposed work in the budget towards these goals, but continued investment will be needed to ultimately achieve the outcomes being sought. Overall this submission is seeking that Council accelerate its work to improve cycling infrastructure.</p> <p>Council's budget includes a cycling program of \$500,000 which along with Council's safe travel program has progressively been improving cycling and safety on roads for cyclists over the last 5 plus years. Council actively seeks grant opportunities where possible to ensure in can make these improvements as fast as possible.</p> <p>At its 29 June Council meeting Council decided to advocate for temporary bike lanes on four State Government managed roads, and decided to progress work on temporary bike lanes on Council roads in the following locations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Install temporary bike lane at South Crescent (in sections between Victoria Road and Westgarth Street); 2. Install temporary bike lane at Cramer St between St Georges Road and Gilbert Road; and 3. Investigate temporary bike lane in further locations, including High Street between Westgarth Street and Darebin Road and Normanby Avenue to Dundas Street <p>Council also decided to advocate for the following temporary protected bicycle lanes along key cycling corridors to be implemented by the Victorian State Government:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> e) Heidelberg Road between Ivanhoe and Clifton Hill f) Westgarth Street between South Crescent and Rucker Street g) Station Street between Darebin Road and Railway Place h) St Georges Road between Merri Parade and Fitzroy North. <p>In regard to the specific suggestions they have merit and are factored into council's forward programs, although it will take ongoing investment over many years to upgrade infrastructure in all the locations identified. Trail improvements from the main Darebin trail to Bundoora Park and Reservoir align with</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | | <p>routes identified in our cycling strategy. Intersection improvement and making bike passage safe is important for many intersections.</p> <p>Council is working on improving the safety of our entire road network with a focus on the most dangerous locations. We understand there are still challenges including along High Street, which forms part of the strategic cycling network of Darebin.</p> | |
| 64 | Improvements to road and transport infrastructure around Thornbury Primary School to increase safety and sustainable travel | <p>An application has been made to extend the 40km/h speed limit around the school to include all of the local streets from St Georges Road, High Street and Normanby Avenue. We are waiting for agreement to proceed from the Department of Transport and hope to progress with this change in the coming financial year of 2020-21.</p> <p>The budget for 2020-21 does not include infrastructure improvements in this area as other areas have been assessed as higher priority for the year ahead. Council has an annual program to improve safe travel which over the last five years has significantly improved safety near schools. Further improvements are planned every year over the next ten years.</p> <p>There are identified safety improvements that could be delivered near Thornbury Primary School. For example, the intersections of Rayment Street and Clapham Street (north and south) with Hutton Street could all be improved for walking wheeling and riding access to the school. To construct safety changes at the intersections of Rayment Street and Clapham Street (north and south) with Hutton Street is likely to cost \$75,000 at each location. A total of \$ 225,000, which is based on previous similar types of intersection safety treatments.</p> | Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21. |
| | Melbourne Farmers Market Melbourne Innovation Centre | | |
| 39 46 to 46.5 52 60 61 | <p>Infrastructure improvements to the Melbourne Farmers Market site, Melbourne Innovation Centre Here is our wish list:</p> <p>(1) Suitable ground cover is needed across entire open space, approximately 2500sqm with material such as recycled crushed concrete. \$50,000 + GST</p> <p>(2) Create a separate pedestrian entrance from Wingrove Street, away from the vehicle access road Two separate entrances are a necessary safety improvement here. \$10,000 + GST</p> <p>(3) Disability toilet cube (balance of funds already granted in Darebin City Council Community Grants) \$20,000 + GST</p> <p>(4) Seedling propagation greenhouse and outdoor workshop classroom – First Nations Food Foundation. \$35,000 +GST</p> <p>(5) Solar power/electricity bank will help to ensure financial sustainability of MFM into the future. \$20,000 + GST</p> <p>(6) Central, above ground shade structures for community event space and pergolas shading attached to buildings. \$50,000 + GST TOTAL REQUESTED \$185,000.00 + GST</p> | <p>The Farmers Market plays a valuable role in the Alphington area and Council has a long history of supporting the Melbourne Innovation Centre and the Farmers Market. Council currently provides significant support for it by providing its land at peppercorn rent and through its working relationships with Melbourne Innovation Centre.</p> <p>Officers have assessed all initiatives proposed as having merit, with the priority for funding being the disabled toilet, with the estimated cost (as determined by Council officers) in the order of \$50k for a modular toilet option which is more than the \$20k (plus GST) as submitted. In the meantime, we are working with the Melbourne Farmer's Market to ensure access to facilities at Alphington Community Centre and provide additional signage.</p> <p>Council could consider referring other proposals detailed in the submission to Council's substantial community grants program which includes grants for social enterprise and to environmental initiatives. In regard to the renewable energy request (number 5), generally officers expect investing in solar power to be financially beneficial to an organisation and therefore we would expect financing options to be available. Therefore, we don't recommend that Council fund installation of solar panels. Council could refer this request to its Solar Saver Bulk Buy Program and officers could work with MIC to explore their options.</p> <p>Council has previously funded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$20,000 initial site works (co-funded by MIC and MFM); • \$30,000 to develop a business plan; • \$37,000 to upgrade power and water in order to assist with the establishment of a commercial kitchen on the site between 2018-2020. • The improvement of the bike track alongside MIC and additional bike racks for MFM have been provided, along with project management support and facilitation of permits/costs associated with Council requirements. • Melbourne Farmers Market was a successful Social Enterprise grant recipient of \$7,500 in early 2020 to position an all abilities toilet on the site. In the grant submission the total budget for the initiative would be \$21k (\$18k for all equipment and \$3500 for trades installers), this was to be | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |

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| | | made up of: \$10k Darebin grant (\$2,500 shortfall); \$3k Other unconfirmed grants/ funding; \$5k MFH contribution; \$3.5k volunteer hours. | |
| | Northern Darebin Creek Parklands Fund | | |
| 44 | Residents call on Darebin Council to urgently work with police to make our Parklands safe and create a 'Northern Darebin Creek Parklands Fund' in the 2020 budget to fix broken fencing to keep motor bike hooners out, and fund park rangers, expanded plantings, more seats, toilets, water fountains, shelters, BBQs, exercise and kids play equipment, and safer and better linked walking trails for Darebin Creek in Bundoora, Reservoir & Kingsbury. A petition was attached to this submission. | Council has made a significant investment into the Darebin Creek catchment in its draft 20/21 budget. This includes funding for the Darebin Creek Management Committee which delivers improvements to the catchment and with a particular focus on the Darebin Creek Parklands. In addition, Council's bushland team manages the northern part of the catchment through planting, weed management, biodiversity management, pathway management, and other asset management activities. In 2020-21, Council hopes to conclude its parks & open space asset management data collection and development of a levels of service framework to help inform investment decisions in parks and open spaces across the municipality. Council will be asked to make decisions about further investments (over and above its significant investment in the past few years) in water fountains, BBQs, exercise and play equipment, shelters and walking trails once the framework is finished. In the meantime, Council will repair broken fences and install seats and benches and continue its rewilding efforts, which in 19/20 included close to 10,000 trees, shrubs and grasses planted. | Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget. Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21. |
| | The Bridge Food Waste | | |
| 47 | Bridge Darebin is seeking Council support to purchase the E55M model which has the capacity to convert 33-55kg of food waste per day into fertiliser pellets. | The proposal has merit in regard to what it would be expected to achieve in terms of food waste recycling, however it is generally beyond Council's core role and should be weighed with other priorities across the City. Council could also consider referring these proposals to Council's substantial community grants program which includes grants for social enterprise and to support environmental initiatives amongst other things. The following financial support is provided to the Bridge: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operational funding: FY20 - \$102k; FY21 - \$104.44k Program delivery: FY20 - \$40k; FY21 - \$40.8K Moon Rabbit Van \$44,250 Resilience and recovery package 2019/20: Individual business grant - E-commerce Stream - \$3k and Emergency relief boost –COVI19 Food Relief Response - \$9k. Darebin Grants Program 2019/20: Celebrating TTT Students and End of Year Party - \$900. | Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21. |
| | Heidelberg Road Corridor structure plan | | |
| 54 | Heidelberg Road Corridor structure plan Provision was made in the previous budget for a scoping study. I am hoping that the further work outlined by Council on its website – the establishment of a Built Form Framework, and a subsequent community consultation process- will also be provided for in this budget. | The built form and land use review of the Heidelberg Road Corridor is well underway. Provision has been made to continue this work in the 2020-21 financial year to finalise planning scheme amendment documents and begin the planning scheme amendment process. Community consultation will be also part of the activities in 2020-21. This is a multi-year project – planning scheme amendments typically take 12 - 18 months to complete and are dependent on a number of external factors including the State Government's timeframes for authorisation. | Already funded in budget and additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21. |
| | Bins, seating and outdoor gym equipment | | |
| 55 | The lack of bins, seating areas and outdoor gym equipment in East Reservoir. | Seats and benches are planned to be installed in CH Memorial Park in 2020/21 which will deliver on commitments made in the Age Friendly Darebin policy. | Already funded in budget and additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21. |

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| | | The 20-21 capital works program includes outdoor gym equipment in Northcote (as part of the Open Space Improvement Program) but none in East Reservoir. Further investment in outdoor gyms will be considered as asset management data collection and planning is completed in 20-21. | |
| | Merri Outreach Support Service | | |
| 59 | <p>Merri Outreach Support Service - Darebin Assertive Community Outreach Program Brokerage</p> <p>We are requesting for Brokerage funds of \$10,000 to assist the DACO clients to maintain and secure housing, removalist and storage costs, assistance with purchasing medication, transport, food, clothing etc</p> | <p>The submission provides detail of the purpose and need for funding to complement the existing funded Darebin Assertive Outreach Service (DACO) considering the impacts of COVID19. Council funds the DACO program under a two-year agreement. The program has been implemented since January 2020 and has had a positive impact and provided housing outcomes and other supports for rough sleepers across Darebin.</p> <p>The submission could be referred to the 2020/21 COVID19 Resilience and Recovery Package community grants.</p> | Funding has been allocated from existing operational budget. |
| | Alfred Nuttall Memorial kindergarten | | |
| 66 | This submission is for Darebin Council to undertake works to 34 Separation St, Fairfield, building an extension to the Alfred Nuttall Memorial kindergarten office. | <p>Council is developing a draft City of Darebin Early Years Infrastructure Plan 2020 – 2036 (to be completed by December 2020), which will provide a demand and supply assessment of early years services, including kindergartens, over the next 16 years; taking into consideration population growth and the roll out of funded three year-old kindergarten (commencing 2022).</p> <p>Council will be in a better position to decide where to invest its resources to meet current and future demand for kindergarten once this Plan has been finalised.</p> <p>Alfred Nuttall Kindergarten's existing building condition and layout, and its capacity to meet the future needs of children and families is being considered as part of the development of the draft Early Years Infrastructure Plan along with all other kindergartens operating from Council buildings.</p> <p>Note: Alfred Nuttall Kindergarten is receiving external painting, gutter cleaning and a full lighting upgrade inside and out to LED works during the upcoming school holidays as part of the minor building works stimulus package at a cost to Council of \$6K plus project management costs.</p> | <p>Work aligned to this goal is already provided in the budget.</p> <p>Additional funding for this submission not recommended for support in 2020-21.</p> |