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AGENDA

Hearing of Submissions Committee Meeting to be held in the Preston Town Hall, 284 Gower Street Preston on Wednesday, 19 May 2021 at 6.00pm.

This meeting will be open to the public in line with current health restrictions. The number of people in the public gallery will be restricted to ensure attendees can social distance. Where social distancing cannot be achieved the wearing of masks is recommended. This meeting will also be livestreamed and may be accessed from Council's website www.darebin.vic.gov.au.



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

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

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

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

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



English

These are the Minutes for the Council Meeting. For assistance with any of the items in the minutes, please telephone 8470 8888.

Arabic

هذه هي محاضر اجتماع المجلس. للحصول على المساعدة في أي من البنود في المحاضر، يرجى الاتصال بالهاتف 8470 8888.

Chinese

这些是市议会会议纪要。如需协助了解任何纪要项目，请致电8470 8888。

Greek

Αυτά είναι τα Πρακτικά της συνεδρίασης του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου. Για βοήθεια με οποιαδήποτε θέματα στα πρακτικά, παρακαλείστε να καλέσετε το 8470 8888.

Hindi

ये काउंसिल की बैठक का सारांश है। सारांश के किसी भी आइटम में सहायता के लिए, कृपया 8470 8888 पर टेलीफोन करें।

Italian

Questo è il verbale della riunione del Comune. Per assistenza con qualsiasi punto del verbale, si prega di chiamare il numero 8470 8888.

Macedonian

Ова е Записникот од состанокот на Општинскиот одбор. За помош во врска со која и да било точка од записникот, ве молиме телефонирајте на 8470 8888.

Nepali

यी परिषद्को बैठकका माइन्युटहरू हुन्। माइन्युटका कुनै पनि वस्तुसम्बन्धी सहायताका लागि कृपया 8470 8888 मा कल गर्नुहोस्।

Punjabi

ਇਹ ਵੈੱਸਲ ਦੀ ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਹੈ। ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਵਿਚਲੀਆਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਆਈਟਮਾਂ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਵਾਸਤੇ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 8470 8888 ਨੂੰ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Somali

Kuwaani waa qodobadii lagaga wada hadlay Fadhiga Golaha. Caawimada mid kasta oo ka mid ah qodobada laga wada hadlay, fadlan la xiriiir 8470 8888.

Spanish

Estas son las Actas de la Reunión del Concejo. Para recibir ayuda acerca de algún tema de las actas, llame al teléfono 8470 8888.

Urdu

یہ کاؤنسل کی میٹنگ کا ایجنڈا ہے۔ ایجنڈے کے کسی بھی حصے کے بارے میں مدد کے لیے براہ مہربانی 8470 8888 پر فون کریں۔

Vietnamese

Đây là những Biên bản Họp Hội đồng Thành phố. Muốn có người trợ giúp mình về bất kỳ mục nào trong biên bản họp, xin quý vị gọi điện thoại số 8470 8888.

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Agenda

1. MEMBERSHIP

Cr. Lina Messina (Mayor) (Chairperson)

Cr. Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor)

Cr. Emily Dimitriadis

Cr. Tom Hannan

Cr. Tim Laurence

Cr. Trent McCarthy

Cr. Susanne Newton

Cr. Susan Rennie

Cr. Julie Williams

2. APOLOGIES

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

4. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

4.1 2021-2025 COUNCIL PLAN (INCORPORATING MUNICIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN) PRIORITIES

Author: Manager Governance & Corporate Strategy

Reviewed By: Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its meeting on 8 April 2021, Council resolved to give public notice of its intention to adopt the draft 2021-2025 Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) at a meeting of Council to be held on 28 June 2021.

Prior to adopting the Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) in its final form, Council placed the Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities document on public display inviting submissions by Monday, 10 May 2021 with any person requesting to be heard in support of their written submission to be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at 6.00pm on 19 May 2021. Due to the high volume of submissions and the detail contained in the priorities document, the submission process was extended until 17 May 2021.

Forty-seven (47) submissions were received by the 10 May 2021 including eight (8) submitters requesting to be heard in support of their written submission. Further submissions are expected to be received and will be tabled at the Hearing of Submissions Committee on the 19 May 2021.

The submissions have been themed in the following way:

- Parking Permits and Review of the Parking Policy
- Aged Care & Home Care Packages
- Road Safety
- Multiculturalism and Diversity
- Health and Wellbeing
- Major Sport and Recreation Facilities
- Waste Management
- Environment

Following the Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting, a report in relation to all submissions received will be submitted for consideration at the meeting of the Council scheduled for 28 June 2021.

Recommendation**That Council:**

- (1) Receives and notes the written and verbal submissions.
 - (2) Thanks all submitters and presenters for addressing the Committee in support of their written responses.
 - (3) Refers all submissions for further consideration to the Council meeting to be held on 28 June 2021 as part of Council's deliberations in the adoption of the 2021-2025 Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan).
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

The Local Government Act 2020 (the *Act*) outlines the key strategic planning, budgeting and reporting that Council must undertake. These legislative requirements to develop strategic planning, budgeting and annual reporting documents are contained in Part 4 of The *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*. Section 90 (1) states that a Council must prepare and adopt a Council Plan for a period of at least the next 4 financial years after a general election in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices.

This report provides details of the submissions made on the 2021-2025 Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities document.

It is acknowledged that the Council Plan Priorities 2021-25 originally circulated for consultation were updated mid-consultation when it was identified that 8 actions had been omitted due to an error that was human error and unintended. As soon as this issue was identified, action was taken to address this by updating the document available to the community and a notice and acknowledgement of the error made on the Your Say website page.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 8 April 2021, Council resolved:

That Council:

- (4) Endorses the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) to proceed to community consultation and deliberative engagement;
- (5) Endorses the Community Engagement Plan for the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) and notes that the dilemmas for the deliberative engagement will be presented to Council on 26 April 2021 for consideration;
- (6) Notes that any person who makes a written submission in relation to the draft Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities 2021-2025, and requests to be heard in support of their written submission, will be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at a meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Thursday 20 May 2021
- (7) Notes that a draft copy of the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) will be provided to the Secretary of the Department of Health under section 27 of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act* for the purposes of seeking an exemption from producing a municipal public health and wellbeing plan by including the public health and wellbeing matters required under section 26(2) in the Council Plan;

- (8) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give notice in accordance with section 90 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and section 26 of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* of Council's intention to adopt, at a Council meeting proposed to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, the Council Plan (incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) 2021-25 (**Appendix A**).

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

This draft 2021-2025 Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities submissions process was undertaken over the period from 12 April to 17 May 2021.

The consultation included:

- Providing the priorities document to advisory groups and funded bodies through their Council representatives, noting the opportunity for submissions
- Email to key and local stakeholders, including community advisory committees, reference groups who have expressed interest in engagement
- Social media, including online information and pointers on how to make a submission
- Online submission form via the Your Say webpage
- Questions and Answer tool via the Your Say webpage
- Hardcopy submission for (upon request)
- Translated content in 12 languages other than English will be available on the Your Say webpage

Further targeted engagement and consultation is being undertaken in relation to the Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities and will run through until 31 May 2021. The Darebin Engagement Panel will be meeting on 30 May and 6 June to discuss dilemmas relating to the Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) which will be presented to Councillor on 7 June. The results from the submission and engagement activities will be reported to Council on 28th June 2021.

ANALYSIS

Alignment to Council Plan / Council policy

Goal 6 - A well governed Council

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

The draft 2021-2025 Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities document and approach to community engagement acknowledges Council's commitment to environmental sustainability and continues Council's funding of environmental operations in a range of areas, including waste collection and recycling services, street cleaning, litter collection, park and sporting field maintenance and improvements in the context of water-saving and energy efficiency measures.

Council's commitments are reflected in the draft Budget 2021-22.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

The draft 2021-2025 Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities document and approach to community engagement acknowledges Council's commitment to equity, inclusion and wellbeing as articulated through the Towards Equality Framework. A large range of activities to progress Council's commitments through existing strategies that seek to address equity, inclusion and wellbeing and are reflected in the draft Budget 2021-22.

In addition, the draft priorities continue to support Councils COVID community recovery efforts.

Cultural Considerations

The draft 2021-2025 Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities document and approach to community engagement acknowledges Council's commitment to cultural considerations to support our diverse community.

A large range of activities to progress Council's commitment to our diverse community are reflected in the draft Budget 2021-22. In addition, Councils continued COVID community recovery efforts are significantly aimed at supporting our diverse community.

Economic Development Considerations

The draft 2021-2025 Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities document and approach to community engagement acknowledges Council's commitment to Darebin's economy following the Covid-19 pandemic through economic relief and recovery measures and strategic economic development to support the Darebin community.

Activities proposed for 2021–22 include supporting, promoting and attract a diversity of local businesses and industries, deliver proactive programs and services to build skills and resilience, across a range of industries removing barriers and provide relevant information, create a portal for businesses to use to connect with each other, collaborate and promote their offerings and support business to take advantage and leverage the green economy, educate businesses and consumers and set sustainability targets with businesses and work with them to achieve these goals.

Council's commitments are reflected in the draft Budget 2021-22.

Financial and Resource Implications

No changes have been made to the draft 2021-2025 Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities document arising from the submissions at this time.

The community submissions that have final implications are covered through submissions to the 21/22 budget).

Legal and Risk Implications

Aside from meeting the various relevant sections of the Local Government Act, there are no further legal implications. The operational risk of our spending decisions in the draft budget are a key element in the decision-making process and ensuring that any priorities in the 2021-2025 Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) are resourced through the Budget.

DISCUSSION

The community response to the consultation process this year has been particularly pleasing. Forty-seven (47) written submissions had been received in relation to the draft 2021-2025 Council Plan (Incorporating Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) priorities. The process has been resource intensive but rewarding and has reinforced the value of our processes.

A total of nine (9) have requested to be heard in support of their written submissions.

Due the extension of the submission period until Monday 17 May 2021, copies of all submissions will be circulated separately to Councillors for their information on Tuesday 18 May 2021.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

Following the Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting, a report in relation to all submissions received will be submitted for consideration at the meeting of Council scheduled for 28 June 2021.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Draft Council Plan Priorities 2021-25
- Draft Budget 2021-25

Attachments

Nil

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any general or material interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

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

4.2 DRAFT BUDGET 2021-22**Author:** Manager Finance**Reviewed By:** General Manager, Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its meeting on 8 April 2021, Council resolved to give notice of its intention to adopt the draft Budget 2021-22 at a meeting of Council to be held on 28 June 2021.

Prior to adopting the Budget in its final form, Council placed the Draft Budget on public display inviting submissions by Monday, 10 May 2021 with any person requesting to be heard in support of their written submission to be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at 6.00pm on 19 May 2021.

Forty-three (43) submissions were received by the closing date for submissions including nineteen (19) submitters requesting to be heard in support of their written submission.

The community submissions in total are requesting an estimated \$15.91 million (\$15.44 million for capital works projects and \$468,000 for operating projects).

The submissions have been themed in the following way:

- Recreation & Reserves
- Equity & Wellbeing
- Traffic Management
- Active Transport
- Environmental Issues
- Public Places
- General Matters
- Additional Funding, Grants and Addressing Disadvantage

Following the Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting, a report in relation to all submissions received will be submitted for consideration at the meeting of the Council scheduled for 28 June 2021.

Recommendation

- (1) **That** Council Receives and notes the written and verbal submissions.
 - (2) Thanks all submitters and presenters for addressing the Committee in support of their written responses.
 - (3) Refers all submissions for further consideration to the Council meeting to be held on 28 June 2021 as part of Council's deliberations in the adoption of the Budget 2021-22.
-

BACKGROUND / KEY INFORMATION

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

This report provides details of the submissions made on the Draft Budget 2021-212

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 8 April 2021, Council resolved:

That Council

- (1) Adopts the draft Budget 2021–22 for the purposes of Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020* **including**:
 - a) Subsidise for an additional six months at a cost of \$175,000 the special rates that are charged to the four trading precincts so the subsidy is for a full 12 months at a total cost of \$350,000.
 - b) As part of the 2021/2022 annual Community Grants program, allocate \$200,000 to increase the participation in sport and recreation, with a focus on women and girls, people with all abilities, Aboriginal and Torres Islander people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- (2) Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to give notice of its intention to adopt, at a Council meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, the Budget 2021–22 (**Appendix A**).
- (3) Gives notice in accordance with section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989* of Council's intention to grant, at a Council meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Monday 28 June 2021, a rate rebate to pensioners in the 2021–22 year in the amount of \$150 to each owner of rateable land who is an 'eligible recipient' within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004*.
- (4) Notes that any person who makes a written submission in relation to the draft Budget 2021–22 or in relation to the granting of a rate rebate to pensioners, and requests to be heard in support of their written submission, will be heard by Council's Hearing of Submissions Committee at a meeting to be held at 6.00pm on Thursday 20 May 2021.
- (5) Adopts the COVID Financial Hardship Policy for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 (refer **Attachment B**).

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation

This draft Budget 2021-22 consultation was undertaken over the period from 12 April to 10 May 2021. The consultation included:

- Providing the budget information process to advisory groups and funded bodies through their Council representatives, noting the opportunity for submissions
- Email to key and local stakeholders, including community advisory committees, reference groups who have expressed interest in engagement
- Social media, including online information and pointers on how to make a budget submission

- Online submission form via the Your Say webpage
- Questions and Answer tool via the Your Say webpage
- Hardcopy submission for (upon request)
- Translated content in 12 languages other than English will be available on the Your Say webpage

ANALYSIS

Alignment to Council Plan / Council policy

Goal 6 - A well governed Council

Environmental Sustainability Considerations

The draft Budget 2021-22 and approach to community engagement acknowledges Council's commitment to environmental sustainability and continues Council's funding of environmental operations in a range of areas, including waste collection and recycling services, street cleaning, litter collection, park and sporting field maintenance and improvements in the context of water-saving and energy efficiency measures.

Council's commitments through existing strategies and the draft Council Plan Priorities 2021-25 are reflected in the draft Budget 2021-22.

Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing Considerations

The draft budget 2021-22 and approach to community engagement acknowledges Council's commitment to equity, inclusion and wellbeing as articulated through the Towards Equality Framework. A large range of activities to progress Council's commitments through existing strategies that seek to address equity, inclusion and wellbeing and the draft Council Plan Priorities 2021-25 are reflected in the draft Budget 2021-22.

In addition, the budget would continue Council's COVID community recovery efforts. Further, the significant financial assistance package outlined previously aims to provide assistance to the most vulnerable members of our community and those most impacted by the pandemic.

Around 9,430 eligible Darebin pensioners will receive Council's \$150 rate rebate and one free animal registration.

Cultural Considerations

The draft Budget 2021-22 and approach to community engagement acknowledges Council's commitment to cultural considerations to support our diverse community.

A large range of activities to progress Council's commitment to our diverse community are reflected in the draft Council Plan Priorities 2021-25 and the draft Budget 2021-22. In addition, Council's continued COVID community recovery efforts are significantly aimed at supporting our diverse community.

Economic Development Considerations

The draft budget 2021-22 and approach to community engagement acknowledges Council's commitment to Darebin's economy following the Covid-19 pandemic through economic relief and recovery measures and strategic economic development to support the Darebin community.

Activities proposed for 2021–22 include supporting, promoting and attract a diversity of local businesses and industries, deliver proactive programs and services to build skills and resilience, across a range of industries removing barriers and provide relevant information, create a portal for businesses to use to connect with each other, collaborate and promote their offerings and support business to take advantage and leverage the green economy, educate businesses and consumers and set sustainability targets with businesses and work with them to achieve these goals.

Council's commitments through existing strategies, policy positions and the draft Council Plan Priorities 2021-25 are reflected in the draft Budget 2021-22.

Financial and Resource Implications

No changes have been made to the draft budget arising from the submissions at this time.

The community submissions in total are requesting an estimated \$15.91 million (\$15.44 million for capital works projects and \$468,000 for operating projects).

Legal and Risk Implications

Aside from meeting the various relevant sections of the Local Government Act, there are no further legal implications. The operational risk of our spending decisions in the draft budget are a key element in the decision-making process. Full consideration will be given to the risk impacts.

DISCUSSION

The community response to the consultation process this year was less than previous years however this could be due to the significant financial assistance package contained in the draft budget to support businesses, residents and pensioners. In saying that, thirty-eight written submissions were still received in relation to the Draft Budget 2021-22 with a total of fourteen requesting to be heard in support of their written submissions.

*Copies of all Submissions (**APPENDIX A**) and Listing of Speakers (**APPENDIX B**) are confidential and have been circulated separately to Councillors for their information.*

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Details

Following the Hearing of Submissions Committee meeting, a report in relation to all submissions received will be submitted for consideration at the meeting of Council scheduled for 28 June 2021

Attachments

- Draft 2021-22 Budget Submission - 19 May 2021 (**Appendix A**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover
- Listing of Speakers- Hearing of Submissions - 19th May 2021 (**Appendix B**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any general or material interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

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

5. CLOSE OF MEETING